

Meals on Wheels for Wildlife

How to Connect with Wildlife Rehabbers

Talking Points for starting a discussion with permitted rehabbers about providing donated wild foraged foods:

- 1) Reach out to rehabber between November and March ideally, so the rehabber is in her quiet season and has time to reflect on your offer.
- 2) Introduce yourself as a Master Naturalist who knows something about wild plants and wants to offer to volunteer to provide occasional wild plant foods for their animal patients. (Remember, they may or may not know what a Master Naturalist is...so you might need your elevator pitch for this...)
- 3) Communicate that **you want to make this easy for them, and are willing to hear what WILL make it easy for them.**
- 4) Ask about the rehabbers practice just to get your discussion rolling:
 - a. What specific animal species do they take care of that eat plant foods, if any?
 - b. Are there wild plant foods they already use successfully and want more of?
 - c. When is their greatest need for foods? Which day of the week, months?
 - d. Are their specific foods you think you will be able to supply?
 - e. Are their limits to storage/refrigerator space the rehabber needs you to know about?
 - f. What is the best time of day to make a food delivery? Should you call before you come?
- 5) Be willing to deliver the rehabber a completely prepared package, sorted, washed, labeled product-- compete with a list of who might eat this food-- ready to use.
- 6) Remember, your goal is to make it easy for the rehabber to use your gift!

Our Local Wildlife Rehabilitators (2018):

Wildlife Center of Virginia
Waynesboro, Augusta County
540-942-9453
Ask to speak with a rehabilitator on staff

Works with all native birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, of all ages.

Rockfish Wildlife Sanctuary

Shipman, Nelson County

434-263-4954

Ask to speak with a rehabilitator on staff

Works with all native birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, of all ages.

Madelein: "...if we could get songbird food for us, that would be fantastic for use in our fledge cage. Or, perhaps, a fox diet person!?"

Augusta Cottontails

Waynesboro, VA

CALL 540-221-6764 or TEXT 239-571-0055

Linda: "Collecting food for the buns takes at least an hour a day, as I only feed native greens, so I would be happy for any help."

Other individual area rehabbers:

Karen Riston, 540-840-5752, Staunton
Squirrels

Brenda Lambert, 434-296-9240, Charlottesville
Mammals, birds

Robin Eastham, 434-295-7442, North Garden
Fawns and small mammals, bats

Deborah Smith, 434-263-4954, Scottsville
Mammals, reptiles, some birds

Leslie Sturges Mount Solon 7039733157 Bats

Brenda Lambert Charlottesville 4342969240 Birds

Brenda Lambert Charlottesville 4342969240 High risk rabies species

Brenda Lambert Charlottesville 4342969240 Small Mammals

Nathalene Attinger Schuyler 4349627429 Birds

Nathalene Attinger Schuyler 4349627429 High risk rabies species

Nathalene Attinger Schuyler 4349627429 Mammals

Nathalene Attinger Schuyler 4349627429 Raptors

Nathalene Attinger Schuyler 4349627429 Turtles

Madeline Zimmer Shipman 4342703443 Birds

Madeline Zimmer Shipman 4342703443 High risk rabies species

Madeline Zimmer Shipman 4342703443 Reptiles

Madeline Zimmer Shipman 4342703443 Small Mammals

Here is where to find wildlife rehabbers:

<https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/injured/rehabilitators/?fips=790>