

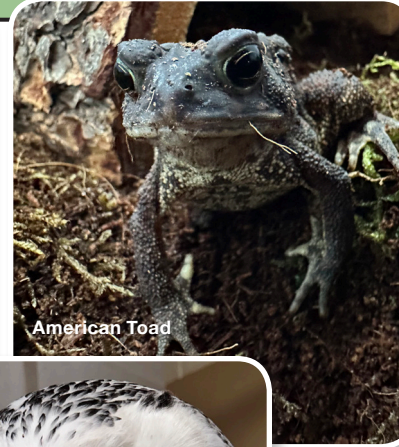


WILDWOODS 501(c)(3)

The Northland's regional wildlife rehabilitation facility



Bald Eagle



American Toad



Broad-winged Hawk



Snowy Owl



Northern Saw-whet Owl



Northern Flying Squirrel



Golden Eagle

Dear Wildwoods Friends and Family,

2024 turned out to be quite the year for us. **We admitted 1,065 animals representing 125 species, and provided support to 2,252 people.** Early April was met with baby squirrels, and we received a late season porcupette on November 4! This was our longest baby season yet, and we expect this may be the new normal.

Just as things started to slow down, they picked up again as Duluth found itself in the middle of an **owl irruption** (see page 3 for more on this!). All in all, 2024 was an extraordinary year, and we were able to handle it because of you!

It has become clear that Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is here to stay. We were unable to take ducklings for two years while we created an additional quarantine room especially for them. We did a trial run last summer and were very successful with the ducklings in our care. This felt like a significant milestone for us. Having two quarantine rooms (one for adults and one for ducklings) is no small matter. **The costs incurred to keep both of those rooms up and running are significant, but worth it.** We can handle hundreds of animals that are susceptible to HPAI that we would otherwise have to turn away.

The work that we do is evidence-based. This means that we spend a significant amount of time ensuring that we are using the most advanced methods for the animals in our care. Our animal care team attends training courses and coordinates with other rehabbers around the state. We work closely with the veterinarians at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center, Wild and Free, and The Raptor Center. We are proud of the relationships that we have built and our ability to expand our work based on these relationships.

continued on next page



Eastern Gray Squirrel

Dear Wildwoods Friends and Family continued from previous page

What we can't do is exist without you. Please look at our financials in this report to see just how you fit in. Individual donors are responsible for 69 percent of our revenue. Each dollar that you put into an envelope, leave in our mailbox, or donate online makes up a portion of that 69 percent. Your dollars, words of encouragement, volunteer hours, care for the animals, and spreading the word on how to share space with nature and her wildlife are inextricably linked to our successes here at Wildwoods.

I continue to be impressed by our staff, our volunteers, and our community that come together to support and guide our work as we care for the animals that share this world with us. **Due to the increasing needs of our wildlife community and our efforts to provide the best care possible, we ask you to consider increasing your support this spring.**

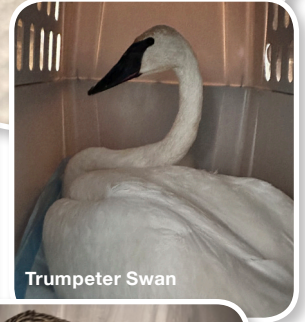
Rising costs, an increasing number of animals, and the complexity of care required due to HPAI means that we are spending more dollars every year to ensure the safety of our staff and animals.

Please support us in our efforts so that we can continue to be here for you, and for the animals that enrich our lives.

