

August 13, 2019

#BackToTheWild

This has been an exciting and productive 2019! The Twin Harbors Wildlife Center volunteer program continues to thrive and grow. We currently have 35 trained volunteers, 13 of which have regular weekly animal care shifts. There are 4 facilities team members, 6 transport team members, and 9 events volunteers. Our volunteers have donated nearly 200 hours of service to the center in the last two months, caring for opossum, squirrels, chipmunks, pigeons, and mallards; transporting bats and eagles to other centers; building cages; and manning the informational booth at the Montesano Saturday Morning Market.

We have been present at the Montesano Saturday Morning Market every Saturday this season, including the Dog Day on August 3rd. We had special give-a-ways, games and educational opportunities.

Monique has joined our team and is developing our fundraising program.

Behind the scenes, we've received our nonprofit business status from the State of Washington, a federal ID number, and our Federal Migratory Bird permit. We are still waiting for our 501c3. Status.

We continue to network and develop relationships with other rehabilitation agencies including Raindancer Wild Bird Rescue in Olympia, Friends of Slim Pickens in Hoquiam, Center Valley in Quilcene, West Sound Wildlife Center on Bainbridge Island and so many others. The people that work with wildlife centers are amazing, compassionate people. We've transported animals for each other, exchanged wildlife so that species can be raised together, and helped each other with skills and resources. Without a doubt, the existing centers are thrilled that we are developing a center in Grays Harbor & Pacific Counties. They see the need first hand because many of our wildlife end up in their centers. When their centers are at capacity, our wildlife are left to fend for themselves, often succumbing to predation, disease and starvation.

Speaking of rehabilitating, so far this year our volunteers & directors have cared for nearly 160 animals from squirrels, opossum, native pigeons, bunnies, eagles, owls, coyote, hummingbirds, deer, bats, and more. For every wild animal presented to us, we find a solution even if it means transporting the animal to a facility better equipped to care for it.

The facilities team built an incredible duck enclosure this month. If you haven't had the opportunity, check it out on our Facebook page. Since ducks are migratory, they fall under our Federal Migratory Bird Permit. Without the enclosures, we would not be permitted to see these animals. Each facility constructed, allows us to become permitted for one more species. Without our facilities teams, we wouldn't have a center! We can't thank them enough.

Finally, we are very excited to announce that we received partial funding from the State of Washington for the raptor pre-release flight. The flight is a 12ft high, 40 ft diameter round wooden structure that will cost approximately \$60k to build. We were awarded \$30K. and will

continue to fundraise so that we can get this structure built as soon as possible. Currently we are looking for someone to engineer our rough plans. If you know of anyone, please send them our way!

Stay tuned as we have volunteers working behind the scenes to host a Haunted Forest in October and a Spaghetti Feed in November. If you would like to help with either of these projects, please contact us at twinharborswildife@gmail.com