

# Wildlife Rescue 2021 Report

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**Project Leader:** Andy Brown

**Volunteer Coordinator:** Mary Hollinger [canoe2@comcast.net](mailto:canoe2@comcast.net)

Volunteers Hours: 674.25

Number of Volunteers: 9

Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division partners with the Owl Moon Raptor Center to rescue and transport injured hawks, owls and other raptors when needed. Other birds, large and small, and other animals, may need transport to other wildlife rehabilitation facilities as available. Transportation may require driving to the Capital Beltway, College Park to deliver the injured bird to a waiting Owl Moon volunteer, or directly to the Owl Moon Raptor Center in Boyds, MD, or to other rehabilitation centers as determined. Volunteers may also be called upon to help capture or pick up a wounded bird on location. Volunteers are essentially "on call" from morning until evening.

## Skills Needed

- Ability and willingness to drive to random locations to capture or pick up the injured bird.
- Ability and willingness to drive the beltway to transport injured bird to an Owl Moon volunteer, or to other rehabilitation centers as needed
- Ability to use a cell phone to contact others involved in the capture and transport
- Ability to use G.P.S. to get to the reported location of an injured bird
- Ability to transport a box large enough to hold a bird of prey
- Ability to walk and run through fields, woods, marshes or beaches
- Ability to safely net and capture injured birds
- Ability to accurately record data on where the bird was found, and the contact information for those who reported it
- Ability and willingness to submit the recorded data into the Calvert Volunteer Portal

## Volunteer Duties and Expectations

- Volunteers may be asked to respond to calls for help in Calvert, St. Mary's, Charles, southern Prince Georges, and Anne Arundel Counties
- Some locations may expose volunteers to ticks, chiggers and other biting insects, poison ivy and thorny plants
- A capture and transport effort may take several hours
- Calls for assistance are random, and may come at any time of day
- Volunteers will be handling raptors at their own risk. Thick gloves, nets and towels are recommended equipment
- Volunteers will coordinate transport with the Owl Moon Raptor Center once the bird is contained
- Volunteers are expected to enter their effort hours into the Calvert Stewards Portal

## Training and Qualifications

- Volunteers are trained on site, with guidance from OMRC and/or BCNC
- Volunteers are provided with instructions for logging hours into the Calvert Portal

## Summary of 2021 Activities

- In 2021 volunteers responded 181 times to help with potentially injured or trapped animals.
- Of the 156 birds rescued, the vast majority were raptors (84), followed by vultures (24), Great Blue Herons (14) and Seagulls (10). Of the raptors, 20 were Bald Eagles, 14 were Osprey, 12 were Barred Owls, and 11 were Red-Tailed Hawks. There were 15 non-birds, including 9 box turtles, 4 squirrels, a bat and an opossum
- Calls for assistance came primarily from Owl Moon Raptor Center (104). Other animal control, veterinarian and rehab services contacted us for help 28 times. 15 pleas for help via Facebook posts were also answered
- Most efforts required a simple pick up and transport (80). 42 required the volunteer to locate and capture before transporting. In 18 cases, the volunteer was unable to locate the bird once on site, and 14 efforts failed to capture the target. Vultures and geese can be particularly evasive and difficult to catch
- 62 birds were delivered to Owl Moon Raptor Center. 24 more were taken to Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research, usually via Owl Moon. The remainder were taken to various other licensed rehabbers.
- Some of the more exciting calls were for a Nightjar, possibly a Chuck Will's Widow, and a Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, two birds that can be difficult to find; a Brown Pelican that unfortunately found its way miles inland despite being unable to fly; and a Wood Stork, found on the side of Rt 4 at a puddle. The Wood Stork was relocated to Flag Ponds, where it created quite a stir among birders for a few days

## Future Plans

- We will continue to transport most birds to an OMRC volunteer for further transport to OMRC or Tri-State for the foreseeable future
- We will continue to investigate other rehabilitation options for non-raptors, especially for box turtles

Birds	No.
Bald Eagle	20
Osprey	14
Great Blue Heron	14
Barred Owl	12
Red-Tailed Hawk	11
Turkey Vulture	11
Gull sp	10
Black Vulture	9
Red-Shouldered Hawk	8
Eastern Screech Owl	8
Cooper's Hawk	6
American Crow	5
Canada Goose	4
Vulture sp	4
Hawk sp	3
Domestic Duck	2
Pigeon	2
Red-Winged Blackbird	2
Eastern Bluebird	2
House Finch	2
Yellow-Billed Cuckoo	1
Great Horned Owl	1
Nightjar	1
Wood Stork	1
Wild Turkey	1
Brown Pelican	1
European Starling	1
Broad-wing Hawk	1
Fish Crow	1
Junco	1
Northern Flicker	1
Purple Martin	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>161</b>

Other Species	No.
Box Turtle	9
Eastern Grey Squirrel	3
Brown Bat	1
Opossum	1
Southern Flying Squirrel	1
<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>176</b>

Initial Report From:	No.
Owl Moon Raptor Center	104
Direct Contact, individual	15
Battle Creek Nature Center	12
Blue Angel Wildlife Rescue	12
Calvert Co. Animal Control	8
FB posts/referrals	7
Carol vanWie, Rehab Services	5
self-found	2
Calvert Animal Hospital	1
Potomac Animal Welfare Services (PAWS)	1
Calvert Co. P&R	1
SPOT/SoMd Spay & Neuter	1

Action	No.
Assessed & released	3
Attempted capture	14
Capture & transport	42
Help escape	2
Pick up & release	15
Pick up & transport	80
Rehab referral	3
Respond, unable to locate	18
Set trap	3
<b>Total:</b>	<b>180</b>

Dispostion:	No.
Owl Moon Raptor Center	62
Tri-State Bird Rescue & Research	24
Blue Angel Wildlife Rescue	10
Second Chance	5
Carol vanWie, rehab services	4
Friskies Wildlife & Primate Sanctuary	4
Phoenix Wildlife Cener	4
Potomac Animal Welfare Services (PAWS)	4
Back to the Wild	1
Gwen Jones, rehab services	1
All Kinds Veterinary Hospital	1

*Supporting Calvert County's nature parks and natural spaces*



# CALVERT STEWARDS

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

*A partnership between Calvert Nature Society and Calvert County Natural Resources Division*

# 2021 Annual Report

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CALVERT STEWARDS VOLUNTEER PROGRAM  
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Volunteer Portal: <https://calvertstewards.galaxydigital.com/>

Calvert Nature Society: [www.calvertparks.org](http://www.calvertparks.org)

Calvert County Natural Resources Division:  
[www.calvertcountymd.gov/NaturalResources](http://www.calvertcountymd.gov/NaturalResources)

