

Woodford cedar run wildlife refuge 4 Sawmill Road Medford, NJ 08055-8133 REF

REFUGE VISITING HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm Saturday & Sunday: 10am - 4pm

WILDLIFE HOSPITAL INTAKE

Summer: 9am – 7pm **Winter:** 9am – 5pm **Seven Days per Week!**

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage **PAID** Bellmawr, NJ Permit No. 612



Bluebird Trail House Builders Wanted!

By Jeanne Woodford

Summer 2017 was a banner year for fledged Bluebirds at Cedar Run – resulting in 45 individual birds flying from their

nest boxes. Bluebirds prefer nesting in open areas with woodlands nearby, so when Cedar Run began monitoring the nest boxes 20 years ago, the open area along the electric company's right-of-way was chosen and boxes were placed at the prescribed 15 feet apart. Bluebirds are in the area throughout winter, but are harder to find because they spend more time in the woods than in open areas.

Weekly monitoring of the Eastern Bluebirds teaches us a great deal. The male Bluebird arrives in early April and selects the nest box, leaving the job of building the nest to his mate. The hatching of four to five beautiful blue eggs occurs after 12 to 14 days of incubation. They will have as many as two or three broods per season.

Among the many challenges Bluebirds face are the Tree Swallows and House Wrens who also like the nest boxes. Both the Swallows and the Wrens will either remove the Bluebird's nest material or proceed to build a nest of their choosing right on top.

Cedar Run would love to have an individual or a group take on a box-building project for Tree Swallows. This would enable the Bluebirds to enjoy their open-air boxes in a little more peace! If you'd like to learn more, contact us, or join us for a bird walk – maybe you'll get a sighting of the Eastern Bluebird.

Read the whole story on the website (www.cedarrun.org) under What's News!



CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



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taes from cedar run wildlife refuge



4 Sawmill Road Medford, NJ 08055-8133

phone (856) 983-3329

Email info@CedarRun.org

Cutting-Edge Education from Cedar Run

by Denise Peters, Director of Education

Cedar Run's earliest education programs began in the 1960s, when founder Betty Woodford shared her slides and brought an Eastern Screech-owl to local classrooms.

Much has changed since those early days! Wanting to stay current, Cedar Run is developing its programs around the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) adopted by many New Jersey schools, including local districts such as the Medford School District. Cedar Run will incorporate some of the Disciplinary Core Ideas for the Life Sciences into its programs.

Although Cedar Run will offer the same exciting programs to schools and youth-groups across the state, it is anticipating the changes needed to support schools that are integrating NGSS into their lessons. Cedar Run's new programs target second- and fifth-grades, which have science lessons emphasizing Plant and Animal Survival and the Ecosystem. The new programs focus on

smaller classroom presentations and engaging students in hands-on investigative activities – in alignment with the new methods of teaching science. Now, students learn through active participation and making connections to real world problems.

www.CedarRun.org

Resident wildlife educators still will help shape the way we teach, but instead of discussing how an owl is a predator, Cedar Run will illustrate the owl's dependence on plants as well as other animals for its survival in the ecosystem and role in the food web through an activity.

Combining NGSS and environmental education make the possibilities for learning limitless!

For more information on how Cedar Run's highly qualified education department can help your school meet STEM and NGSS requirements, while making science fun and interesting, contact our Education Department.

Fall into Spectacular Events at Cedar Run!

If it's fall, everyone is at Cedar Run's two spectacular events: *Autumn with the Animals* (Sunday, September 16) and *Hoot, Waddle & Stroll* (Saturday, September 22)!

There is great family fun at *Autumn with the Animals*. You can take a nature hike, enjoy wildlife programs, canoe, make crafts, play nature-based games, enjoy food and live music, and more! Ticket prices are \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members, and are sold on-site at the event.

Come out the following Saturday for *Hoot, Waddle & Stroll* – a 5K Trail Run and a half-mile guided stroll. The 5K is sanctioned by U.S. Track & Field and follows rugged single track trails within Cedar Run's property. This is a beginner to intermediate course – mostly flat – with varied terrain and scenic views. It does include tree ruts, steps, bridges and soft sand. The Half-Mile Stroll is stroller- and small child-friendly.

More information can be found on the website; sponsorships are still available, call Shannon Kilpatrick at 856.983.3329, ext. 102.





