Spring Migration: There for All to See

By Jim Danzenbaker

Question: What do Orange-crowned Warbler, Savannah Sparrow, Turkey Vulture, and Greater Yellowlegs have in common? If you said that they're all birds, you are correct. Dig a little deeper and you'll soon figure that all of these species become markedly more obvious in appropriate habitats as we usher in Spring. However, it's difficult to think of Spring as that beautiful season that is welcomed by big bald-headed birds that eat dead things and little brown streaky jobs that have us running for our bird books.

The miracle of migration hits in spurts and sometimes in a deluge in our corner of the planet. So much of it is dependent on the weather and our ability to be out in appropriate habitats to witness the arrival of our avian friends from their wintering grounds further south. I'm always amazed at how consistent birds are at showing up at favored locations during this time of year. For the most part, their returns aren't radically altered, when comparing consecutive years, by society's footprint on the planet or the occasional global pandemic.

I love this time of year. What is it about watching a flock of dark birds on teeter-totter wings or listening to the trills of a small olive-yellow bird or listening to the 2-2-2 call of a Greater Yellowlegs? In my mind, these are signs of consistency in an inconsistent world .... but let me move away from brain altering philosophical thought.

One thing that I've learned from this not-so-normal, pandemic-altered Spring is that migration continues and it is easy to notice within a mile of your home. You just have to know where to look. Most, if not all, of us have some kind of visibility of the sky. On those partly cloudy days when you're wondering what tv program to stream, instead, take a step outside and look up. Chances are good that at some point you'll see something - a Red-tailed Hawk, Bald Eagle, or Turkey Vulture perhaps? When you do spot one, watch what it does - is it just flying around in circles and then returning to the ground or a hidden perch? If yes, it is probably a local bird. If it is circling and going ever higher until out of sight or starts to line directly north (or some northerly component thereof), then it's probably a migrant. Many of us think that migration happens only in those places that harbor great habitat. That is partially true, but migration can be viewed anywhere. If you have a patch of bushes (regardless of how big), check it daily. When a bird shows up that you haven't seen before, chances are that it is a migrant. Watch to see what it does. Granted you may not know what the bird is, but witnessing migration doesn't have an innate rule of assigning an identification to each bird. Sometimes the most memorable experiences are spent watching behavior, not flipping pages in a field guide.

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The Columbia Flyway is published monthly September through June (except January).

Vancouver Audubon Board Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month August through May in various locations (announced in newsletter).

Membership meetings and programs are held on the first Tuesday of the month September through June (except January).

Program meetings are held at the West Park Community Room at 610 Esther St. (just across the street from the west end of Esther Short Park, or kitty-corner from City Hall). Parking lot can be accessed from Esther Street. There is an entrance at either side of the building.

Vancouver Audubon believes in the wisdom of nature’s design and promotes this through education, involvement, stewardship, enjoyment and advocacy.
If you are an avid hiker and/or can easily socially distance yourself from the rest of humanity, there are places to visit in our county that harbor, at times, many migrating birds. The Vancouver Lowlands, Fort Vancouver, Carsee Botanical Gardens, your friendly neighborhood parks, and seasonally flooded areas are all great places to visit. Knowledge of these hidden gems may erase some of the sting of not being able to visit our star quality National Wildlife Refuges or DNR wild lands. Take your optics with you so you can see the faint streaking on that Orange-crowned Warbler, the long bill and intricate gray patterning of that Greater Yellowlegs, the details of the streaks on that Savannah Sparrow, and, yes, the red head on that soaring vulture.

Weather is a key player in how we witness migration. Often times, those beautiful, clear, windless days that beckon us outside are the days that are the most difficult to get a good feeling of migration. Nothing is visible because birds were able to easily wing their way overhead without letting us know they were there. I like overcast conditions or slightly foggy after several days of clear skies and a southerly breeze. This is the tried and true formula for migrants to drop out of the sky and dive into any patch of vegetation or other suitable habitat, whether it be a forest, your neighborhood park, or your backyard apple tree that you have been closely monitoring. Those are the magical days when you can see that the fairly drab plumage of the Yellow-rumped Warbler has erupted into patches of bright yellow, bluish gray, with highlights of white.

When you get a chance, go outside and look around, migration is happening and there's a distinct possibility that you'll be able to witness it in all its glory. The Turkey Vultures, Orange-crowned Warblers, Savannah Sparrows, and Greater Yellowlegs are waiting for you!

