



City Wildlife



Annual Report 2024

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2024

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A Letter from City Wildlife President

Dear Friends of City Wildlife,

As 2024 draws to a close, I am proud to share City Wildlife's accomplishments from the past year—a year in which our mission to care for sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals in the District of Columbia remained as vital and urgent as ever. Thanks to your continued support and the tireless work of our dedicated staff and volunteers, we provided critical care to 1,832 animals in need between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024.

Beyond our daily clinical work, City Wildlife provided guidance to residents through thousands of phone calls, helping people resolve wildlife conflicts humanely and encouraging coexistence with the animals that share our urban environment. We continued to follow the strictest federal, state, and local protocols, including maintaining our D.C. animal facility license and adhering to the Wildlife Protection Act of 2010. We also expanded our network of approved release sites, including Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens and Oak Hill Cemetery, helping us return rehabilitated animals to appropriate natural habitats.

This year brought memorable cases that underscored both the need for our work and the community's compassion: a Barred Owl rescued from a sculpture in the National Gallery's garden, baby Southern Flying Squirrels found in a felled tree, and a Red-tailed Hawk that survived a gunshot wound. Each story reminded us that wildlife rehabilitation is not just about animals—it's about the people who care for them, too.

As we look ahead to 2025, we do so with gratitude—for your support, for our partnerships across the District, and for the countless individuals who call, transport, and advocate for our city's wild animals. Together, we are building a safer, more humane world for wildlife in Washington, D.C.

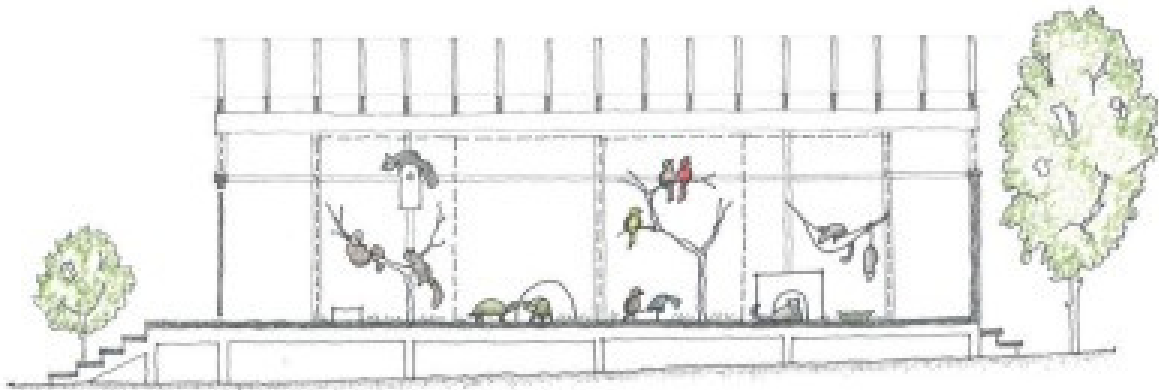
With gratitude,

April Linton
President

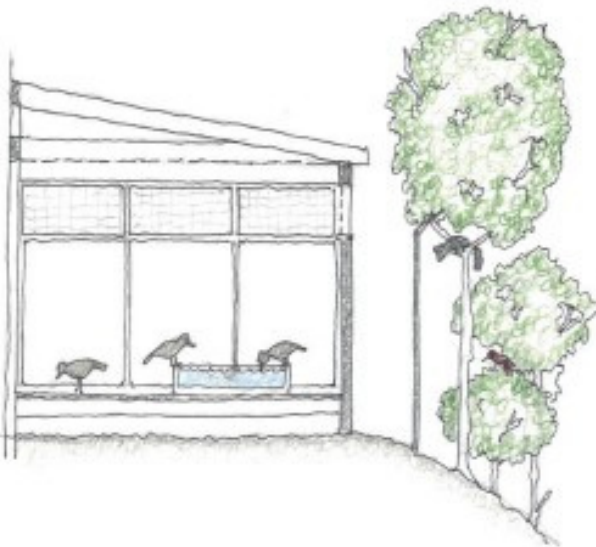
City Wildlife Rehabilitation Center -

We Are Expanding Building Outside Enclosures

“Building outdoor enclosures for our patients is the most important thing that City Wildlife can do at this point to improve our program,” explains City Wildlife Clinic Director Dr. Sarah Sirica. “It will close a persistent and serious gap in the continuum of care we have been able to offer injured and orphaned wild animals.”



