

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your interest in the Wildcat Creek Wildlife Center Release Site Program. Wildlife Creek Wildlife Center is the largest wildlife rehabilitation organization in the area. Our goal for all wildlife is to restore them to their full health or raise them until they are old enough to fend for themselves and then release them back to the wild.

There are many challenging aspects to our work. The injuries wild animals suffer are often severe and require extensive veterinary care. Orphaned animals require special diets and proper stimulation to ensure they grow and develop as they would in the wild. All of the animals in our care also require isolation during their stay to ensure they do not become habituated to humans. The rehabilitation process for an individual animal may take anywhere from a few days to several months. The end result of this process is a healthy animal ready to return to its natural habitat.

Each of the different species of wildlife we receive has its own unique habitat requirements that must be met in order for it to survive after release. With the rapid pace of development in Tippecanoe and the surrounding counties, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to find accessible, appropriate, and natural areas to use as release sites for our rehabilitated patients. Many of these animals simply need a place to get started, an area with suitable cover and resources where they can readjust to life in the wild before dispersing. Others need an area to call home, a place where they will establish a territory and become a functioning member of the local population. In either case, your property may help fulfill this need.

The enclosed application asks for specific information about the property you may wish to allow Wildcat Creek Wildlife Center to use as a release site. The application was designed so this information may be easily entered into our database. Your information is confidential and will only be used to aid us in the assessment of potential release sites. Please complete the application as thoroughly as possible and mail it to the address indicated. Once your application has been received, a volunteer from Wildcat Creek Wildlife Center will be in touch with you.

The release is the final step in the process for the thousands of wild animals rehabilitated by Wildcat Creek Wildlife Center each year. Without suitable release sites, all of our efforts would be in vain. Through the generosity of caring individuals such as yourself, we can ensure that all of the animals will have the best possible chance for survival when they return to the wild. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call us at 765-430-1582.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to working with you to help Indiana's wildlife.

Sincerely, Denise L. Hayes, Facilities Director