



Three Rivers Avian Center

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Three Rivers Avian Center ("TRAC") is a private 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to wild bird conservation and to educating and involving people in ecosystem stewardship. Founded in 1990, TRAC's 110 acre facility is located in the southern portion of the New River Gorge National River, between Sandstone and Hinton in Summers County, West Virginia, and is bordered in part by the New River Gorge National River. TRAC's website is available at www.tracwv.org, and we have an active page on Facebook. The public is invited to come visit during our Free Public Tour days. These are held on the first Saturday of each month May - October from 1 - 5 pm. All other tours are by appointment only. For a complete listing of upcoming events, Festivals and off-site public programs please visit our website calendar at www.tracwv.org/upcoming.html.

What We Do:



*Veterinary & Rehabilitative Care: Emergency care, surgery, hospitalization and a full range of physical therapy treatments for non-game & endangered wild birds is provided by a coordinated network of volunteer Statewide intake veterinarians combined with a statewide support crew of volunteers and on-site staff. From hummingbirds to eagles, wading birds to soaring birds, TRAC cares for each species' individual requirements; including diet, perching, water access, caging substrates, and other important needs.

TRAC has treated 4,214 patients representing over 110 native wild bird species from 1990 through 2016, releasing almost half. Recovered patients are released back into their native environments to help ensure their long-term survival unless there is some overwhelming reason to release the individual in a safer habitat elsewhere. Annual reports of our patients are posted on our web page at www.tracwv.org/birdsin.html.

*Environmental Education: TRAC's award-winning public outreach programs are carefully designed to help individuals understand the native birds and ecosystems around them and to encourage individuals in ecosystem stewardship. Schools, universities, civic groups, child care groups, state parks and forests are just a few who regularly request our programs, allowing us to reach an annual average of 15,000 - 23,000 individuals from the beginning of our outreach efforts in 1993. A full listing of upcoming events, festivals and Public Tour Days is available on our website: www.tracwv.org/upcoming.html.



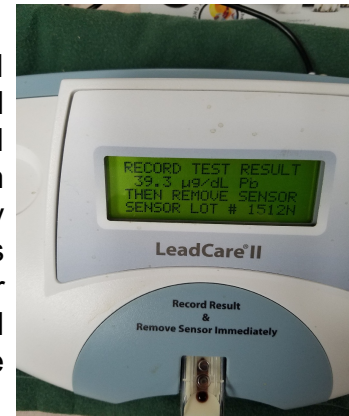


Three Rivers Avian Center's Summer Internship program provides a college or university student with the unique opportunity to learn about wild birds, the ecosystems they need, the veterinary and rehabilitative needs of injured wild birds and how to craft public educational programming that can reach out and involve the audience. Interns learn about long-term care for Educational Ambassadors, handling of raptors and wild birds of all sizes and are encouraged to explore current issues involving wild birds and their

ecosystems. Internship applications are available on the TRAC website from January 1 to January 31. Interns receive academic credits at their University or College for their Internship with TRAC.

Also as a part of our public outreach, TRAC publishes a semi-quarterly newsletter "The Raptor Chapter"; maintains an extensive Internet website (www.tracwv.org); has an active Facebook page and has created and administers the "Migration Celebration", a unique festival designed to highlight West Virginia's unique ecosystems, our birds and our natural heritage. The annual Migration Celebration is held at Little Beaver State Park near Beckley, WV on the second Saturday in May (International Migratory Bird Day) with the active support of the WV Division of Culture and History, the WV Department of Natural Resources, National Park Service - New River Gorge National River, birders, photographers, storytellers and many others.

*Research & Conservation: Understanding the detailed aspects of a species is a vital part of any wildlife-centered program. TRAC helps provide data for research projects focused on native avian populations and avian habitats, including location found, blood samples, feather and tissue samples, cause of injury or illness, observed physical movements, and behavioral details among other data. Information is also shared on-line with other wildlife rehabilitation groups and educators around the United States and the world. Lead toxicity in raptors is currently a huge issue, as well as toxicity from flame retardants in all species.



*Species Restoration: Three Rivers Avian Center, the WV Department of Natural Resources, the National Park Service - New River Gorge and the College of William & Mary's Center for Conservation Biology joined together in a six year effort to re-establish peregrine falcon populations in their native southern Appalachian haunts from 2006 to 2011. Working with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and State Wildlife Biologists from Virginia, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, young peregrines were taken from dangerous nesting sites in each state and brought to the New River Gorge near Fayetteville and Beckley, West



Virginia to be raised and released. During the span of the Project, 120 young Peregrines had been introduced to the Gorge. The final reports for each year are available by going to our scrap book, clicking on the Peregrine Restoration 6 Year Project link.

Affiliations and Awards:

TRAC is a member of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association, the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, the National Association for Interpretation, the WV Nonprofit Association and the Visit Southern West Virginia Convention & Visitor's Bureau. TRAC has won awards from Study Web, the WV Department of Natural Resources, the National Park Service - New River Gorge, Huntington/Tri-State Audubon Society and the Charleston Gazette.

In addition, Executive Director Wendy Perrone and Education Director Ron Perrone have each received the Distinguished Mountaineer Award from Governor Joe Manchin recognizing years of dedication to wild bird care and to public environmental education programs that offer a rare pro-active and positive environmental perspective.

In 2017, Regis, TRAC's Educational Bald Eagle Ambassador was honored to be the Mascot of the National Eagle Scout Association at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree.



Funding:

TRAC is funded by private donations and memberships, our educational program honorariums and grants for specific projects. Generous in-kind donations help fill the funding gaps. Volunteers donate transport for patients and on-site labor, veterinarians donate surgeries, diagnostics and most medications and the public donate items as needed and they have available.

How You Can Help :

***Make a Monetary Donation:** As a non-profit, non-governmental organization, TRAC relies on the donations of concerned individuals and groups to help care for non-game wild birds in need. Your donation is fully tax deductible under IRS code 501(c)3. Please give generously. In the last 20 years, breeding bird surveys have indicated that we have lost over 52% of the migratory birds that used to fill our skies. TRAC is trying to stem the disastrous tide by providing medical care to wild birds in need and educational outreach to the public to try to prevent further injuries and deaths and to encourage people to create safe habitats for wild birds to use. Your financial contribution can make a big difference in the lives of our feathered friends.

***Invite the Birds to Visit Your Group:** The very popular and award winning Birds of Prey in West Virginia program from Three Rivers Avian Center is available now to your group, class or community organization. Each highly interactive program features live, non-releasable raptors and information on native bird and wildlife care. The program is tailored to the size, ages and needs of the audience. Presentation honorariums help the Center continue our work caring for non-game wild birds.

***Become a volunteer:** We need dedicated and reliable individuals who can help with the day to day tasks of cleaning cages and water bowls, facility maintenance, and transporting patients from one location to another. Due to Federal permit conditions, all volunteers must be over 18 or be accompanied by a parent or by an authorized adult with written parental consent. For more information, contact us at trac@tracwv.org.