

Second Stories

SECOND CHANCE WILDLIFE CENTER'S NEWSLETTER

HOLIDAY 2025

We at Second Chance Wildlife Center have much to be grateful for. Because of your steadfast support, what began as a dream years ago has finally become reality: **our new wildlife rehabilitation center is scheduled to open for patient admissions on December 8, 2025. What a wonderful way to conclude our 30th anniversary year!!**

Every hallway, treatment room, and pre-release enclosure was built with one goal - to give injured and orphaned wild animals the very best chance to return home to the wild. This new facility means we can care for more patients, provide safer and more efficient medical treatment, and create better learning opportunities for our team and the community.

While our facilities will be new, our daily challenges remain the same – and perhaps even greater due to expenses related our larger size and increased patient capacity. Each day, animals arrive hungry, frightened, and in need of medical treatment. Every meal, bandage, incubator, blood test, and every hour of care from our highly trained team - **all of it depends on ongoing support from you.**

In the new year and beyond, **our core efforts will also include a powerful new SCWC Educational Program with improved and more engaging outreach, presentations, activities, and tools for people of all ages across a wide array of platforms.** We aim to teach people the many simple ways they can protect and help wildlife at home, at school, at work, and while out and about.

Two generous SCWC supporters have stepped forward to help us meet the growing needs of our new facility - and they're challenging YOU to join them! **From now through midnight on December 31, 2025, every unrestricted gift or grant will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$100,000.** That means your donation will go twice as far in supporting compassionate care for every patient we serve. With the average cost of care now exceeding \$250 per patient, we must raise significantly more to continue our vital work in 2026. Last year's matching challenge reached only 30% of its goal - but with your help, we can surpass it this year and ensure that SCWC's mission continues strong every single day.

Your generous holiday gift will help ensure that our new facility is not just beautiful, but truly alive - filled with caring activity, the hope for recovery, and new efforts to educate people across the state (and beyond) on how and why to safely co-exist with, and protect, their "wild" neighbors.

Thank you for being part of this remarkable journey from blueprint to bustling, state of the art wildlife rehabilitation facility. Together, we can make certain every single "wild" life that needs help finds hope within our new walls. Happy Holidays to all.

TO ENSURE A SAFE AND WELL-COORDINATED TRANSITION, **SCWC WILL BE CLOSED FROM NOV. 17 UNTIL OUR DEC. 8, 2025** OPENING AT OUR NEW LOCATION. OUR PHONE LINES WILL LIKELY BE "DOWN" DURING THIS TIME, TOO.

We will be responding to emails sent to info@scwc.org as we are able.

Our website (www.SCWC.org) has resources to assist you.

NEW ADDRESS EFFECTIVE 12/8/25



**26400 HAINES ROAD
CLARKSBURG, MD 20871
www.SCWC.org**

**ALWAYS CALL BEFORE
COMING TO THE FACILITY
301-926-9453
info@SCWC.org**

CUT ON DOTTED LINE & SAVE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



This shows workers building SCWC's 100'x20' flight center – the only one of its kind in Maryland!

Hawks, eagles, owls and other large birds will benefit from this structure and our team's expert strength and conditioning training.



A SNEAK PEEK AT SECOND CHANCE WILDLIFE CENTER'S NEW NEST SCHEDULED TO OPEN FOR ANIMAL CARE DECEMBER 8, 2025



SCWC's retired founder, Christine Montuori, visited the construction project in August. Pictured here in a section of the new Exam and Treatment room are (L to R): SCWC President Maureen Smith, Christine Montuori, Clinic Director Hannah Wilson, and Wildlife Veterinarian Natalie Zimmerman.



Ian Morrison & Gigi Foster assemble educational display cabinets. Windows throughout the building, like the one seen here, each have subtle but effective decals to prevent bird strikes.



ADA compliant front entrance with automated doors



Drone photo from high above the outdoor pre-release enclosures. Many have sections of polycarbonate roofing for natural lighting.



