2019 in Review

We admitted 2,282 patients at BRWC in 2019 and had a survival rate (excluding the first 24 hours) of approximately 70% (similar to previous years). Though not as dramatic a patient load increase as last year, we have continued to take in more patients each year with this year showing a modest 3.5% increase from 2018 and a 40% total increase since moving into our hospital in 2016.

Patient Breakdown



37% Birds

167 Raptors 425 Songbirds 229 Doves, waterbirds, gamebirds, etc

53% Mammals

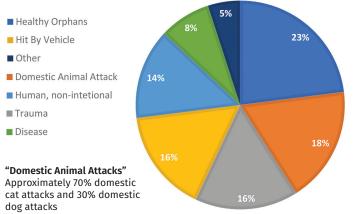
361 Eastern Cottontails 346 Virginia Opossums 241 Eastern Gray Squirrels 246 Foxes, Bats, Raccoons, and others

10% Reptiles & Amphibians



183 Turtles 25 Snakes 29 Other

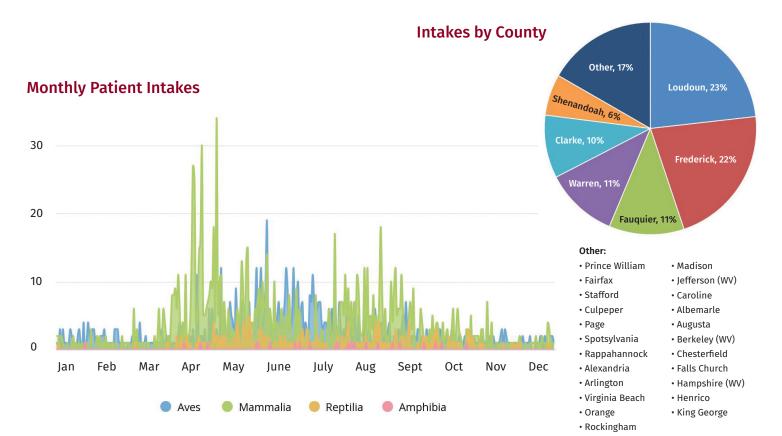
Reason for Admission



"Unknown Trauma" Cases with traumatic injuries where the traumatic event was not witnessed. Statistically, these are mostly likely a mix of hit by car and cat attacked cases.

"Human non-intentional" Examples include hit by lawnmowers/weedwhackers, caught on barbed-wire fencing or mesh garden netting, stuck on glue traps, covered in oil, etc.

"Other" Examples include window strikes, gunshots, cases of toxicity, etc. We see a massive amounts of lead toxicity in our scavenging species, but most of these cases come in due to trauma with toxicity as a less direct cause of admission. These toxicity cases are already accounted for in the trauma/ hit by car sections.



2019 Highlights



We treated 134 unique native species—14 of which have never been treated at the Center before, including a Least Weasel (above), a Golden-crowned Kinglet (above right), and a Northern Goshawk (right).







We took over 600 radiographs and performed over 130 surgeries.



We treated twice as many amphibians as any previous year and are currently overwintering several patients including this American Bullfrog. As finders continue to see that rehabilitators can and do successfully treat and release these species, we expect our amphibian numbers to continually rise each year.



Our staff attended various conferences throughout the year so that we can continue

to provide the highest-quality care with the most current knowledge. We attended conferences for the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians, the Veterinary Meeting and Expo, the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, and the International Association of Avian Trainers and Educators. Our veterinarian and rehabilitation program manager also presented multiple lectures at conferences including the North Carolina Regional Wildlife Medicine Symposium and our own annual continuing education event (above right).





We presented nearly 90 educational programs to >7,000 people including our first annual WildFest event (shown above) and our summer Wildlife Discovery Camp (right).





In 2019, in addition to training dozens of volunteers, we trained

over two dozen future wildlife professionals

as rehabilitation interns, veterinary students, and veterinary technician students.





The Center has been involved with five research projects in 2019! One involves looking for La Crosse virus in our squirrels. Here you can see our veterinarian and veterinary technician collecting blood from a squirrel for this study.



