



LEAVE A WILDLIFE LEGACY

Join our Building for the Future journey – dedicate a brick to a loved one, friend or family member and leave a legacy that will help save injured and orphaned wildlife for years to come.

www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/fwma

Thank you!



To donate supplies please visit www.FWMA.org/Donate, then select Amazon Smile Wish List and shop our list. Your donation impact is increased because Amazon will contribute a percentage of the price of eligible purchases to FWMA.

It is all to benefit the animals!

A very special Thank You to Dr. Julie O'Brien at VCA Wakulla Animal Hospital, Dr. Steve Steverson at Bradfordville Animal Hospital, Dr. Julia Whited and Dr. Cassandra Manuel at Forgotten Coast Animal Hospital, and Dr. Kyle Marsh at Crawfordville Animal Hospital for the awesome veterinary care our patients received.

I would like to support FWMA during baby season. ✂

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please mail donation to: **FWMA, 198 Edgar Poole Rd, Crawfordville FL 32327**

FLORIDA WILD MAMMAL ASSOCIATION, INC. IS A NONPROFIT 501c3 ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO THE RESCUE, REHABILITATION AND RELEASE OF SICK, INJURED AND ORPHANED WILDLIFE. FWMA IS EQUALLY COMMITTED TO EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ON WILDLIFE ISSUES. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL- FREE WITHIN THE STATE 1-800-435-7352 OR AT THEIR WEBSITE: WWW.800HELPFLA.COM. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. SC 407338. YOUR ENTIRE CONTRIBUTION GOES DIRECTLY TO THE OPERATION OF FWMA. NONE OF YOUR DONATION GOES TO A PROFESSIONAL SOLICITOR.



SUMMER 2022

198 Edgar Poole Road, Crawfordville, FL 32327
850.363.2351 / www.FWMA.org



Baby Season is in Full Swing

There are lots and lots of babies arriving at the Center for round-the-clock care, and from now until October we expect to have many new arrivals. We have already provided care for over 695 wildlife patients in 2022 thanks to your very generous support. If you have found injured or orphaned wildlife that you are sure is really orphaned, please place it in a cardboard box with a cloth lining and bring it into the Center ASAP. Many of the young songbirds that are rescued eat every 15 to 25 minutes from sunup to sundown. Waiting for long periods of time could be detrimental to these orphaned young ones. Feeding the right diet to any wildlife orphan is also extremely important so please DO NOT FEED IT ANYTHING. Wildlife in need of assistance can be dropped off at the Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Though we do have a few volunteers that dedicate themselves to doing rescues we really appreciate those of you who can safely bring the animal in for care since volunteers are not always available, and those that are can focus on the animals that require a trained person to safely handle and transport. Thank you for caring for our wildlife!



One way to help - become a Volunteer! Here's how...

Need something exciting to do for Community Service Hours? FWMA has the solution for you! **BECOME A VOLUNTEER:**

- Must be 16 yrs or older
- Able to work one 4 hour shift per week
- Unafraid of animals (birds, mammals, turtles)
- Willing to get dirty, we do a lot of cleaning!
- Ability and willingness to follow ALL instructions.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: Monday - Sunday: 8 am – 11 am. *We look forward to working with you!* Understand that what we do is prepare animals to go back to the wild, not to tame them to be pets, so there is very limited handling of our wildlife patients.

INTERESTED? Contact Chris to schedule a one-on-one training: choppaotta@aol.com.



We want to thank the Mystic Krewe of Salty Barkers, The Sopchoppy Worm Gruntin' Festival, and Panacea Oyster Festival for their contributions to FWMA from funds raised at their events.



Thank you ALL for your continued support. We could not save so many without your commitment.

Let's Talk Carolina Wrens!

As we mentioned before Baby Season is now in full swing and we receive many orphaned songbirds at this time of year. I have to say the Carolina Wren orphans outnumber them all.

These tiny stout birds with their distinctive white eyebrow stripe and lovely songs of which they have over 30 are very common in the Eastern United States.

We have cared for 740 animals so far this year and 86 were Carolina Wrens. These little secretive birds tend to nest in the most peculiar places such as car grills, nail buckets, hanging potted plants, BBQ grills, boat parts, mailboxes, and so on. They also build their nests out of a variety of materials from dried grasses, feathers, hair, snakeskin sheds, wrappers, and other assorted goodies.

We usually get many calls each year where a good Samaritan believes the little nest of babies they have been watching has been abandoned, but over 90% of the time Mom and Dad are sneaking in undetected to feed their offspring. The youngsters eat every 20 minutes or so from sunup to sundown and are fed by both parents who usually stay together for life.