Kind regards,



Jessica LaBumbard
Executive Director

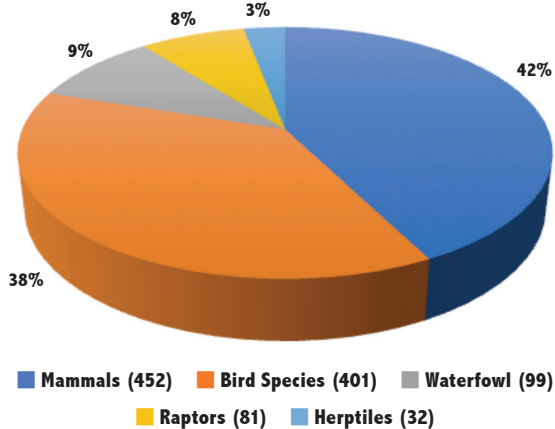


2024 Stats

Animals Served

In 2024, we admitted **1,065 animal patients from 125 species**. The eastern cottontail rabbit topped the list (203) for mammals, followed by the eastern gray squirrel (92). The top two bird species were rock pigeons (124) and ring-billed gulls (47). Most common raptors were the bald eagle (16) and the broad-winged hawk (14). The most common waterfowl was the mallard duck coming in at (28). See page 4 for a complete species list!

PATIENT BREAKDOWN (1,065)

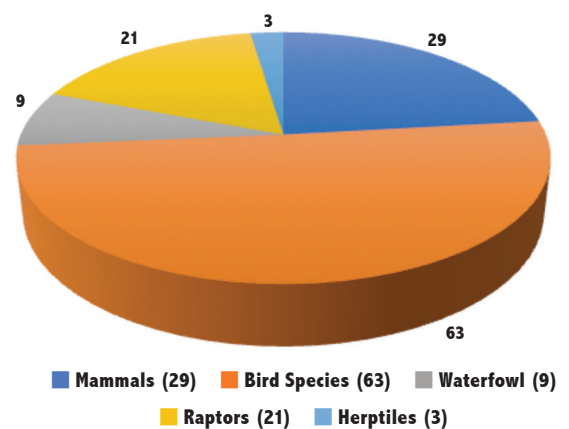


People Served

Wildwoods served **2,252 people in 2024:**

- 906 people brought in animals for care.
- 1,178 people called with animal concerns and questions, with most calls resulting in the animal being left safely in place.
- 168 people participated in our educational programs.
- We had six tabling events reaching large audiences.

NUMBER OF SPECIES BY ANIMAL GROUPS (125)

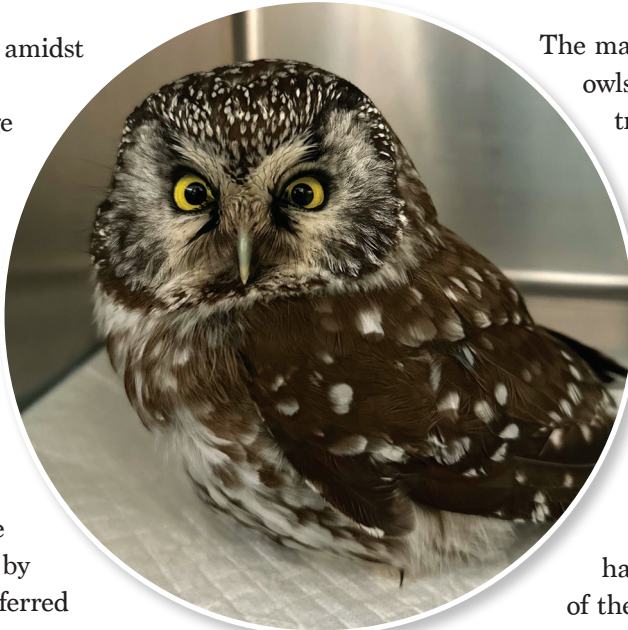


Owl Irruption - WINTER 2024-25

This past winter, we found ourselves amidst an owl irruption in Duluth! An owl irruption is when a significantly large number of owls migrate south. This year, we were inundated with **Great Gray Owls** and **Boreal Owls**. These two species are usually found in the boreal forests of northern Canada. You can also find them in Scandinavia, Russia, Siberia, and Mongolia.

These owls flew south due to a food shortage in their native habitats. The food shortage may have been caused by a cyclical boom and bust of their preferred food (the red-backed vole in the case of the boreal owl), or an abundance of babies hatching the year before, resulting in more owls than food sources could support.

This irruption year had a tremendous impact on Wildwoods. In a calendar year, we usually treat 25-30 owls. However, as of mid-March, we have treated 35 owls, and we are only a quarter of the way into the year! We've admitted **15 great grays** and **11 boreals**. Other owls that are not part of the irruption include **4 northern saw-whets**, **4 barred owls**, and **1 eastern screech owl** (this owl came from further south in Wisconsin; not a typical find in Duluth!).