Since opening in 2013, City Wildlife has treated over 18,000 animals, expanded and improved our rehabilitation treatments, earned generous community support, and become an essential animal welfare and environmental institution in the nation's capital. However, we have never had permanent outdoor enclosures — a crucial missing piece, as acclimating wild animals to natural outdoor conditions before release is vital. For the past decade, our staff has rolled cages outside daily, a practice that is stressful for the animals and does not expose them to nighttime conditions. Recognizing the need for outdoor facilities but unsure where to build them, we approached the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) about a vacant strip of land next to our center. After more than a year of discussions, we secured a lease and permission to build two fully enclosed decks with a sound wall, allowing us to place 14 outdoor enclosures of various sizes, designed with expert input to accommodate a wide range of species year-round.



Wildlife Patient Admissions 2024

1,882
Total Patients
Admitted



135
Species
Admitted



98
Dead on
Arrival



620
Released or
Transferred



Birds

American Crow	55	European Starling	173	Scarlet Tanager	1
American Goldfinch	6	Fish Crow	34	Song Sparrow	1
American Mourning Dove	92	Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	Swainson's Thrush	1
American Robin	65	Gray Catbird	20	Swamp Sparrow	4
American Woodcock	30	Gray-cheeked Thrush	2	Tufted Titmouse	3
Baltimore Oriole	1	Great Blue Heron	1	Turkey Vulture	2
Barn Swallow	5	Great Crested Flycatcher	1	Veery	1
Belted Kingfisher	1	Great Egret	1	Virginia Rail	2
Baby Bird	38	Green Heron	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	1
Black Vulture	3	Hermit Thrush	8	White-throated Sparrow	16
Black and white Warbler	1	House Finch	21	Wood Duck	22
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1	House Sparrow	158	Wood Thrush	2
Blackburnian Warbler	1	House Wren	2	Woodpecker sp	1
Blackpoll Warbler	1	Hybrid Duck	1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	10
Blue Grosbeak	1	Laughing Gull	2	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2
Blue Jay	25	Magnolia Warbler	2	Yellow-breasted Chat	1
Brown Creeper	2	Mallard	94	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
Brown Thrasher	4	Nashville Warbler	2		
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	Northern Cardinal	11		
Canada Goose	3	Northern Flicker	24		
Caroline Chickadee	2	Northern Mockingbird	12		
Carolina Wren	10	Northern Parula	1		
Cedar Waxwing	2	Northern Waterthrush	1		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	Ovenbird	25		
Chimney Swift	21	Pileated Woodpecker	1		
Chipping Sparrow	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	7		
Common Grackle	26	Red-eyed Vireo	2		
Common Yellowthroat	31	Ring-billed Gull	5		
Connecticut Warbler	32	Rock Pigeon	750		
Crow sp	1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2		
Dark-eyed Junco	3	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2		
Double-crested Cormorant	1	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	7		
Downy Woodpecker	1	Savannah Sparrow	1		
Eastern Kingbird	3				
Eastern Towhee	2				

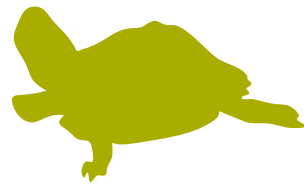
Raptors

American Kestrel	6
Bald Eagle	1
Barn Owl	1
Barred Owl	6
Great Horned Owl	1
Cooper's Hawk	8
Eastern Screech Owl	1
Osprey	2
Peregrine Falcon	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Red-tailed Hawk	14
Merlin	1

Wildlife Patient Admissions 2024



Mammals



Reptiles



Amphibians

Big Brown Bat	1	Common Snapping Turtle	2	American Toad	2
Brown Rat	24	Eastern Box Turtle	22		
Deer Mouse	3	Eastern Garter Snake	1		
Domestic Rabbit	1	Eastern Ratsnake	7		
Eastern Chipmunk	5	Eastern Worm Snake	1		
Eastern Cottontail	90	Five-lined Skink	2		
Eastern Gray Squirrel	261	Northern Red-bellied Cooter	1		
Eastern Meadow Vole	1	Painted Turtle	2		
Eastern Red Bat	2	Red-eared Slider	2		
House Mouse	16				
Long-tailed Shrew	11				
Mouse sp	1				
Raccoon	2				
Shrew Sp	1				
Southern Flying Squirrel	5				
Virginia Opossum	16				
White-footed Deermouse	14				

**City Wildlife admitted 270 Species of
Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)
during Fiscal Year 2024; 113 SGCN
patients were released, transferred, or**



