

Photo by Jerry Donovan



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom

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On the

The Perfect Storm A Record-breaking Year

This year's warm, wet spring brought a boom in the prey population of Northern Colorado. Raptors responded by flourishing, producing many offspring.

As the weather turned hot later in the summer, producing tons of the mosquitoes known for carrying West Nile Virus. Severe hail storms also battered the area over and over.

Raptors were in trouble.

The flood of young raptors from the spring were taking a beating: West Nile, severe weather, competition for space in a world dominated by cars and housing developments...it was a critical challenge.

August brought 84 sick and injured raptors to the RMRP. This is the most patients ever admitted in a single month. This broke the previous record by 20 birds.

Our critical care unit was *beyond* full with young birds healing from serious fractures and terrible trauma from soft-ball sized hail.



Above: Barn Owl severely pummeled by soft-ball sized hail. She was returned to the wild after a month of healing.

Many young birds suffered from West Nile Virus. Weak and emaciated, many were suffering from seizures as the virus seized their brains.

The only reason these amazing creatures had any hope was because of you.

With over 300 raptors projected to come through our doors this year, we cannot thank our supporters enough. Each and every injured raptor that needs our help when they are suffering receives the highest quality care, and most importantly your compassionate dedication to their recovery.

Every one of these incredible raptors that returns to the skies is a victory that you achieved.

Record-breaking admissions need record-breaking heroes: your gifts are needed to keep up this busy pace. We hope you will affirm your belief in the mission of the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program with a life-saving gift.

284
Raptors
rescued so far
this year.

Pick It Up! Osprey vs. Baling Twine

A string of baling twine laying on the ground might seem innocuous enough, but in reality it can be deadly.

Enterprising Osprey are drawn to the bright colors, and very frequently pick up the twine to line their nests, often with deadly results.

We have seen many Osprey entangled in the baling twine they use for their nests. This individual admitted in June was no different.

His entire foot was wrapped in bright blue twine, and it cut off circulation. He was very lucky—since he was found quickly his foot was able to be saved. He was returned to the wild a month later. Another success!

How you can help: Remind everyone to pick up their twine! There are many places that twine can be recycled. Just Google “Baling Twine Recycling” and your city. **Save an Osprey!**



Above: Osprey's foot completely bound in baling twine.



Right: Healed from his ordeal, the Osprey was released back to the wild.



Northern Pygmy Owl

Case #18-086

This diminutive owl was probably hit by a car and had some nasty head trauma. Although small, he was feisty! He returned to the wild after a few weeks of healing.



Peregrine Falcon

Case #18-139

Carefully bandaged, this Peregrine suffered from a broken wing. After a long period of rest to make sure her bone healed correctly, she needs to regain her strength and test out her mended wing in flight school.



Cooper's Hawk

Case #18-186

West Nile Virus infects young raptors who are not yet protected by antibodies. This young Cooper's Hawk suffered severe symptoms such as seizures. He is still recovering.

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Holiday Open House

December 15, 2018 @ 720 E. Vine Dr.
11am-3pm Fort Collins, CO

Join us for the holidays! We will have many Educational Ambassador raptors on display, lots to learn, and a whole gift shop full of awesome bird-nerd gifts that give back to the raptors!

Holiday shopping can also be done online at www.rmrp.org, or call us at 970-484-7756 for gift shop open hours.

2019 Calendars Now Available!
Only \$10 • Buy Online or at the Open House



Huge thank you to our calendar sponsors: The Cindy Schindler Memorial, Anadarko Petroleum, Hillside Construction, C. David Stansfield Farmers Insurance, EDM International, Poudre Valley REA, Walker Manufacturing, Outpost Sunsport and Roe Ecological Services.