Message from National Audubon

Thank you for being good community members and doing your best to slow the spread of COVID-19. We have provided a lot of guidance to help your chapters make decisions in this challenging time.

Below is an update on decisions Audubon has made to do our part to continue to keep our communities safe.

What You Need to Know:

All in-person engagement, education, and outreach activities are suspended until further notice, including bird walks, on-the-beach outreach, volunteer activities, and other gatherings.

All Audubon events and events held in our spaces will be cancelled or postponed through June 30.

All stewardship and monitoring activities are prohibited when local, state, or federal shelter-in-place or equivalent orders are in place.

All Audubon Centers are closed through June 30.

All Audubon summer camps are cancelled or have been transformed into virtual ones.

All non-essential travel is banned through June 30.

Be well, All of us at Audubon

Programs, Meetings, Field Trips, and Bird Walks

We are sorry to announce that upcoming events have been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions and recommendations in our region.

Due to restrictions on public gatherings at the time of publication and likelihood of continued restrictions, all other social and group events have been postponed.

When restrictions are lifted, we will be posting updates on the website and on the Vancouver Audubon Facebook site. Of course, newsletters will continue on the regular schedule.

Please submit your photos, ideas and innovations for enduring (and maybe even enjoying) the social isolation!
Flooding is a normal part of the Chehalis River basin’s ecology, but decades of intensive land use have made its lands and waterways incapable of absorbing even normal levels of flooding, putting homes, businesses, towns, and I-5 at risk. These floods can also kill salmon and other wildlife and spread toxic waste into rivers and wetlands.

Increased flooding is the result of many factors, including changing rainfall patterns, development in the floodplain, alteration of riparian areas including removal of vegetation, and logging and loss of older forest in the uplands of the basin. Now, climate change is making the situation worse.

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District is proposing to construct a dam on the upper Chehalis River just upstream of Pe Ell, Washington, as the center piece of a flood damage reduction project.

Tribes, fishermen, fishing guides, salmon advocates and community members have expressed serious concerns about the proposal and are urging much higher public scrutiny. The Quinault Indian Nation, which has treaty rights to Chehalis River fish, recently announced its opposition. This opposition is based on the scientific and technical analysis of the proposal by the Washington Department of Ecology that concludes construction of the dam would result in catastrophic harm to salmon. Based on its evaluation of the state environmental study, the Quinault Nation believes the dam would virtually guarantee local extinction of spring Chinook and accelerate the decline of coho, fall Chinook and steelhead runs.

Despite an 80 percent decline in salmon runs over the past 30 years, the Chehalis River remains one of the most important producers of wild fish in Washington and is one of the few places left in the state where no salmon species are currently listed as threatened or endangered. These fish are an important food source for Puget Sound’s southern resident orcas, too.

“The benefits don’t add up,” says Jessica Helsley, Washington Director of Wild Salmon Center. “At a huge cost to taxpayers and salmon runs, this dam will still leave communities and landowners vulnerable to flooding. It won’t provide hydropower, irrigation water, or recreation opportunities.”

The Quinault Nation believes the state’s Chehalis Basin Strategy has focused too much on the dam for flood damage reduction at the expense of developing a credible alternative. They and other dam opponents would like to see more consideration for habitat connectivity in the basin since improving and restoring corridors for aquatic and terrestrial species is an essential part of increasing ecosystem resiliency to climate change. They also propose a larger focus on basin-scale forest and land management.

In its analysis, Ecology found the dam project would significantly degrade habitat in the temporary reservoir area. Taking climate change into account, water temperatures eventually would be raised by 9 degrees. In addition, 90 percent of trees in the area of the temporary reservoir, stretching more than 6 miles, would be removed.

When the reservoir fills, it would flood 847 acres, killing more trees and vegetation. Construction also would eliminate salmon spawning areas, and reduce salmon survival, with significant impacts on spring and fall run chinook, coho, steelhead, and other native fish including lamprey, according to Ecology. Wildlife, including Marbled Murrelets would also be significantly affected.

Downstream of the structure, water temperatures would be elevated and decreased oxygen levels would degrade water quality in the river for 20 miles. Spawning habitat would be eliminated and fish passage mortality increased.

