



WPeNewsletter September 2012

edited by Carmen Klapperich

Walden's Puddle is a 501c3 non-profit. We receive no State or Federal funding.
We are able to do this important work only because of the generosity of our community of donors.

Thank you for making the following releases and transfers possible:

All Walden's Puddle releases are in loving memory of Dugan Coughlan Davis, may her memory be eternal.

The Davis family has requested donations in her memory be made to Walden's Puddle because of her love for animals.

Releases in August:

American Kestrel, 9
American Robin, 7
Barn Owl, 2
Broad-winged Hawk, 2
Cooper's Hawk, 2
Eastern Screech Owl, 3
European Starling, 2
Great Horned Owl, 5
Mallard, 2
Mourning Dove, 2

Northern Mockingbird, 2
Red-bellied Woodpecker, 1
Red-tailed Hawk, 2
Ring-necked Dove, 1

Eastern Cottontail, 16
Groundhog, 2
Red Fox, 3
Virginia Opossum, 9
Eastern Box Turtle, 5

Transfers in August:

Eastern Screech Owl
**Wilderness Station at Barfield-Crescent Park
Murfreesboro, Tennessee**

A very successful rehab and release . . .

Walden's Puddle's volunteers work long hours for many reasons - some practical, some social, some ethical, and some political. But one thing we all have in common is that we LOVE to participate in wildlife releases. Successful releases are the wildlife volunteer's "paycheck." While it is very satisfying to care for injured or orphaned animals, watching as they heal and mature, nothing - absolutely nothing - beats the thrill of opening the door to a crate and watching as a rehabbed wild animal flies, runs, waddles, or swims to freedom.

Becky Walton, who has been a WPD volunteer for nearly 3 years, has this to share with us:

"When I was asked earlier this summer, 'Would you like to release some juvenile opossums on your property?' my answer was an emphatic 'YES!'"

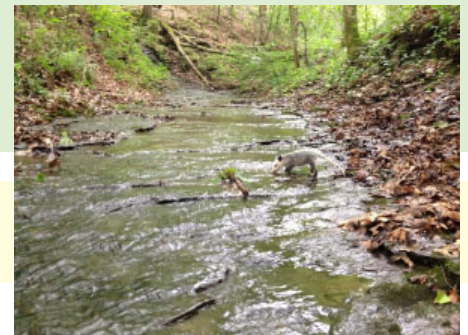
Let's just get it out there: I am passionate about opossums. Why? Well, there are many reasons, spiritual and otherwise. The opossum is my totem animal, complete with dream and everything! But since this newsletter is going to people who don't know me and whom I don't know, I'll give only a few, less personal reasons!

- Opossums are North America's ONLY marsupial. People get all worked up in excitement over kangaroos and wallabies half a planet away while there's a perfectly awesome marsupial in their own backyard!
- Opossums are the mammal LEAST likely to contract rabies.
- Opossums are members of Mother Nature's "cleanup crew" helping to control the spread of diseases.
- I always root for the underdog; most people I know say "Ewww" when opossums are mentioned so I am a 'possum advocate.
- They are so ADORABLE.

We have 5 acres in Joelton and only the house site has been cleared. Everything else is natural woods with many fallen oak trees (perfect for dens!), ravines, blackberry brambles, a creek, and even some falls! My husband Sam helped me release 13 of these babies. Some we released down at the bottom of our property near the creek and others we released up on the high part.

Without fail, the opossums headed towards the creek. The one in this photo had a long drink; then he waddled off to his forever home.

I haven't seen any opossums since the release, but I smile when I go to bed at night, imagining a bunch of opossums waking up, stretching their legs, and getting ready for a night-time party!!!!"



“Many hands make light work.” oId proverb

A small army of humans use their talents, skills, experiences, and imaginations to insure that the injured and orphaned wildlife that come to Walden’s Puddle receive the care they need to return to their rightful place in the world.

We, the staff, volunteers, and board members, wish to offer special thanks to the many donors and supporters who make our work possible and a little easier.

We also acknowledge the following for their nearly daily contribution of services and supplies:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Airport Animal Clinic | Volunteer Veterinary Hospital | Veterinary Ophthalmology Services | |
| Inglewood Kroger | Green Hills Whole Foods | | |
| Centerplate @ LP Field | Nashville Humane Association | Harris Demolition | J & E Automotive |

We want thank each of our wonderful summer interns and volunteers who have already gone back to school. You helped us make Baby Season 2012 a success.

We hope to see you when you come home for your holiday breaks.



Gimme Shelter!

Help your wildlife neighbors by leaving brush piles scattered around your property.

Brush piles are useful to wildlife - from box turtles to bunnies to birds - as they look for nesting sites in the spring, shady areas in the summer, cozy nighttime dens in the winter, and protection from predators all year. Brush piles do not need to be unsightly and you can create “living” brush piles. Here are some resources to help get you started:



http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/wildlife/pdf_files/outreach/fact_sheets/brshpls.pdf

http://www.iowasource.com/animals/2007_11_brush.html

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/habitat/brush-piles-rabbit.pdf>

http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/Wildlife_Brushpile_Jobsheet.pdf



CARING FOR WILDLIFE 24/7

Walden's Puddle is the only professionally staffed wildlife rehabilitation and education center in middle Tennessee.



WALDEN'S PUDDLE WILDLIFE
REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION CENTER

Tel. 615-299-9938

Giving Wildlife a Second Chance.

Baby Season: Part Deux

Our 2nd baby squirrel season has begun in earnest, while we are still getting in tiny baby opossums, cottontails and even baby songbirds!

