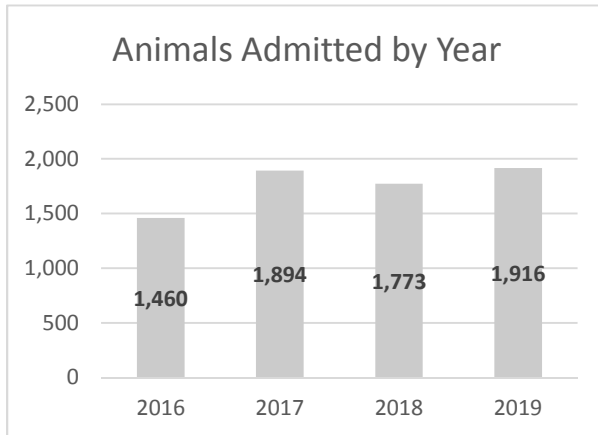




CITY WILDLIFE 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The goals of City Wildlife are to rescue sick, orphaned, and injured wild animals and return them to the wild; to promote the enjoyment of and harmonious co-existence with native wildlife; and to protect the District of Columbia's wild places for animal habitats. In this report, we highlight strides made in achieving these goals through four distinct City Wildlife efforts: the Rehabilitation Center, *Lights Out DC*, *Duck Watch*, and community outreach.

Saving the Ill, Injured, and Orphaned



In 2013, City Wildlife opened the District of Columbia's first-ever rehabilitation center exclusively for local wildlife. That clinic, at 15 Oglethorpe Street, NW, is open to the public every day of the year to help injured, ill, and orphaned wild animals whom people come across. It now admits about 1,900 animals per year, including hawks, owls, all manner of song and perching birds, waterfowl, squirrels, rabbits, opossums, turtles, native snakes, and others.

Nearly all of the animals taken in are victims of perils inherent in wild animals' struggle for

survival in a built-up environment. Typical patients have been struck by vehicles, attacked by pets, injured by lawn mowers, poisoned by pesticides, or have struck reflective windows. Every one of them needs the clinic's help to survive.

At City Wildlife, the animals' treatment is overseen by a staff veterinarian specializing in the care of wildlife. She works in a modern surgical suite equipped with digital radiograph, anesthesia apparatus, and a comprehensive veterinary pharmacy. As they recover from illnesses or injuries or mature without their parents, the animals are cared for by highly trained staff animal technicians and dedicated volunteers. In each case, the goal is to return a healthy animal capable of surviving on its own to the wild.



City Wildlife works with almost all native species of wildlife, though we do not have a permit to handle raccoons, foxes, coyotes, bear or deer. The center is working toward being able to handle bats. Many of our patients are animals listed as Species of Greatest Conservation Need by the DC Wildlife Action Plan. In 2019 we helped 331 such animals, representing 15 species of birds, seven species of reptiles and amphibians, and six species of mammals.



2019 Animal Intake: 1,916

Waterfowl	194
Perching birds	1,041
Raptors	46
Other birds	62
Squirrels	285
Opossums	99
Eastern cottontails	82
Other mammals	58
Reptiles & amphibians	49

Lights Out DC: Protecting Vulnerable Migrant Birds

In 2019, North American biologists released some alarming news: Over the past 50 years, the United States and Canada have lost close to three billion birds, more than a quarter of the entire population of North American birds. These losses affect all groups of birds, and as one of the study's co-authors states, "We want to keep common birds common, and we're not even doing that."

The causes of the steep and tragic losses are many, but collisions with windows, especially during migration, is one of the major ones. To determine the extent of the problem locally and to mitigate the damage done, City Wildlife volunteers monitor downtown buildings at dawn each spring and fall to collect dead and injured migratory birds who have collided with glass. Injured birds are taken to City Wildlife's Rehabilitation Center and dead birds are donated to scientific institutions. The data collected — along with help from District officials — have been instrumental in persuading building owners to turn off their lights at night and to take other measures to reduce these tragic collisions.

Several of the most problematic buildings in the District of Columbia have begun dimming their lights or have treated their windows to save birds. And the DC Department of Energy and the Environment is utilizing *Lights Out DC* data to encourage buildings to preserve migratory birds and save energy. By turning off lights, building owners can reduce their lighting costs by 15 to 30 percent.

