



Rocky Mountain
RAPTOR
Program
a second chance at freedom

ON THE



VOLUME 40
NUMBER 3
FALL 2020

NEWSLETTER

RMRP and Our Community

A Message From the Director

Dearest Friends,

Over the last 13 years, you have given hope to the lives in our care. You have been by our side as we educated thousands in our communities around Colorado and Wyoming. You have made sure that RMRP could gain strength and build a foundation to make our nature center dream come alive.

We are poised to fly!

In June of 2020, after a long wait, we have finally had a change in our flood plain/way designation. We can now work toward making our 26 acres a space to better our community.

We are taking early steps toward the future. The RMRP is reaching out in our community, to our supporters and friends, fellow organizations, and within our city to engage and earn support, partners and finances. We will be searching for planning grants to design and build toward a capital campaign.

We need your support, and we need your passion as RMRP ambassadors in the community. The more people know about the RMRP, the more likely we are to give this dream wings.

As I have always said, when you hang out with eagles, you want to soar high! Thank you for all you do. You share your love of raptors and nature in our community and with Rocky Mountain Raptor Program!

All the Best and Stay Well!

Carin Avila • Executive Director



Photo by Donovan

KEEP IN TOUCH ONLINE: WWW.RMRP.ORG



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program-RMRP



rockymountainraptorprogram



@RaptorProgram



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program

Poisoned

FEATHERS

Hawk Covered in Tar

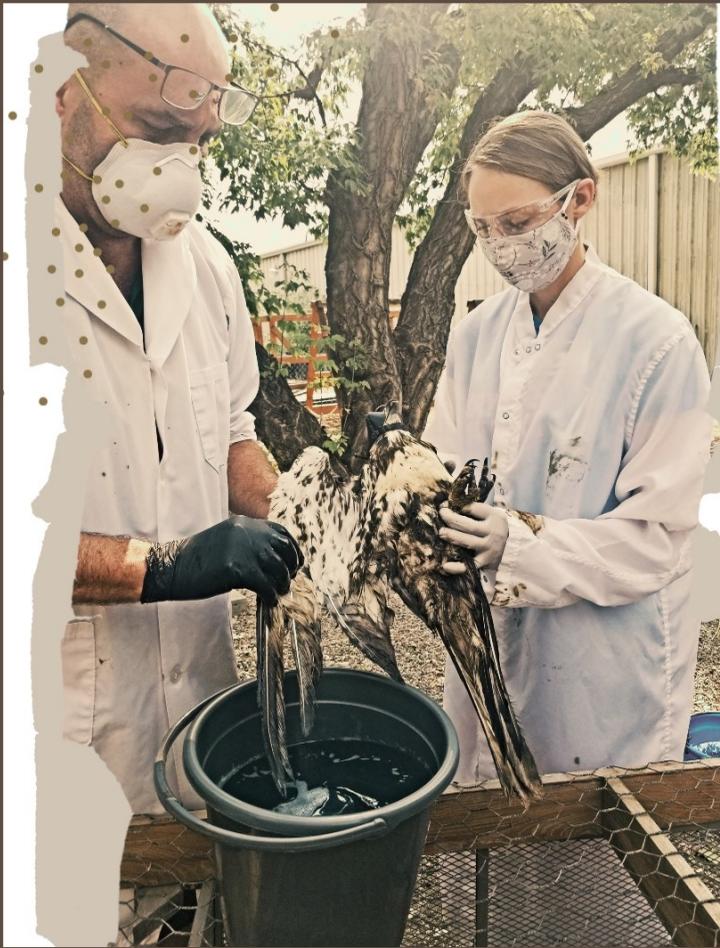
This young Red-tailed Hawk must be both the unluckiest and luckiest creature all at once.

With luck against him, he was somehow coated in tar. The worst afflicted where his important flight feathers, called primaries, and his legs. Thankfully, his luck changed: he was found shortly after his incident by an RMRP volunteer!

Talk about a sad case of tarring and feathering!

Since he was rescued so quickly, the hawk received his first wash before the caustic tar could burn his skin!

Healing this hawk will be hard.
Hard does NOT mean impossible.

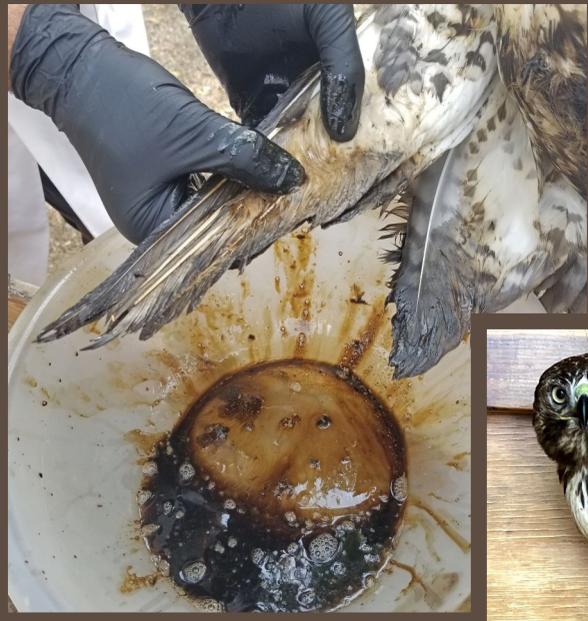


Cleaning tar off feathers requires *multiple* washings using canola oil to help suspend and lift the tar followed by warm water and Dawn dish soap to remove it. Since the washing process is stressful, the entirety of the tar had to be removed over several washings.