Boreal Owl

The majority of the great gray and boreal owls that came to Wildwoods suffered trauma due to being hit by a car. Boreal owls, already out of their usual habitat, had to change their hunting patterns. Outside of their boreal forests, they were forced into daytime hunting along roadways with which they are not familiar. Great gray owls hunt throughout the day and night, but they too are outside of their regular habitat. Their northern range, and the nocturnal habits of the boreal and elusive habits of the great gray, make this pair of owls a special sight to see.



Great Gray Owl

These owls were susceptible to vehicle strikes because of their strong need for food, placing them by roadways which offer easier prey. Away from the snow-packed woods and meadows, less energy is required to grab a scampering animal that is running across the bare roadway. Owls are predators, so their eyes are fixed on the front of their face. Without good peripheral vision, they may not see a vehicle approaching them until it is too late.

With so many animals being struck by vehicles, it is incumbent on us to remember to pay attention to the sides of the road, and to slow down. We must continue to do our part for the animals.

Your support makes our work possible!

Donate online at
www.wildwoodsrehab.org/donate
or use the enclosed envelope.

Thank you!



Wildwoods is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in Duluth, MN, that accepts orphaned, injured, and sick wildlife.

We rehabilitate orphaned wildlife and return them to the wild while providing emergency stabilization and transfer of injured and sick wildlife to other rehabilitation centers in the state.

Open 365 days a year • 10 am - 4 pm

(By scheduled drop off only) 4009 W. Arrowhead Rd • Duluth, MN 55811 • 218-491-3604 • www.wildwoodsrehab.org

Species List

125 Species Admitted to Wildwoods in 2024

BIRDS

American Bittern
American Crow
American Goldfinch
American Kestrel
American Redstart
American Robin
American Woodcock
Bald Eagle
Barn Swallow
Barred Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Black-billed Cuckoo
Blackburnian Warbler
Black-capped Chickadee
Blue Jay
Blue-headed Vireo
Bohemian Waxwing
Boreal Owl
Broad-winged Hawk
Brown Creeper
Brown-headed Cowbird
Canada Goose
Canada Warbler
Cedar Waxwing
Chimney Swift
Chipping Sparrow
Common Grackle
Common Loon
Common Nighthawk
Common Raven
Common Redpoll
Common Yellowthroat
Connecticut Warbler
Cooper's Hawk
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe
European Starling
Golden Eagle
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Great Gray Owl
Great Horned Owl
Hairy Woodpecker
Herring Gull

House Sparrow
House Wren
Indigo Bunting
Lincoln's Sparrow
Long-eared Owl
Mallard
Merlin
Mourning Dove
Mourning Warbler
Nashville Warbler
Northern Flicker
Northern Goshawk
Northern Harrier
Northern Hawk Owl
Northern Parula
Northern Saw-whet Owl
Northern Waterthrush
Ovenbird
Peregrine Falcon
Philadelphia Vireo
Pileated Woodpecker
Pine Siskin
Purple Finch
Red-eyed Vireo
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-winged Blackbird
Ring-billed Gull
Ring-necked Pheasant
Rock Pigeon
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Rouen Duck
Rough-legged Hawk
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Ruffed Grouse
Short-eared Owl
Snowy Owl
Song Sparrow
Sparrow Species
Swainson's Thrush
Tennessee Warbler
Trumpeter Swan
Turkey Vulture
Unidentified Species
Veery

Virginia Rail
White-breasted Nuthatch
White-throated Sparrow
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-rumped Warbler

MAMMALS

American Beaver
Big Brown Bat
Bobcat
Deer Mouse
Eastern Chipmunk
Eastern Cottontail
Eastern Gray Squirrel
Franklin's Ground Squirrel
Gray Fox
Hoary Bat
House Mouse
Little Brown Myotis
Meadow Vole
Mouse Species
North American Porcupine
Northern Flying Squirrel
Northern Short-tailed Shrew
Raccoon
Rat
Red Squirrel
Short-tailed Weasel
Silver-haired Bat
Snowshoe Hare
Southern Flying Squirrel
Striped Skunk
Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel
White-footed Deermouse
White-tailed Deer
Woodchuck