The fawn and raccoon orphans that we are raising are coming into their 'teenage' phase--and everyone knows how much teenagers eat!

Your much needed-donation today will feed all the new babies-- older ones, too-- and help guarantee they will be able to be returned to the wild.

www.waldenspuddle.org

P.O. Box 641
Joelton, TN
37080



While many of WP's summer interns and volunteers have gone back to school, Baby Season 2012 is far from over.

Most species of wildlife have their young during a "breeding season" which is determined by their particular habitat requirements and food availability. Wildlife also take the weather into consideration when deciding to bear and raise young. Mild or hard winter, early or late spring, dry or wet summer - all will have an effect on when and how many babies are born.

Some wildlife, like deer, produce young once a year. Others, like cottontails and most songbirds, produce multiple batches of young every year. All of the tree squirrels we see here in Middle Tennessee produce spring and summer litters of young. The second litter is usually the largest.

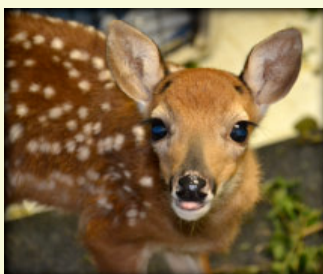
This Spring we had plenty of orphaned opos, raccoons, and foxes to care for but only about 20 orphaned baby squirrels. Our brief squirrel respite is over, however, and we are now administering around 200 baby squirrel feedings every day.



We are still receiving baby opossums, cottontails, and birds, and have around 250 animals in various stages of rehab. All of the "summer babies" and the injured adult wildlife need to be cared for and prepared for release.

As Fall approaches WP staff will watch the weather very closely to time the release of wildlife while food is still abundant and before freezing nighttime temperatures set in. An early winter will cause some animals to be "over wintered" which means they must be kept at WP until they can be released the following spring.

We are caring for A LOT of fawns!

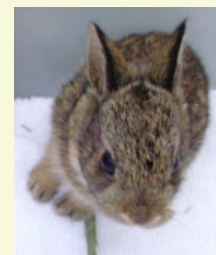


We can use all the vine honeysuckle, virginia creeper and wild grapevine that you can pull out of your gardens.

And we are still getting bunnies.

Please bring us your dandelions and plantain including roots and dirt!

THANKS!



Upcoming Events.

Buffalo Wild Wings is sponsoring a fund raising event for Walden's Puddle September 30, 2012 - All Day

Nashville West #251
6818 Charlotte Pike Suite 110
Nashville, TN 37209
615-352-9963

EAT WINGS. RAISE FUNDS. IT PAYS.

On the day of your event, Buffalo Wild Wings® will donate 10% of all pre-taxed food sales (less alcohol and promotional discounts) from any guest that presents this fundraising ticket.

We look forward to helping your organization meet its financial goals. Together, we can make a positive impact and help keep our community working and playing together.

(Present this ticket to your server on the date & time listed below)

**Walden's Puddle
September 30, 2012 – All Day
6718 Charlotte Pike
Nashville,, TN 37209**

EAT WINGS RAISE FUNDS
AN APPETIZING WAY TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION

ADMIT 1

FALL CALL OF THE WILD October 25, 2012 7:00 p.m.

Walden's Puddle Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center is hosting our second annual **FALL CALL OF THE WILD** fundraiser at Sound Kitchen Recording Studio
112 Seaboard Lane
Franklin, Tennessee 37067

Food provided by the Bound'ry; Drinks, Silent Auction, and Special Guests including our Animal Ambassadors!

Advance reservations, \$40 individual and \$75 for couples, can be made by sending a check to: Walden's Puddle, P.O. Box 641, Joelton, TN 37080

To make your reservations by credit card please call Lane Brody at 615-714-4002.

We hope to see you there!!!

www.waldenspuddle.org



Philanthropy in Franklin (432 Main Street, Franklin) is selling these t-shirts for \$27.

100% of the sale will go to Walden's Puddle. They can also be purchased online:

<http://www.philanthropyfashion.com/shop/love-bunny-wearable-compassion-t-shirt/>



Wish List

Our Wish List is available on our website at <http://waldenspuddle.org/wishlist.html> Check back frequently as our needs change with the seasons.

Washers and Dryers

Our laundry room only has space for 2 washers and 2 dryers. However, our machines run 12 hours a day every day of the year so we wear them out very quickly. We need to keep good machines on standby that can be hauled in on a moment's notice - new or used as long as they work!

Special request

We are in serious need of a **Commercial Copy Machine** - good quality, color, able to print/copy large quantities, and uses low cost ink replacement/toner.

Gift Corner... Looking for a unique gift? Check out what Walden's Puddle has to offer.



T-shirts, tote bags, cookies, and more available in the WP lobby and at special events.

We want to be in partnership with you, as Your Choice for your charitable giving!

Please feel free to contact our CEO Lane Brody at 615-714-4002 or Lane@lanebrody.com if you are interested in talking over the possibility of how to make "The Puddle" your charity for a special day, week, month or year when you plan for your company's charitable giving.

Please visit our profile on www.givingmatters.com or our website at www.waldenspuddle.org

Please remember to use the following when shopping online:

Goodshop <http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx>

I Give <http://www.igive.com/>

Sharing Spree <http://www.sharingspree.com/deals/nashville>

Artful Vision <https://www.artfulvision.com/>

WP Chairman CEO

Lane Brody, 615-714-4002 or Lane@lanebrody.com

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Jane Eaton
Brian Hock, PhD
Eddie Bayers

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Julie Stein, Scentmark Consulting

For more information go to www.waldenspuddle.org