We welcomed two new wildlife ambassadors this year—Vega, our Turkey Vulture, and Nigel, our Virginia Opossum (shown above), whom YOU helped name. Both of these ambassadors were unable to be released, but they will teach countless people appreciation and the importance of our native wildlife species.

2019 Patient Details

2,282 patients, 134 species

SPECIES	COUNT	SPECIES	COUNT	SPECIES	COUNT
AMPHIBIA	23	Gray Catbird	17	Wild Turkey	11
American Bullfrog	9	Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	Wood Thrush	5
American Toad	7	Great Blue Heron	6	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	5
Gray Treefrog	4	Great Crested Flycatcher	2	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7
Green Frog	2	Great Horned Owl	11	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
Pickerel Frog	1	Green Heron	4		
		Hairy Woodpecker	2	MAMMALIA	1194
AVES	851	Hermit Thrush	1	American Beaver	1
American Bittern	1	Horned Grebe	1	American Black Bear**	1
American Crow	5	House Finch	22	Big Brown Bat	26
American Goldfinch	14	House Sparrow*	32	Eastern Chipmunk	21
American Kestrel	3	House Wren	11	Eastern Cottontail	361
American Robin	68	Indigo Bunting	2	Eastern Fox Squirrel	1
American Woodcock	1	Laughing Gull	1	Eastern Gray Squirrel	241
Bald Eagle	8	Mallard	32	Eastern Red Bat	4
Baltimore Oriole	2	Mourning Dove	60	Gray Fox	2
Barn Owl	5	Muscovy Duck*	1	Groundhog	13
Barn Swallow	15	Northern Cardinal	38	House Mouse*	8
Barred Owl	21	Northern Flicker	7	Least Weasel	1
Belted Kingfisher	1	Northern Goshawk	1	Meadow Vole	3
Black Vulture	22	Northern Mockingbird	7	Northern Raccoon	63
Black-capped Chickadee	4	Osprey	1	Northern Short-tailed Shrew	8
Blue Jay	20	Ovenbird	1	Norway Rat*	1
Brown Thrasher	5	Peregrine Falcon	1	Red Fox	23
Brown-headed Cowbird	4	Pied-billed Grebe	1	Southern Flying Squirrel	4
Canada Goose	26	Pileated Woodpecker	4	Striped Skunk	27
Carolina Wren	26	Purple Finch	1	Virginia Opossum	346
Cedar Waxwing	5	Purple Martin	4	White-footed Mouse	37
Chimney Swift	36	Red-bellied Woodpecker	11	White-tailed Deer**	2
Chipping Sparrow	4	Red-eyed Vireo	2		—
Common Grackle	11	Red-headed Woodpecker	2	REPTILIA	214
Common Loon	1	Red-shouldered Hawk	_ 24	Common Five-lined Skink	5
Common Nighthawk	3	Red-tailed Hawk	29	Eastern Box Turtle	130
Common Pigeon*	5	Red-winged Blackbird	1	Eastern Garter Snake	4
Common Raven	5	Ring-billed Gull	2	Eastern Milk Snake	2
Cooper's Hawk	5 14	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Eastern Painted Turtle	24
Dark-eyed Junco	3	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	13	Eastern Ratsnake	19
Domestic Goose*	2	Savannah Sparrow	13	Northern Curly-tailed Lizard*	1
Domestic Quail*		Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Red-eared Slider*	2
	1	Song Sparrow	2	Snapping Turtle	25
Downy Woodpecker	10	Swainson's Thrush		Wood Turtle	25
Eastern Bluebird	10		1	wood furtie	2
Eastern Kingbird	1	Swamp Sparrow Tennessee Warbler	1	*Non-native species, taken in but	not rehabilita
Eastern Phoebe	11		1	at the Center	
Eastern Screech Owl	14	Tree Swallow	2	**Native species unable to be rehabilitated at th Center—Bears are transferred to the Wildlife Cen of Virginia for rehabilitation, Deer that require	
Eastern Whip-poor-will	1	Tufted Titmouse	4		
Eastern Wood Pewee	2	Turkey Vulture	12		
European Starling*	38	Veery	1	medical care in our county and m	
Fish Crow	3	Virginia Rail	1	be humanely euthanized to preve	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	3	Chronic Wasting Disease.	,
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	White-throated Sparrow	2	2	