HERPTILES

(Reptiles and Amphibians)
American Toad
Common Snapping Turtle
Western Painted Turtle

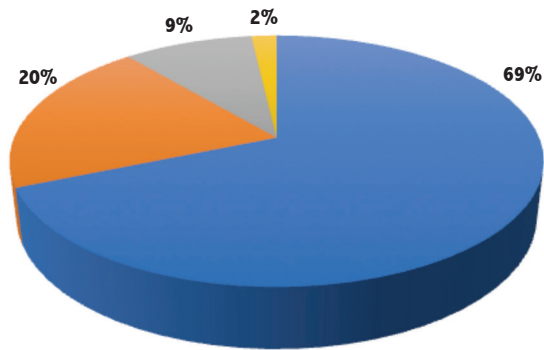
2024 Financials

January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Revenue: \$192,757

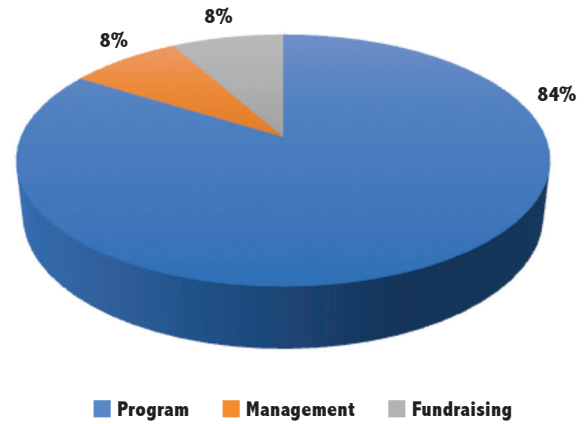
Expenses: \$217,830

2024 DONATIONS BY SOURCE



■ Individuals ■ Foundations/Organization ■ Companies ■ Investments

2024 EXPENDITURES



■ Program ■ Management ■ Fundraising

There are Many Ways You Can Support Wildwoods!

• Participate in the Wildwoods Baby Shower!

It is time for our annual baby shower as we prepare for the arrival of spring babies. Please visit our Amazon Baby Registry at <http://bit.ly/WW-Baby-Shower>.

• Consider becoming a Legacy Donor!

Include Wildwoods in your will or estate plan. We have a growing number of supporters who have become Legacy Donors, helping to ensure that Wildwoods will support animals for years to come! Reach out to jessica@wildwoodsrehab.org

• Do you have stock that you are no longer interested in holding?

Consider donating it to Wildwoods! Stock is easy to donate, and a great way to benefit everyone! Reach out to jessica@wildwoodsrehab.org

• Do you have Thrivent Dollars to spend?

Wildwoods accepts Thrivent Dollars year-round! This is a simple and effective way to support our work!

• Donate using the enclosed envelope!

Every donation matters; especially as we prepare for spring babies!





Wildwoods
4009 W. Arrowhead Rd
Duluth, MN 55811

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Thank you to our donors for making 2024 a success!

*Every individual supporter is responsible for our success.
69 percent of our funds in 2024 came from YOU.
Our heartfelt thanks to the more than 700 individuals who donated to this work.*

FOUNDATIONS, COMPANIES, AND ORGANIZATIONS DONATING \$500+

Bent Paddle Brewing Company

Fleet Farm Hermantown

Fond du Lac Band of

Lake Superior Chippewa

Irving Community Association

Lake Superior Storage, LLC

Many Rivers Montessori

Martha Morse Beck Von Peccoz

Animal PLC Foundation

MN Power Foundation

Motorhead Madness

Partners for Wildlife

South Pier Inn

**The Charles and Carolyn Russell
Family Foundation**

Turning Leaf - Duluth

**Unitarian Universalist Congregation
of Duluth**

United Northern Sportsmen

Whole Foods Co-op Give! Round-Up

3M