

R.O.C.K. - Rehabbers Offer Care and Kindness

Wildlife Rehabilitators are aware of the many perils facing individual wild animals in their daily existence. Some can be avoided by personal steps that we can take - others need to be dealt with through education or lobbying efforts.

Wildlife rehabilitators are licensed by state game agencies, yet they are given no support, and they

are not allowed to charge for their "services." Sadly, animals often come to the attention of rehabbers when they are found by people who either don't want them near their house or don't know how to help them. When the DEC's, DNR's or police are called, they normally recommend killing or letting the animals die; and most veterinarians cannot take time from their busy schedules.

Antler Ridge Wildlife Sanctuary Saving Lives, Preserving Wildlife, Enriching the Environment

Antler Ridge Wildlife Sanctuary is a 120-acre preserved farm located in Warren County, New Jersey. It is a wildlife rehabilitation center that provides vital care and treatment to sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife. Licensed by the state of New Jersey to care for fawns, raccoons, skunks, opossums, squirrels, rabbits, woodchucks, and other small mammals, the Sanctuary is dedicated to rehabilitating these animals back to health so they can be returned to the wild where they belong. Our mission is also to actively educate the public about the importance of:

- Caring for ecosystems
- Supporting the environment in which we live
- Respecting the wildlife with whom we share this environment
- Protecting and preserving our native lands for future wildlife habitat

Antler Ridge Wildlife Sanctuary is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, supported entirely by public donations and volunteers. We receive no local, state or federal funding.

Late 2011 presented a huge challenge to the sanctuary with the floods in North Jersey and Hurricane Irene. During the



storm Antler Ridge Sanctuary lost power and had to care for over 70 animals in their car!

Then, the day after the storm the phone rang off the hook. Squirrels, skunks, fawns and raccoons were also affected by the storm. Seven days later, our intake was over 160 animals -- something no one expected.

Volunteers and community-support helped us pull the animals through hypothermia, broken limbs and dehydration. Our volunteers were feeding animals by candle light, and the volunteers who had power were taking home

items to wash.

Ten days later the power was restored to the sanctuary and we continued our effort of rehabilitating wildlife. So far, in 2012, we have been fortunate in North Jersey to experience a mild winter to support the animals that might not have made it. If you would like to learn more about the sanctuary and donate to keep our mission strong you can visit our web site at www.antler-ridge.com

This little guy was one of our rescues from the freak 2011 storm. He came in cold and dehydrated. He was found in a hollowed out downed tree by a tree service company. Orphaned and cold, he was crying for his mother and siblings who were never found. He was nurtured and cared for by our volunteers and was put into another litter of raccoons about his same size and age. After several weeks of adjusting to his new family we were unable to tell one from another and they were able to be released back to the wild.

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