Other orphaned wrens are not so fortunate as we also receive calls from out of towners with their campers or boats who suddenly realize that along with the vehicle they brought from Georgia or Alabama the day before, they have also brought a few hitchhikers that have traveled many miles to get here and are now very dehydrated and hungry. Their biggest predators are domestic cats, dogs, and Grey Rat Snakes that we generally call Oak Snakes. So the next time you open your mailbox and a little brown bird goes whizzing past, it is probably a Carolina Wren. Don't be surprised to find several nests in the general location as they tend to build more than one while deciding which one works best.

COVID and Avian Influenza... and some thoughts on the situation.

I think over the past few years of living with COVID all of us have become very sick of hearing about viruses. We would like to hope that once Covid is over then we will not have to worry about another pandemic for at least a few centuries.

But in our rapidly changing world this is probably not realistic. Just this year many wildlife rehabilitation centers, poultry farms and zoos have been affected by a new avian influenza called HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza). Avian influenza viruses are typically classified as either "low pathogenic" or "highly pathogenic" based on their genetic features and the severity of the disease they cause in poultry. Most viruses are of low pathogenicity, meaning that they cause no signs or only minor clinical signs of infection in

poultry. HPAI virus strains are extremely infectious and often even fatal to chickens, geese, ducks, turkeys, and can spread rapidly from flock to flock.

HPAI was detected in the U.S. in February and has spread in wild birds in 31 states. More than 45 million domestic poultry and birds have been impacted, according to Colorado State University. In addition to infecting domestic birds it has been found in shorebirds such as gulls, terns, ducks, but also birds that scavenge such as eagles and vultures and unfortunately the list keeps growing. In Florida, some counties seem more affected than others and wildlife rehabilitators have had to make some very difficult decisions on how to handle this outbreak. This virus is highly contagious to other birds that are being rehabilitated.

In addition, now other animals besides birds are testing positive for the virus which also seems to prove fatal to them. Among them are red foxes, skunks, bobcats, weasels, and now seals. Though this virus can affect humans it does not seem to be very contagious and public health officials do not consider the HPAI that is circulating in poultry to be a risk to human health.

For more safety tips please visit <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/safefood/2022/04/05/responding-to-the-avian-influenza-outbreak/>. To report sick or dead birds in Florida please go to <https://app.myfwc.com/FWRI/AvianMortality/>. It is very depressing thinking about another virus and you have to wonder if the way we are treating our planet isn't coming back to haunt us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feathers and Fur Masquerade Ball

Hosted by FWMA

Sponsored by our friends at The Garden Center by Gatortrax

Saturday, October 22, 2022

6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

30 PALMS EVENT VENUE

30 Old Palmetto Path St. Marks, FL



This evening of fun and frivolity will feature dancing to the exciting sounds of the Saltwater Cowboy Band; a 50-50 Raffle; Complimentary Beverage and Hors D'oeuvres; Wine Pull; Door Prizes; a Cash Bar; Prizes for Best Mask and Best Costume; a Silent Auction; and Photo Opportunities with our favorite Wildlife Ambassador! Dress is cocktail attire with Mask or Costume of Your Choice. We expect everyone to be incredibly creative and can't wait to see the results!

Would you like to donate an item or become a sponsor to advertise your business and support a good cause? FWMA needs auction items and sponsors for these upcoming events. E-mail: Choppaotta@aol.com
Tickets are \$60 and can be purchased at Wakulla Investment Properties located at 2931 Crawfordville Hwy, across from Centennial Bank.

CHRISTMAS FOR THE CRITTERS

Saturday, November 19th, 2022

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Hudson Park, 21 Ochlockonee St. Crawfordville, FL

Join us for our annual "Christmas for the Critters" fundraising event on November 19th from 10 am until 2 pm at Hudson Park in Crawfordville. Come out and join the FWMA elves and decorate a tree or a wreath to take home or give as a special gift to a friend. These little southeastern red cedars make the perfect gift as they are native and can be planted after the season and are only \$25.

Trees and wreaths are limited this year so please don't miss out on getting yours early. Enjoy special guests from our local animal organizations, craft vendors selling animal and wildlife related items, and much much more. We look forward to seeing you during the holidays!



Find us on Facebook at:
Florida Wild Mammal Association

Our Facebook page has more than
5,400 followers - Help us to reach 6,000!

Silver
Transparency
2022

Candid.