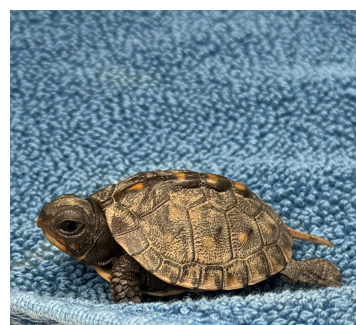
Waterfowl / Shorebird enclosure near completion. Features in-ground fiberglass pools. Note size of person for scale.



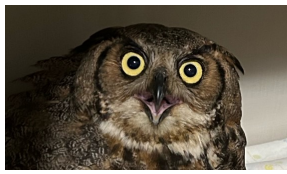
Drone photo showing some of the enclosures in the foreground and the back of the grey clinic building at the top.

**NO MATTER WHERE WE WORK,
SKILLED & COMPASSIONATE WILDLIFE CARE IS ALWAYS OUR PRIORITY**

As construction of the new facility in Clarksburg progressed, our wildlife care team in Gaithersburg remained focused on the well-being of each of the 2,500+ animals brought to our doors thus far in 2025.



Our new facility will be amazing. But, just as before, we need your ongoing financial support to provide the medications, foods, housing, medical equipment, gloves, anesthesia, and other resources needed to save lives and release healthy animals back to the wild. In fact, with a larger facility, the need for animal care donations will be even greater.



LOOKING AHEAD:

BUILDING ON 30 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO WILDLIFE WELL-BEING

As 2025 comes to a close, so does our celebration of SCWC's 30th year of serving wildlife and our community.

Moving into our new facility is a wonderful milestone - but it's also just the beginning.

If we have your continued support, 2026 promises to be our most impactful year yet. Here's what's ahead:

More Space, Improved Facilities, and New Equipment for Animal Care

Second Chance is known for its attention to detail, skilled team, and deep-rooted compassion when caring for wildlife. That will not change. But our new facility offers us the opportunity to take that to the next level – with more space, an entire campus designed for maximum efficiency and high standards of care, new equipment providing quicker and more definitive lab test results and better ways to monitor patients during surgery, species-specific climate control in each room for more natural conditions and better healing, and so much more.

A New & Impact-Driven Public Education Program Providing Simple Tools for All

We're launching an engaging, impact-driven education program featuring quarterly themes, plus live video chats with our veterinarian and other wildlife experts. You'll have the chance to ask questions, learn directly from our team, and access recorded sessions anytime. We're also developing a *Kids Club* to inspire and empower young wildlife champions in their own communities.

Improved & Expanded Volunteer Opportunities

Beyond animal care, volunteer roles will soon include native plant gardening on our new campus, welcoming visitors as reception "Greeters," organizing donation drives, assisting with light housekeeping, and answering phones. These new options open the door for individuals, groups, and local businesses to make a difference in ways we couldn't offer before. We also plan to improve the volunteer recruiting, on-boarding, and recognition experience.

Strengthened Social Media Presence & Communications

We will deepen and expand our reach across more platforms to share educational content, behind-the-scenes updates, and inspiring stories showing exactly how your gifts help wildlife heal and thrive.

More Community Engagement

After we are settled in our new facility, expect to see us at more community events, club meetings, senior centers, and public gatherings, as well as hosting small group sessions in our new Meeting & Education room. We're excited to connect with you - and others - face to face.

A New SCWC.org Website Coming in 2027

We're planning a complete website redesign in 2027 that will make it easier than ever to explore and print resources, get involved, donate, and follow our progress. Work on that begins in mid-2026.

SCWC MERCHANDISE MAKES GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS



Available at

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/second-chance-wildlife-center/>

Or,

Go to Bonfire.com homepage and type **Second Chance Wildlife Center** in the search bar.

Merchandise is not sold on-site at SCWC



**Make Your Holiday Gift Before Midnight
on December 31, 2025
to double your donation as part of the
\$100K Match Campaign
made possible by 2 wonderful donors.**

Give online at

www.SCWC.org/donate,

or avoid service fees charged by
credit card companies

(paid for by either you or SCWC)

and mail a check to our new address:

Second Chance Wildlife Center

26400 Haines Road

Clarksburg MD 20871