In southwest Washington, Conservation Northwest is initiating a new effort, Cascades to Olympics, focusing on connecting habitat between Washington’s South
Cascades, Willapa Hills and the forests and mountains of the Olympic Peninsula. This work is increasingly urgent given development trends in the south Puget Sound region, and the needs of species including fishers, elk, western toads, Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets. Conservation Northwest is emphasizing forest, floodplain and habitat restoration to mitigate flooding and improve conditions for fish and wildlife, local communities, agriculture and infrastructure. There is also a pressing need for increased connectivity for wildlife such as elk and fishers to move between southwest Washington’s large wild landscapes.

While proponents argue the dam would allow fish passage when not actively retaining floodwaters, localized destruction of wild salmon and steelhead trout spawning habitat and the impact of even temporary reservoirs on nearby forest habitat would be severe.

Suggested comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement:

- Require a formal link between approval of the dam and funding the implementation of the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan to improve the likelihood that negative impacts of the dam on salmon and other aquatic species would be fully mitigated if the dam is constructed.

- Include larger wildlife underpasses at key places under both I-5 and U.S. Highway 12 (such as next to the Newaukum River under I-5) to mitigate for impacts from the Airport Levee improvements and the proposed dam on important elk migration corridors.

- Consider the potential for increased development in existing floodplain areas resulting from reduced flooding as a result of the dam and identify means to prevent development in these ecologically and hydrologically sensitive areas.

- Incorporate findings from new connectivity analyses being conducted through the Pacific Northwest Coast Landscape Conservation Design project into assessments of the impacts of both proposed projects on fish and wildlife habitat connectivity across the Chehalis Basin.

- Consider and further evaluate impacts of the dam on the unique diversity of amphibian species in the Chehalis Basin.

- Construct and analyze a scenario in which a dam is not approved, but all other feasible strategies for reducing and mitigating floods are implemented. This is a particular version of a “No Action” alternative where no action is not building a dam, but many other actions to reduce floods are taken, including significant forest, floodplain and riparian zone restoration.

- Evaluate the potential for growing older forests in all managed forest landscapes for reducing floods.

The public comment period on the draft EIS runs until May 27, 2020. Comments can be submitted online through the State Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Comment Form.

https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/eis/comment-form/
March 19, Randy Hill found a lingering **SWAMP SPARROW**, a bird that nests in the northeastern United States on the Ridgefield NWR River 'S' Unit before the closure.

March 20, A **LESSER YELLOWLEGS** found at the Ridgefield NWR River 'S' Unit was reported by Debbie Meader.

Susan and I went for a drive up the Gorge into Klickitat County to view the wildflowers and saw a male **REDHEAD** at Rock Creek Mill Pond in Stevenson and that the **PACIFIC LOON** was still at Drano Lake in Skamania County. In Klickitat County along Balch Road near Lyle we had numerous **LEWIS'S WOODPECKERS, ACORN WOODPECKERS** and **WESTERN BLUEBIRDS**.

March 22, Cindy McCormack found **AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS** and a **CANYON WREN** at Beacon Rock State Park in Skamania County. I think this must be the furthest west Canyon Wren nesting site in the state.

Debbie Meader was the last person to report that the **PACIFIC LOON** was still at Drano Lake.

March 23, A yellow variant of a **PURPLE FINCH** visited our feeders these are rare in this species but is not uncommon with House Finches.

March 25, We still had a **MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE** coming to our sunflower feeders.

March 26, **CLIFF SWALLOWS** were seen at Vancouver Lake by Cindy McCormack.

March 29, A **CHIPPING SPARROW** visited John Bishop’s home west of Brush Prairie, which he calls Bootstrver Ridge.

A **SPOTTED TOWHEE** with a band on its leg showed up at our feeders, I am presuming it is one of the birds that was banded during a bird banding training session held here in 2016. It disappeared last fall and I wonder where it wintered, we also see at least one banded **SONG SPARROW** here too.

April 5, Over the day we counted eleven **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS** passing through our woods with the majority of them stopping to explore a blooming Red-flowering Currant bush.

April 9, A pair of **HARLEQUIN DUCKS** were found in Lacamas Lake by Lucas Mansfield, these gorgeous birds winter on the ocean an nest along rushing mountain streams. I have only seen one of these birds in Clark County in fifty years, luckily Lucas got the word out right away and several other people also got to see them.

April 10, Susan and I spent a lot of time sitting on our patio area while gardening and saw two **GOLDEN EAGLES** flyover about 45 minutes apart.

April 11, Five **CHIPPING SPARROWS** were seen all at once by John Bishop, with some of them singing at his home west of Brush Prairie.