Duck Watch



Case Snapshots

2024 Highlights



90

Mallard and Canada
goose nests identified



525 entries in
our duck watch log



773

ducklings safely back
to their moms

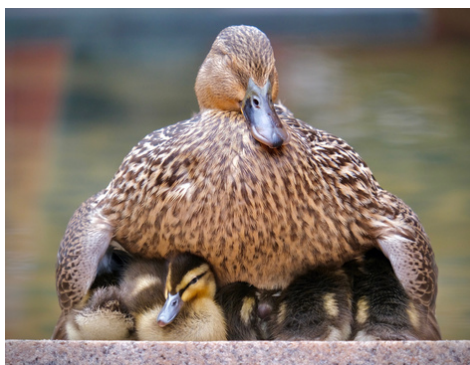


78

orphan ducklings raised
and released



Most common
species - Mallard



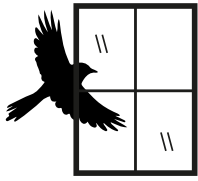
The White House Conference Center has a landscaped courtyard with a large fountain, and as in other years, a Mallard mom nested in the bushes and brought her ducklings to swim in the fountain. Building staff love the ducks and raise them right there, keeping the fountain clean and feeding duck chow provided by City Wildlife.



We successfully rescued a Mallard hen and her seven ducklings from the 6th-floor terrace of the Passport Office (a frequent nest site), but the mom had a head injury and needed treatment at City Wildlife. Our vet, Dr. Sirica, operated successfully, but the duck needed to convalesce for more than three weeks before she could be released and the baby ducklings were cared for by a Duck Watch volunteer. One day when mom was at City Wildlife getting a checkup we added four orphans to her brood, which she accepted without really seeming to notice. When the hen's wound was healed, we released her and her eleven ducklings at Constitution Gardens.

Lights Out DC

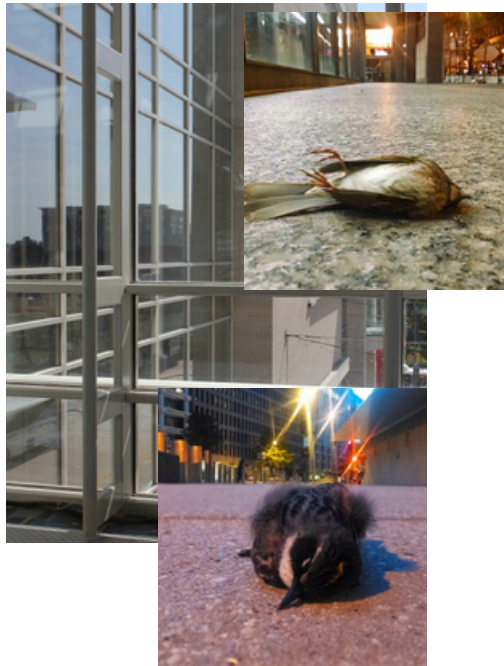
2024 At A Glance



565 bird window collisions



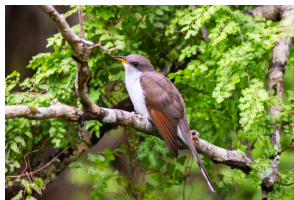
69 bird species



District of Columbia Species of Greatest Conservation Need



3 Brown Creepers



3 Yellow-billed Cuckoos



7 Black and White Warblers



1 Yellow-breasted Chat



2 Eastern Towhees



1 Virginia Rail



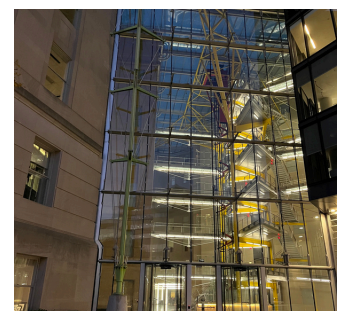
41 American Woodcocks



59 Ovenbirds

Case Snapshot

A standout case from *Lights Out DC* Coordinator Stephanie Dalke when she was out with new volunteers and a student photojournalist. She had just picked up a stunned Hermit Thrush and was talking about the building with an architect and lighting designer who knows the firm that designed the atrium. Suddenly, a Mourning Dove hit the glass, several floors up and landed near them—alive. They rushed the bird to City Wildlife. The moment was a striking reminder of the ongoing risks birds face and the importance of our work.

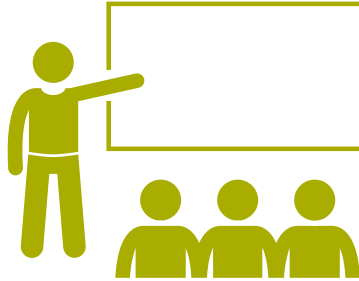


Education and Outreach



3

**Events
Hosted by City
Wildlife**



**6 Volunteer
Program
Orientations**



**Reaching
24,600 people
per day**



**3,753 followers
per day**



**10 Public Outreach
Events**



**6 Stories
In the Media**



**1,732 followers
per day**



**5 Presentations to
Community Groups**



10 School Visits



6 Blogs

Research at City Wildlife



Surveillance for Antibodies for COVID-19 In Wildlife

We collect oral and rectal swabs, along with blood samples, from all of our adult mammals and submit them to TGen, a company specializing in One Health research. TGen is conducting surveillance for antibodies against SARS-CoV-2. They have been sharing preliminary findings at NWRA conferences and will publish the finalized results in a peer-reviewed journal.