26th Annual

Gala Dinner and Benefit Auction

Tickets on Sale:
January 1, 2019

Buy them at:
www.rmrp.org



February 23, 2019 • 6-10pm

To be held at the Fort Collins Hilton
425 W. Prospect, Fort Collins, CO 80526

It's almost time for the **greatest** night of the RMRP year: our Annual Gala Dinner and Benefit Auction will be held the last weekend in February 2019. A celebration of raptors, our amazing environment, and **YOUR** dedication to the RMRP mission of rehabilitation, education, and research.

Left: Painted ostrich egg by Bonnie Cleaver.

Call for Entries

The 7th Annual **Egg-stravaganza** is searching for talented artists to decorate an egg (goose to ostrich sized, provided by the RMRP) to be auctioned off at the Gala. Contact 970-484-7756 if you are interested.

Item Donations

Make this Auction the most successful yet: **donate an item!**

- ◇ Art, gift certificates, services, outdoor gear, and anything in between!
- ◇ Find item donation forms online at www.rmrp.org.

Last day to donate: February 1, 2019.

Sponsorships

Save lives AND be the life of the party!

Becoming a sponsor of the Gala has many benefits for your business, and **sponsorships start at just \$250.**

Every sponsor receives at least 1 complimentary ticket to the Gala, plus advertising on our social media, press releases, ticket sales page, and more!

Deadline: February 1, 2019.

Staff: Carin Avila, Executive Director. Lisa Winta, Assistant Director/Volunteer Coordinator. Lynsey Reed, Donor Relations Director. Gail Kratz, Rehabilitation Director. Mike Tincher, Rehabilitation Coordinator. Carrie Laxson, Rehabilitation Assistant. Amanda Burton, Rehabilitation Associate. Jessica Miller, Education and Outreach Coordinator. Bonnie Cleaver, Education Avian Coordinator. Jeff Stark, Facilities Manager.

Board of Directors: Susan Baker, Robert Gregory, Judy Scherpelz (Board Member Emeritus), and Dyanne Willow.

Colorado Gives Day

A Day to be Colorado Proud

On December 4, 2018, join us for Colorado Gives day at www.coloradogives.org.


When you give through Colorado Gives Day, your donation qualifies the RMRP for incentive funds and drawings—this makes your donation stretch even farther! You can also preschedule your donation starting November 1!



Left: This Red-tailed Hawk, brought down by West Nile Virus, was saved by those who love and support wildlife through the RMRP.

Thank you for saving these wounded warriors. Their freedom is your greatest achievement!

Keep track of what's happening on CGD!

 Scan the code to the left to the right to join our e-news mailing list. Text and data rates may apply.



Find us on Facebook:

Rocky Mountain Raptor Program-RMRP



The 1987 Campaign

The 1987 Campaign, in honor of the year the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program was founded, seeks to stabilize our current income so when raptors need the most help, there are resources to support them.

We need \$20,000 a month just to keep our basic expenses paid. Currently, we have \$3000 in monthly donations from 100 amazing people who have committed to a monthly gift.

Our goal is to enlist enough donors to cover \$10,000 (or half) of our monthly expenses. At this time, we still need \$7,000 in pledges to meet our goal.

There are many ways to set up a monthly donation:

- ◇ Visit us at www.rmrp.org/donate and set up a recurring donation through PayPal.
- ◇ You can also give us a call at 970-484-7756 to set up your ideal donation via check or electronic funds transfer.
- ◇ Or return this form using the enclosed envelope to be a part of our strongest foundations!

Join the 1987 Campaign:

Name: _____

Address _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I want to donate: \$9.87 monthly \$19.87 monthly
 \$98.70 monthly \$198.70 monthly

Other Amount monthly: _____

Charge my card: Visa Mastercard Discover

Name on card: _____

Number on card: _____

Expiration Date: _____

3-Digit Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

The Rocky Mountain Raptor Program is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. We strive to inspire the appreciation and protection of raptors and the spaces where they live through excellence in rehabilitation, education, and research. We are supported by donations from caring people, like you, who want to make a difference in the world.