April 17, 19 **AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS** on Vancouver Lake seen by Bob Flores from flushing channel.

At our place at 1,000’ in Skamania County six miles east of Washougal we had a **TOWNSEND’S SOLITAIRE** and a male **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** along with our first of the year **WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS**.

April 18, Jim Danzenbaker had a fun day of birding within a mile of his yard in Battle Ground Highlight were standing in one place and counting 174 **YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS** in 20 minutes falling out of the clouds and continuing south right in front of him He said that he probably had at least 350 for the day along with at least 18 **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS**.

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BLERS in the general area and that COMMON YELLOWthroats have gone from none to many. Also, sparrow activity surged this morning with noticeable increases in both SAVANNAH and LINCOLN’S SPARRROWS. Reports from other Clark County birders echoed what he witnessed.

April 19, At Frenchmen’s Bar Park, Bob Flores had a nice mix of migrants with 1 NASHVILLE WARBLER, 3 BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLERS, 5 ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS, 105 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS, 34 RUBY-CROWNED KINGLETS, 3 HERMIT THRUSH, a BONAPARTE’S GULL over the river, 4 VAUX’S SWIFTS, a PACIFIC SLOPED FLYCATCHER and a HAMMOND’S FLYCATCHER.

April 19, SWAINSON’S HAWKS are a bird of the east of the Cascades grasslands and prairies so a total of four found in the Vancouver Lake lowlands was mind-boggling. Cindy McCormack got the word out and luckily several other birders were able to see these rare birds. Her other good finds for the day there were a WESTERN KINGBIRD and a WILSON’S WARBLER.

Bob Flores reported 11 GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE in the Vancouver Lake lowlands and a WILSON’S WARBLER at Frenchman’s Bar Park. Amazingly he spotted another SWAINSON’S HAWK flying over his Ridgefield home several hours later.

A further indication of a WILSON’S WARBLER movement was two reported from Meadowbrook Marsh Park by Jacob Durrent and Jen Sanford.

With everyone reporting a good movement of birds today we hoped for some warblers at our place but had none but were delighted to have our first HAMMOND’S FLYCATCHER and a female BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD.

April 20, A VESPER SPARROW another east of the Cascades species, was found at by Cindy McCormack at the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. A quick alert sent to other birders allowed them to share in this rare for Clark County bird. So far this year people have reported seeing 178 species of birds in Clark County and 126 in Skamania County. With fewer people traveling to see birds and the closure of many popular birding areas these numbers are down. The migrants will continue to arrive or pass through on their way north until early June. The sound of water dripping into water might attract some of these migrant vireos, warblers and flycatchers to your yard. The first time I saw it being used was in Texas in the 1980’s where at a popular birding spot someone had put a small plastic pond on the ground and hung a capped plastic milk jug of water from a branch above it and poked a pin hole in its bottom so that it would slowly drip into the water and was attracting a lot of birds. Do you have a fountain, recirculating bird bath or a water feature to attract birds? If so, please share a photo of what you are using on the Vancouver Audubon Afield group Facebook site. You are welcome to post your bird sightings and photos there too.

By Wilson Cady
What an interesting foot we have here! Isn’t it just wonderful that we will be able to identify a bird from just this view?

Let’s start with the obvious—this large and stout foot has some rather strange scaled and fleshy lobes on the toes. Not too mentions the fabulous and unexpected color of these feet! Kind of sky blue graduating into a greenish-yellow at the leg. Wonderful! There can be a bit of color variation in the feet of these birds, though, as I have also seen the toes look more greenish-yellow than blue.

Let’s go back to those strange toe lobes. What could be used for? This would definitely help us narrow down the species. Ducks and gulls and other water birds have webbed feet to help with swimming. Birds that do a lot of perching and walking tend to have long, slender toes. This foot appears to have intermediate characteristics, with the lobes providing more surface area for swimming, while also for mobility on land and mud. So, some sort of water-bird that also does some walking.

Lacking fully webbed toes would automatically eliminate loons, ducks, geese, swans, pelicans, and gulls. Whew!

Swimming birds that we know that have lobed toes would include grebes, phalarope, and a few in the rail family.

Grebes do have lobed toes, but their legs are set quite far back on their bodies. This is an excellent advantage for diving and underwater propulsion, but makes them quite awkward on land. Grebe toes are also more completely and evenly lobed. Note that this bird has irregular and uneven flanges on only some of the toes.