Anti-coagulant Rodenticide Study

Over the course of several months in 2024, City Wildlife collected and tested samples from more than 100 animals who we believed may have died because of ingesting rat poisons. The University of Pennsylvania lab tested for eleven different poisons and found evidence of six. 79.5 percent of mammals (mostly squirrels) and 86 percent of birds tested positive. Dan Rauch of DOEE is helping with the analysis of the data. He is working on producing a map to show where the poisonings are happening.



Investigating the Pathophysiology Behind the 2021 Songbird Decline

We collaborated with USGS NWHC on a project investigating the pathophysiology behind the 2021 songbird die-off. Preliminary findings suggest a vitamin A deficiency linked to the consumption of cicadas low in this nutrient. In 2024, with no cicada emergence in DC, our center served as a control site to analyze vitamin levels in patients for comparison with areas that experienced cicada events. This research is helping us better understand the natural cycles of local wildlife and identify potential treatment strategies when intervention is needed.



Investigating The Cause of Wildlife Deaths

When an animal passes away, necropsies are an important tool to help us understand the cause of death and improve our treatment approaches. Dr. Sirica, who has pathology training, performs the dissections, while tissue samples are sent to a diagnostic lab for microscopic analysis. Through a collaboration with the Army's Veterinary Pathology training program, the histopathology is performed at no cost, supporting the education of future pathologists. Occasionally, novel findings are presented at veterinary pathology conferences or published in journals.

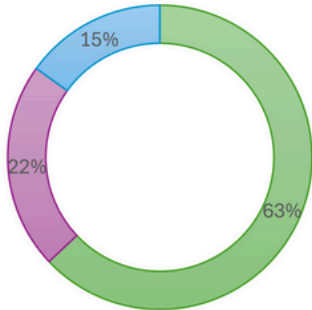
On-line Survey - Zoonotic Diseases and Biosecurity

We contributed to an online survey focused on zoonotic diseases and preventative biosecurity measures in rehabilitation facilities.

Financials

2024 Revenues

2024 Revenue

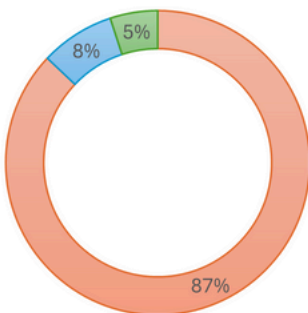


■ Individuals ■ Grants ■ Other

Individuals	\$573,963
Grants	\$200,000
Other	\$137,381
Total	\$911,343

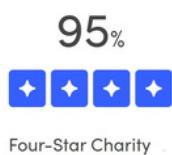
2024 Expenditures

2024 EXPENSES



■ Programs ■ G & A ■ Fundraising

Programs	\$597,739
General and Admin	\$54,105
Fundraising	\$34,733
Total	\$686,577



The financial statement is from City Wildlife, Inc -
Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's
Report

Financials

Statement of Financial Position (FY2024)

Assets		
	Total current assets	583,091
	Property and equipment (equipment and leasehold improvements less accumulated depreciation)	184,983
	Other assets	15,814
	Total assets	783,888
Liabilities and Net Assets		
	Current liabilities	43,876
	Net assets	730,084
	Total liabilities and net assets	783,888

Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets (FY2024)

Support and Revenue		
	Contributions	573,962
	Government grants	200,000
	Donated stock	49,624
	Donated services and goods	79,372
	Product sales – net	381
	Investment income	8,004
	Total support and revenue	911,343
Expenses		
	Program services (Rehabilitation Center, Education, and Duck Watch)	597,739
	Management and general	54,105
	Fundraising	34,733
	Total expenses	686,577
	Change in net assets	181,266
	Net assets at beginning of year	405,318
	Net assets at end of year	586,584

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 or calling us at 202-882-1000. City Wildlife's IRS 990 is also available by request.

City Wildlife Team

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Sarah Sirica, DVM, MPH, Clinic Director/Staff Veterinarian
Diana Fuentes, Animal Care Manager
Chris-Ann Burton, Director of Communication

Staff

Caitlin Cullinane, Animal Care Technician
Sara Dollen, Animal Care Technician
Stephanie Fosberg, Animal Care Technician
Diana Frey, Animal Care Technician
Marilyn Small, Veterinary Technician
Emily Tiemeyer, Animal Care Technician
Autumn Wenstrom, Animal Care Technician