In 2019, 22 *Lights Out DC* volunteers monitored two four-mile routes around Union Station and Chinatown and documented 506 bird strikes, bringing the total number of strikes found since 2010 to 3,068.



Duck Watch: Making the City Safe for Waterfowl



Mallard ducks are now an urban species, and each spring and summer, Mallard hens lay eggs throughout the city. Some of their nesting sites are situated such that, when the eggs hatch, the ducklings are unable to follow their mothers to water – a necessary source of protection and food – because of height from the ground, city traffic, or barriers like walls, curbs, or sewer grates. In what is now a nationally known program, *Duck Watch* volunteers monitor, protect, and assist nesting ducks and ducklings throughout the city. When needed, the volunteers utilize a unique live-capture method they have developed to relocate duck families to suitable bodies of water.

Working with the public, officials, and building managers and designers, *Duck Watch* volunteers implement solutions based on natural waterfowl behavior. Last year, for instance, *Duck Watch* volunteers led a family of Canada Geese through the National Geographic headquarters, down an elevator, through a turnstile, and about 12 blocks to Constitution Gardens on the National Mall. In 2017, *Duck Watch* and the Architect of the Capitol successfully collaborated to install two sturdy duck ramps in the Capitol Reflecting Pool so that ducklings – which are not waterproof – do not drown. Current plans include working with the National Park Service with the goal of installing ramps at Constitution Gardens and the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool. Ultimately, *Duck Watch* is building a connected and educated community of waterfowl-friendly urbanites.

In 2019, *Duck Watch* volunteers monitored and assisted ducklings and goslings from a total of 77 nests in all four quadrants of Washington, DC.

Community Engagement

Often the best tool for helping wild animals is the telephone. About half of the animal calls City Wildlife receives are resolved through communication, without having the animals in question brought to the Center for treatment. If the callers are experiencing difficulties with wild animals in their homes or yards, we always strive to resolve the conflict humanely and effectively in ways that do not harm the animals.



City Wildlife is always seeking to inform the community and engage it in our mission. This work takes many forms: aside from telephone calls and emails, we use social media, articles in print media, interviews on radio and television, a busy and informative website, networking with other environmental organizations, and thousands of one-on-one conversations at public events and informal encounters throughout the year to advocate for animals.

In FY2019, we held 16 educational events at our Center and participated in 23 off-site public events. We received more than 1,700 calls for help with animals, and about 500 people attended our annual open house in February 2019 to get a first-hand look at wildlife rehabilitation and learn about City Wildlife's other vital programs.

Financial Statement

City Wildlife, a registered nonprofit charity, could not exist without the generosity of the public. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law and pay for animal food, medicines, and other essential rehabilitation costs. Donors can be assured that their gifts are used wisely and directly to benefit animals.

In 2019, City Wildlife passed the Catalogue for Philanthropy's rigorous vetting process and was included among the charities it recommends for effectiveness, transparency, and efficiency.

Statement of Financial Position (FY2019)

Assets		
	Total current assets	145,831
	Property and equipment (equipment and leasehold improvements less accumulated depreciation)	15,842
	Other assets	1,683
	Total assets	163,356
Liabilities and Net Assets		
	Current liabilities	11,054
	Net assets (unrestricted)	151,429
	Net assets (temporarily restricted)	873
	Total liabilities and net assets	163,356

Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets (FY2019)

Support and Revenue		
	Contributions	230,093
	Government grants	205,000
	Donated stock	4,989
	Product sales - net	887
	Special events	6,881
	Miscellaneous income	583
	Net assets released from donor restrictions	
	Total support and revenue	448,433
Expenses		
	Program services (Rehabilitation Center)	391,950
	Management and general	31,856
	Fundraising	43,726
	Total expenses	467,532
	Change in net assets	(19,099)
	Net assets at beginning of year	171,401
	Net assets at end of year	152,302

A complete audit, prepared by Linton Shafer Warfield & Garrett, P.A., can be requested by writing to City Wildlife, PO Box 60078, Washington, DC 20039.

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Open every day of the year from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.