Phalaropes do have some lobing as well, but it is also more even and it is also associated with some semi-webbing between the toes. They also have a considerable more delicate foot then the feet in this photo.

So, that leaves us with something in the rail family. This is a very diverse family, with quite a large range in bill and foot morphology. What member of the rail family do we see swimming regularly in our area? The American Coot!

The coots are unique in the rail family in having fleshy flanges mainly on the inside of the toes. This allows for greater surface area for swimming and diving (they are the only member in this family that regularly dives for food) as well as for walking on mud. But the flanges fold back as

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the coot lifts the foot, making it easier to walk. These huge feet are also used quite frequently when fighting, which American Coots seem to do a lot, especially this time of year. Spend some time watching their displays, food thefts, and acts of aggression, it can be quite the show!

By Cindy McCormack

Upcoming Bird/Nature Festivals and Events

Grays Harbor Shorebird Festival
April 24-26, 2020
http://shorebirdfestival.com/

Yakima River Canyon Bird Fest
May 8-10, 2020
https://www.ycic.org/yakima-river-canyon-bird-fest

Leavenworth Spring Birdfest
May 14-17, 2020
https://wenatcheeriverinstitute.org/bird-fest

Wenas Audubon Campout
May 22-25, 2020
https://wenasaudubon.org/

Puget Sound Bird Fest in Edmonds
Sept 11-13, 2020
http://www.pugetsoundbirdfest.com/

Wings Over Willapa Festival
Sept 24-27, 2020
https://wingsoverwillapa.org/

Vancouver Audubon is on Facebook!

Follow our page @VancouverAudubon to get up-to-date announcements, news, and events from Vancouver Audubon! We also added a group page—you can find the group by just selecting the button “Visit Group” under our page banner. Join the group to share your nature photos and experiences, or to even get ID help!
**VAS Board Election Candidates**

**President:** Sam Neuffer

My name is Sam Neuffer and I have been serving as your Vice-president and Education outreach chair since 2017! In that time, I have partnered with various groups to educate the public about birds! I have revived the Audubon Adventures program, taught a birding class, worked with the Vancouver Water Resources Center on outreach, attended/helped plan the statewide Washington Audubon Meeting and more. As president, I plan to continue these programs as well as coordinate with board members to continue serving the southwest Washington Audubon community. I am grateful to all of our members, and am excited to work with all of you should you elect me to this position!

**Secretary:** Craig Wallace

I have a B.S. degree in Fisheries Management from Utah State University. I currently repair hydraulic accumulators off of Navy submarines, but am trying to retire soon. My hobbies include wildlife photography and bird watching. I am looking forward to serving on the board!

**Treasurer:** Joan Durgin

For 35 years my professional life was a CPA. I audited governmental organizations and non-profits for ten years then served as an Accounting Supervisor and promoted to Finance Director/Treasurer for the City of Camas serving 20 years until retiring several years ago. In my spare time I volunteered as treasurer for the Vancouver Audubon for 10 years, then in 2016 I stepped aside for 2 years until I was re-elected in 2018. I am willing to serve another term as treasurer, will strive to retain our sound financial condition and will continue good accounting practices supported with well documented transactions.

**Vice President**—Open position

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**Cancellation of Wenas 2020**

The first Wenas campout was held Memorial Day weekend in 1963. It has continued without interruption except for May 1980 with the eruption of Mount St. Helens. That is until now.

We are sad to say that the annual Wenas Memorial Day Campout has been cancelled for this year. The Wenas organizing committee has determined that in light of Covid-19 and looking at the health and safety of everyone attending, that it would not be responsible to hold this popular event as usual. We just aren’t able to guarantee the safety of attendees and are not willing to take that risk.

While we have all age levels attending, ours is generally an older crowd and therefore our risk profile is greater than average. Since we have people coming from all over the state, if just one contagious person were there, not only might attendees get sick, but they might bring COVID-19 to areas that have been somewhat unaffected so far.

Yes, we would be outside and there is ample camping space to maintain social distancing. However, there would be no way to sanitize the porta-potties after every use or maintain social distancing on field trips or at the campfires.

As a result, we have made the not-so-easy decision to cancel for this year. We hope all of you continue to get out for walks in your neighborhoods to watch birds and enjoy nature.