The structure of the feathers was saved, and the young hawk won't have to go through an entire molt to return to the wild. He will have to wait for the feathers to regain their waterproof covering. This will happen naturally during preening as the hawk spreads oil from his uropygial gland over his feathers.

We hope that over the next few weeks he will have a complete recovery and receive his Second Chance at Freedom!

To support this hawk and other like him, you can purchase items from our wish list—like Dawn dish soap! Find it at www.rmrp.org/donate/wish-list. Click on the Amazon link if you like to shop online!



Above: Canola oil as well as Dawn soap and water to remove tar from this Red-tailed Hawk's feathers. What a nasty bucket full of yuk!

Right: Young hawk after several baths to remove tar. His legs are still tar stained from this terrible ordeal.





VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

October 4-11th, 2020

THE RMRP YOU'VE NEVER SEEN

Join us online every day, October 4-11th for amazing behind-the-scenes highlights and educational demonstrations to delight all ages!

- Behind-the-scenes of raptor rehabilitation
 - **Raptor releases**
 - Research discoveries
- Day-in-the-life of an Educational Ambassador Raptor
 - **Daily deals in the gift shop**
 - *And much more!!*

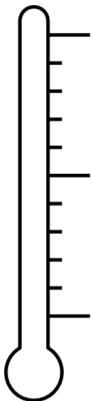
Sponsored by Platte River Power Authority



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program-RMRP



Rocky Mountain Raptor Program



\$5,000 FUNDRAISING GOAL

- **\$3,000:** Feed 20 Educational Ambassadors or 20 Rehabilitation Patients for a full MONTH!
 - **\$1,000:** 20 hours of Critical Care for injured raptors.
 - **\$500:** Disease protection for both humans and raptors.
 - **\$500:** Diagnostic services for November.

We'll be keeping track of these goals on Facebook!

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

Board of Directors: Carin Avila, Susan Baker, Judy Scherpelz, and Dyanne Willow.

EVERY DAY

Is A New Chance for a *Second* Chance at Freedom



THE COVID CRISIS

With nearly all of our education and outreach canceled since March, the RMRP is challenged with overcoming a huge deficit. Both formal and informal Educational Outreach are a main source of income from May to September. Without them, we need you now more than ever to help us continue our mission of rehabilitation, education, and research.

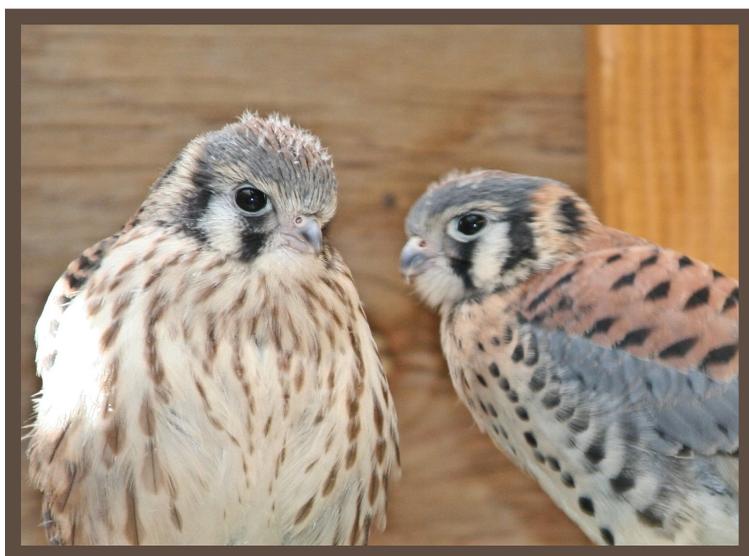
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Share:

Whether is a Facebook post, a Tweet, or even this newsletter, **SHARE** your love of raptors and the RMRP with friends and family. Making new friends is a great way for the RMRP amplify our mission!

Sign-up:

You can support the RMRP at **NO COST TO YOU** buy registering your King Soopers/City Market rewards card for the Community Rewards Program or by choosing the RMRP as your AmazonSmile charity.



Caring for Kestrels:

These Kestrel siblings were found in a building under construction after being accidentally sealed inside. They had minor injures from trying to escape, but they should be returned to the wild soon.

To support their care, and the care of so many injured raptors a the RMRP, consider joining the 1987 Club with a monthly pledge as low as \$5! Club members receive fun bonuses, like your own yearly collectible decal! Sign up with the enclosed envelope.

Or simply give a donation today. EVERY gift makes a difference for a life on the line.

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.