



Fall Newsletter

Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center



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Clinic Updates and News from the Center Owner, Dr. Sammie Holeck, DVM

Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center was started in 2012 as a non-profit organization, but we have been licensed and working in the rehab business for over 30 years. Our facility accommodates small to large mammals, birds of prey, other bird species, reptiles, amphibians, and sometimes a few exotics come our way.

We have many exciting projects coming up this Fall, including the completion of the new bobcat enclosure, the resuming of our educational programs, as well as welcoming new volunteers and staff to our facility!

As an update, I now serve as the State Veterinarian with the New Mexico Livestock Board. The vet clinic in Carlsbad, New Mexico has closed, but I remain very involved with Center operations.

In other news, the Annual benefit dinner is just around the corner. This has always been a fun event. Please plan on coming out to join us on November 13th to help us support wildlife. Tickets are available through our website (<https://dwwrc.org/>) or by contacting us at info@dwwrc.org

Membership

Memberships help us support wildlife! Membership fees provide baby animals with formula, medicine for sick animals, bandages for injured wildlife, food for our educational birds, baby blankets for neonates and much, much more! They also help us with the expansions that are currently being planned or underway at the center.

This year alone we have provided care to three times the wildlife we were able to just last year, thanks to your donations and public outreach!

Current member rates:

Individual 1 year	\$25.00
Individual 2 year	\$45.00
Family 1 year	\$50.00
Family 2 year	\$90.00

Memberships can be completed at the center or at <https://www.dwwrc.org/>

The website gives you the option of online registration or to mail in the form with the donation.

Thank you for your help!

Summer Statistics

Month	Intakes			Total
	Birds	Mammals	Reptiles/Amphibians/other	
June	131	14	5	150
July	113	8	9	130
August	77	19	6	102

Critter of the Month



Rocky the Rock Dove

Rocky came to us with a broken leg. The damage was bad enough that it would cause him some problems in his adult life, but through sheer chaotic willpower, he made almost a full recovery. He stays at the Center as our resident dove parent, and he teaches all the baby doves how to transition from formula to seed! So far this year, he will have taught almost 100 babies to eat seed. Rocky spends his days sitting on people's heads, flying away when you want to give him a cuddle, and eating all the bird seed he could ever want with his baby bird friends. Thanks Rocky!

Rock Dove Fun Facts

Length – 11 to 15 inches long

Weight – 8 to 13 ounces

Lifespan – 3 to 5 years

Wingspan – 24 – 28 inches

Rock Doves, also known as pigeons, are unique birds that adapt well to urban and rural environments. They are known for their ability to navigate using landmarks, the sun's position, and the Earth's magnetic field.

Rock Doves do not migrate and can be found in all 50 US states!

Annual Benefit Dinner

Our annual benefit dinner is scheduled for November 13, 2025, at the Walter Gerrals Performing Arts Center!

Join us for a fun night of dinner, live music, games, live and silent auctions, educational booths, and a chance to meet each of the educational ambassadors for DWWRC. This annual event is a great way to support the Center! Funds will go to support our mission for caring for sick, injured, and orphaned wildlife.

Doors open at 5:30!



Outreach Updates

We are hard at work getting our Educational Program up and running again. To contact us for future events, email info@dwsrc.org or call us at (575) 689-6711

Upcoming Events

Cavern City Renaissance Festival

A Big Thank You

Thank you to our wonderful staff who keep the Center open and running!

Thank you to our volunteers for all you do!

Thank you to our Board Members, Sponsors, Membership Owners, Transporters, Facebook Followers, Donators and All!

Your work and support keep us going.

Also, a very special thank you to this season's ALLSTARS, the good people at **Mosaic**! We have had many birds brought to us this summer by Mosaic employees. These birds stay for health observations and then are released to keep living the dream.



Meetings

The Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Board of Directors meet monthly on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 8am. Please contact us for location. The meetings are open to any members.

Consider volunteering!

Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center operates on grants and donations that are received. Our team of volunteers are continually on the watch for grants and funding opportunities. Our members and volunteers help the center out in several ways. Volunteer opportunities include transportation of critters, construction and maintenance work on the facility, landscaping, presenting education programs, painting, and preparing promotional materials.

We are also looking for additional board members to help guide the facility into the future.

Transporters Needed!

If you like to drive and have some free time, consider being a volunteer transporter for the Center. We serve wildlife from Alamogordo, Cloudcroft, Clovis, Hobbs, Roswell, and everywhere in between. This year we have been fortunate to find many wonderful people through our Facebook page, who have been willing to transport injured wildlife to Carlsbad for us. We couldn't do this without them!

To learn more, drop us a note at info@dwsrc.org and we can get you signed up.

The Mission Statement

We strive to offer compassionate and comprehensive medical care to injured, sick or orphaned wildlife and to educate the public about wildlife benefits and needs.

Seasonal Highlights



George, On Duty Supervisor



An Out-Of-Town Guest



IT'S SO FLUFFY

Thank you to our sponsors
Major Sponsors include:





In Memorium, Lori Singer



December 2024

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to the Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together.

There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....