Two of the organizing committee members have shared they are planning their own campout over Memorial Day weekend so that they may continue the tradition, though with a somewhat modified version. They are planning to set up tents in each of their own yards and then they are going to get on their phones and share stories of other Wenas campouts they have attended. What a great idea!

Please keep checking the Wenas website and Facebook page as we get closer to Memorial Day weekend. There is a possibility that we might be able to put together a virtual campfire program with a guest speaker.

In the meantime, Stay Home, Stay Healthy and we will see you Memorial Day weekend 2021.

*Your Wenas Organizing Committee*
**NWR Updates**

### Ridgefield NWR

Public use facilities (the auto tour route, all trails, parking lots, restroom, and the Refuge office) and access to those facilities at Ridgefield NWR are not available to the public due to health concerns and in support of national and local efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

### Steigerwald Lake NWR

Public use facilities (trails, parking lots, and restrooms) and access to those facilities at Steigerwald Lake NWR are not available to the public due to health concerns and in support of national and local efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

The initial stages of the Gibbons Creek Alluvial Fan Restoration has begun. Contractors have installed wood structures throughout the 55 acre alluvial fan area to increase fish habitat once Gibbons Creek is reconnected to Steigerwald Lake. They are now planting 65,000 bare root native trees and shrubs throughout the area to replace the invasive canary grass. Visitors may see equipment or staff in the field between the parking lot and Steigerwald Lake for the next couple of months. This effort is part of our preparation for the big Columbia River Reconnection project. Check out the post at [www.Refuge2020.info](http://www.Refuge2020.info).

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**Volunteer Opportunities**

### Spring 2020 Klickitat County North American Migration Count

Save the date! Saturday, May 9th

Take part in a long-running migration count in Klickitat County. For a history of the Spring results, visit: [http://birdingwashington.info/Klickitat/SpringNAMC.htm](http://birdingwashington.info/Klickitat/SpringNAMC.htm)

Spring 2019 (last year) results: [http://birdingwashington.info/Klickitat/Spring2019](http://birdingwashington.info/Klickitat/Spring2019)

Contact Bob Hansen if you are interested: [bobhansen@gorge.net](mailto:bobhansen@gorge.net)

### Purple Martin Band Reading

Our Purple Martins scouts should start arriving in late March and early April! Do you have a spotting scope and some patience? We could use help reading the leg bands on returning birds. Contact Randy Hill or Cindy McCormack if you are interested or have questions.

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**INJURED WILDLIFE: WHAT TO DO?**

Injured Wildlife Hotline: 503-292-0304

The nearest wildlife care and rehabilitation center is operated by Portland Audubon. Here are some general guidelines from their [Wildlife Care Center](http://wildlife.columbiaflyway.org):

1. **Prioritize your safety**
2. **Safely contain the animal**
3. **Keep the animal calm and secure until you can take it to the Wildlife Care Center**
   - Do not handle the animal any more than necessary to contain it – this is for your protection as well as for the animal’s well being. Wild animals are terrified of humans. They may fight back, try to flee, or freeze. Many people mistake the “freeze” behavior for tolerance or enjoyment of contact, when in reality it is a fear response. Limiting contact will reduce stress on the animal.
   - Keep the animal in a warm, dark, and quiet space. Keep them away from children and pets.
   - Many animals benefit from a heating pad set on low under half their enclosure, or a sock filled with dry rice and microwaved for 2-3 minutes.
   - Do not feed the animal.
   - Be cautious when choosing to leave water. Many wild animals do not drink standing water, and attempting to help them drink can result in pneumonia. In addition, if an animal spills its water and gets wet, it could get cold and may die. If in doubt, it is better not to leave water.
   - Bring the animal to the Wildlife Care Center as soon as you can. If you can’t bring it to the center during our open hours, or you believe the animal is in critical condition and needs immediate attention after hours, the Wildlife Care Center has a partnership with the [24 hour Emergency Veterinary Hospital Dove Lewis](https://www.dovelewis.org/). To get in touch with them, call (503) 228-7281.
   - If you are unable to transport to the care center, try calling Arden 360-892-8872. If he is available to transport a bird, you will be asked to donate a gas mileage compensation and a small donation for the Care Center for the care of the bird at the time of pick up.
   - The Wildlife Care Center admits native wild patients and operates its Injured Wildlife Hotline from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., 365 days a year.
May 26th: Board Meeting (virtual?)

No group trips or events will be scheduled until COVID-19 social restrictions are removed.

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