



Great Basin Wildlife Rescue

Rehabilitation & Education.

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Great Basin Wildlife Rescue is a 501 c3 non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center located in Utah County. We take in over 200 bear cubs and birds of prey a year. Our mission is twofold. First, our mission is to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife so that they can be released back into the wild. Second, our mission is to educate the public to how they can make a difference in wildlife conservation and expand their knowledge of wildlife in general. We travel within Utah County providing education programs to local schools, Eagle Scout courts of honor, fairs, and expos. If you are interested in having us attend your school or event, please contact us at ...

Spotlight: Park Animal Hospital



Healthy animals make for healthy people. It's no secret that proper animal health management can contribute to the prevention of disease transmission to humans, improving the way both animals and humans live. Whether an indoor pet, a farm animal, wildlife, or any other critter large or small, most animals should have routine veterinary care or a health care plan.

Great Basin Wildlife Rescue keeps records on every aspect of each of the wildlife in our care; health, husbandry, and welfare go hand in hand.

Park Animal Hospital in Provo, Utah has been instrumental in assisting Great Basin Wildlife in keeping our bears and birds happy and healthy! We encourage you to see Park Animal Hospital for all of your pets needs and support them by saying "thank you" for all they do! Their number is 801 374-0622.

The Spring Migration



Lazuli Bunting, *Passerina amoena*

With spring arriving here in Utah, you've probably already noticed the birds in your backyard starting to sound a little more enthusiastic. It's nearly impossible to go outside during the day without hearing birdsongs. While some of these avian singers—like certain chickadees, finches, quail, and doves—are here year-round, others are here for the spring migration. From March to May, many different kinds of birds return to or pass through Utah to breed.

Exactly when a specific species comes to Utah depends on a variety of things, like availability of food, the length of the days, weather and climate, geography, and breed type. Some birds to keep an eye out for as they arrive in Utah in the spring are the Lazuli Bunting, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Turkey Vulture, Broad-Tailed Hummingbird, Black-Chinned Hummingbird, Cliff Swallow, Bullock's Oriole, Yellow-Headed Blackbird, Green-Tailed Towhee, Cinnamon Teal, American White Pelican, Osprey, Barn Swallow, Yellow Warbler, and Western Tanager.

Spring is a great time to bird watch, because not only is the weather warmer, but the birds are often easier to spot since many have bright breeding plumage in the spring. Their desire to find a mate often makes them easier to hear as well. However, please make sure that you don't get too close to nests, as this can stress the birds. If you go on a bird watching hike this spring, be careful and aware of other animals that are also breeding at this time. Also be watchful of melting snow and rain, which can make trails muddy and slippery, and make sure you dress weather appropriate since the weather can sometimes change quickly.

Donating with a Smile - at No Cost to You!



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your regular Amazon account to make your purchases, no special account is needed. Just simply go to smile.amazon.com from your web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will need to log in to your Amazon account. In the area where it says "Pick your own charitable organization," type in Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and click the "search" button. Select Great Basin Wildlife Rescue as the charitable organization that you wish to receive the donated funds. Once these steps are completed, at the top of the page to the right of the AmazonSmile logo, you will see something that says "Supporting: Great Basin Wildlife Rescue and Education Center Inc." Now you can go and make your normal Amazon purchases, knowing that your eligible items are benefiting Great Basin. You may even want to add a bookmark to AmazonSmile so that all of your future Amazon purchases can benefit Great Basin. Supporting Great Basin has never been so easy!

Birds Helpings Vets

Wings of Valor provides disabled war veterans with the opportunity to experience the art of falconry. In this sport, the falconer trains a bird of prey to fly free, hunt, and then return back to the falconer. Birds and their falconers often participate in competitions, hunt for fun, and hunt for food. Falconry is an art--it requires long hours, patience, and skill.

As the parent organization, Great Basin Wildlife Rescue helps participants in the Wings of Valor program to receive support, equipment and training, which allows them to become falconers with very minimal monetary outlay. Each veteran in the Wings

of Valor program partners with a general or master class falconer and works closely in passing tests and gaining experience. Great Basin Wildlife provides each veteran a mew/chamber suitable for each bird and



helps with avian medical needs. The mew/chamber is wheelchair accessible if needed. Veterans in this program feel closeness to nature and a bond with their bird of prey. To help support the Wings of Valor program, please contact Patti Richards at (801) 310-0186.



Answers from Connery

Where Do Birds Nest?

Birds nest almost anywhere! While we may often think of birds building nests in trees, they also build nests on the ground, in bushes, in burrows, in cavities, and on cliff sides, as well as in and on manmade structures, like in birdhouses, on balconies, in attics, and on eaves of a roof. Usually, the female builds the nest, but sometimes it's the male or both birds together who build it. Although most nests are built new each year, some birds—like certain eagles—may refurbish the same nest for a few years. Other birds, like pigeons and killdeer, might not build nests at all and instead may lay their eggs directly on the ground. And some types of birds, including brown-headed cowbirds, are brood parasites, which means they lay their eggs in a different bird's nest and let them raise their chicks.



Connery the northern saw-whet owl.



Picture Credits

p.1 Dr. Park with a bear cub, Great Basin Wildlife Rescue.

p.2. http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Lazuli_Bunting.jpg

p.3 Peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus*, Great Basin Wildlife Rescue

p.4: Connery, northern saw-whet owl, Great Basin Wildlife Rescue,

bottom: Great reed warbler nest,

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Acrocephalus_arundinaceus_nest.jpg