



CITY WILDLIFE 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

City Wildlife protects and advocates for wildlife and wildlife habitat through rehabilitation for release, public education, and community engagement.

In this report, we highlight the strides City Wildlife made in these three distinct areas in 2022.

The Rehabilitation Center: Caring for Urban Wildlife



We people have altered the natural environment to make life more convenient and attractive for ourselves – with roads, large windows, poisons, at-large pets, lawn mowers, chain saws, and the like – but these innovations nearly inevitably make survival perilous for the wild animals who share our communities. City Wildlife feels we owe it to the animal victims to help them heal and return to the wild.

To that end, City Wildlife opened the District of Columbia's first and only wildlife rehabilitation facility in 2013. Since then, it has been open every single day to treat injured, ill, and orphaned wild animals. In 2022, our center took in 1,556 patients.

At the center, the animals' care is overseen by a veterinarian who specializes in treating wild animals and works in a modern surgical suite equipped with digital radiograph, blood analysis

machines, surgical and anesthesia apparatuses, and a comprehensive veterinary pharmacy. As they recover or grow up in our care, the animals' basic needs – housing, food, medicines, and enrichment – are met by licensed rehabilitators and trained animal care technicians. Their efforts are supplemented by scores of volunteers (some of whom are veterinarians) and interns.

Although the rehabilitation center does not have a permit or the space to handle all types of wildlife, we do handle native birds, most native small mammals, and reptiles and amphibians. Many of the center's patients are listed as Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the District of Columbia's Wildlife Action Plan. In 2022 we helped 229 animals on that list, representing twenty species of birds, four species of reptiles and amphibians, and four species of mammals.



As the city’s primary defense warning system for diseases in wildlife, City Wildlife constantly monitors populations of wild animals for new epidemics, some of which, like COVID-19, SARS, and Monkey Pox, have the potential to mutate and infect humans. By taking in sick animals and having each one carefully examined by a veterinarian, we are poised to raise the alarm about the appearance of any new diseases that may be harmful to humans. In 2022, City Wildlife tested animals for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, West Nile Disease, and Monkey Pox.



In February, we admitted a baby Southern Flying Squirrel (a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the District of Columbia) after he was swept out of a building and onto a sidewalk by a janitor. Thankfully a passerby saw the incident and brought the baby to City Wildlife. Once he was old enough to survive on his own, the squirrel was released in a park with a known colony of flying squirrels.

2022 Animal Intake: 1,556	
Waterfowl	21
Perching birds	1,108
Raptors	29
Other birds	12
Squirrels	204
Opossums	52
Eastern Cottontails	51
Other mammals	40
Reptiles & Amphibians	39

Citizen Science Programs: Engaging the Public in Protecting Wildlife

Lights Out DC

In the spring and fall of 2022, City Wildlife's *Lights Out DC* volunteers monitored three routes in Washington in the early mornings, looking for migratory birds who had collided with windows. They picked up more than 700 birds, bringing the number found since the program was established in 2010 to more than 5,000. Injured birds were brought to the rehabilitation center for treatment. Both live and dead



birds were cataloged, and the data was shown to city officials, property managers, and the general public along with information as to how to make windows safer for migrating birds. Most significantly, the decade's worth of data convinced the District of Columbia Council to pass a new law requiring that most new buildings and many renovations use materials and features that mitigate the chance of birds colliding with windows.

Duck Watch



Mother ducks nest throughout the city and they sometimes find that, once their eggs hatch, the ducklings may be stuck in courtyards, stranded by traffic, unable to reach the ground from a nest on a balcony or roof, or otherwise trapped. *Duck Watch* volunteers, who have been monitoring the nests, help the young families get to water. In the 2022 breeding season, these volunteers contributed more than 700 hours helping more than 550 individual Mallard, Wood Duck, and Canada Goose hatchlings. The *Duck Watch* program also gave several presentations to other wildlife rescue groups to share what they have learned about rescuing waterfowl families.

Community Engagement



City Wildlife considers public education about wildlife to be an essential part of its mission and takes its commitment to public information and education very seriously. Some of that work is done one-on-one with visitors and callers to the rehabilitation center or with members of the public with whom *Lights Out DC* or *Duck Watch* engages. Other aspects of that work involves webinars and training sessions. Finally, much educational work is done via social media and the City Wildlife website.

In 2022, City Wildlife responded to 3,063 telephone requests for information on helping wild animals and for advice on mitigating conflicts with wild animals in an effective and humane manner. In almost half of the cases, the problem the caller reported could be resolved over the telephone; the animal did not need to come to the center and could

remain in the wild. Simply by having our phones answered by people knowledgeable in wild animals and their needs, City Wildlife nearly doubles the number of animals we help each year.

City Wildlife's online webinar series continued to offer practical and engaging talks on wildlife by experts in their field. In 2022, webinars covered such topics as urban raccoons, living in harmony with beaver, humane control of wild animals who take up residence in homes, and the birds of the District of Columbia. At the same time, regular posts on City Wildlife's busy website and social media accounts showcased the work of our various programs, provided practical information on helping wild animals and on solving conflicts with them humanely and effectively, and promoted the enjoyment of wildlife and nature in the city.

In 2022, City Wildlife continued working with other environmental organizations — DC Audubon, Nature Forward, Ward 8 Woods, Anacostia Parks and Community Collaborative, DC Environmental Network, The American Bird Conservancy, and others — on a number of important efforts aimed at preserving natural wildlife habitat in Washington, DC, and surrounding areas. The year culminated in a large-scale collaborative effort to shepherd the law protecting birds from window strikes through the District of Columbia Council.

Financial Statement

In finances, accounting, and fundraising, as with animal care, City Wildlife embraces the highest standards.

- **Charity Navigator**, the world's largest and most-utilized independent charity evaluator, has given City Wildlife one of its highest ratings possible: 98 out of 100.
- **GuideStar**, the leading global source of information on nonprofit organizations has awarded City Wildlife platinum status, its highest rating.
- After a rigorous review process, the **Catalogue for Philanthropy of Greater Washington** selected City Wildlife to be one of the well-run nonprofits they recommend to donors as sound community investments.
- The **Washington City Paper** included City Wildlife in the list of organizations it recommends to its readers as worthy of support.

Statement of Financial Position (FY2022)

Assets		
	Total current assets	293,648
	Property and equipment (equipment and leasehold improvements less accumulated depreciation)	22,591
	Other assets	1,683
	Total assets	317,922
Liabilities and Net Assets		
	Current liabilities	18,807
	Net assets	299,115
	Total liabilities and net assets	317,922

Statement of Activities and Change in Net Assets (FY2022)

Support and Revenue		
	Contributions	408,673
	Government grants	199,151
	Donated stock	43,279
	Product sales - net	128
	Miscellaneous income	313
	Total support and revenue	651,544
Expenses		
	Program services (Rehabilitation Center)	529,848
	Management and general	34,365
	Fundraising	23,898
	Total expenses	588,111
	Change in net assets	83,433
	Net assets at beginning of year	215,682
	Net assets at end of year	299,115

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.

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