SAVE THE DATES

September 16th

Autumn with the Animals

September 22nd

Hoot, Waddle & Stroll 5K



OUR MISSION:

Dedicated to the preservation of New Jersey's wildlife and habitats through environmental education, habitat preservation, and rehabilitation.

To that end: Cedar Run operates the region's busiest wildlife hospital, and engages in conservation efforts through environmental education and ecologically based management of our 171 acres of Pinelands habitats.

Cedar Run offers environmental educational programs for all ages that highlight the connection between wildlife conservation, human health and the importance of protecting the habitats we all share.

Call Us - (856) 983-3329 Visit Us - 4 Sawmill Rd, Medford, 08055 Website - www.CedarRun.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Fox and Hawk of Summer



The lazy days of summer do not apply to the Cedar Run Wildlife Hospital! Summer is a very busy time! In late winter and throughout the spring, the hospital takes in so many animals, and most stay for months before they are rehabilitated and able to be released into the wild.

Director of Wildlife Rehabilitation Lori Swanson said a good example is a group of fox kits that were infected with

mites and had mange. "Caring for a mangy fox is not simple," said Swanson. "It's not as easy as feeding the fox some medicine."

As Swanson explained, caring for the kits is a multi-faceted process. She said that because they were suffering from parasites, they also were anemic, dehydrated, emaciated, and scratching their skin because they itched, thus causing open wounds. "Their skin becomes really brittle with mange," explained Swanson, "and they often suffer from significant secondary infections. We must address a whole myriad of issues."

Swanson said the parasite treatment lasted about 6 weeks. Hospital staff donned protective Tyvek suits in an un-air-conditioned environment for hours on end, vigilantly caring for the babies, ensuring the kits were given the best possible chance for survival. "This was very staff-intensive," noted Swanson, "because fox are a rabies vector species (not all volunteers are vaccinated against rabies) and they required specialized care. Our staff and select volunteers were the suits, booties, and gloves every time they went near them."

In addition to the daily medications, treatments, and baths, special attention also was paid to nutrition. "They have to be nutritionally sound and strong, not just free of mange, when they are released back into the wild," said Swanson, "because they must be able to care for themselves in all weather conditions, hunt effectively, and protect themselves against predators."

Another hospital patient this summer is a red-tailed hawk whose feathers were singed by a methane flare in a landfill. "The flames are clear," explained Swanson, "so the birds often fly through them without knowing they are there." She said some of their injuries can be substantial, but this particular hawk had most of her feathers singed, which makes it very difficult for a hawk to fly or hunt. "She was found in the road near the landfill, and was very emaciated when she was brought in," said Swanson.

The hawk has to remain at Cedar Run through an entire molting season; she cannot be released until all of her new feathers have grown-in and she is able to hunt. During her stay at the hospital, she initially was treated for impact injuries after being hit by a car. To support her molt and new feather growth, she is given a good diet supplemented with specially formulated vitamins for raptors, according to Swanson. She said the hawk has been living in a flight enclosure while she molts and recovers.

Your Support of Cedar Run is Critical

Cedar Run has been extremely busy, enjoyed many successes, and overcome some challenges in 2018. Your financial support remains the lifeblood of our organization. There are a number of reasons Cedar Run remains New Jersey's most active and effective wildlife sanctuary:

- Our wildlife hospital treated more than 3,055 patients in the first six months of 2018 (admissions are up by 29% 600 more patients over previous years in the same period); many were babies brought in during one of the wettest spring seasons ever.
- Our education team delivered wildlife-/habitat-specific learning experiences to more than 19,200 students from 115 schools in southern New Jersey, including 18 schools in economically disadvantaged communities.
- Our summer camps hosted 200+ students between mid-June and the end of August. We remain committed to providing summer camp experiences to children from all socioeconomic backgrounds, particularly those from urban centers with limited exposure to all the New Jersey Pinelands offers. We provide needs-based scholarships to as many campers as possible your help ensures more opportunities can be granted.
- Our pollinator garden is almost complete and, when fully operational, will assist the endangered Monarch Butterfly and other pollinators to flourish in South Jersey, while serving as a learning tool and living exhibit of nature in motion.
- Our continuing efforts to forge partnerships with local institutions of higher education will ensure Cedar Run has a consistent presence and voice in the quality of STEM education delivered to K-12 students in our region.

While all of this was going on, visits to Cedar Run increased by 38%. Although this is wonderful news, the financial and infrastructure stresses on our organization are real, felt daily, and in great need of relief.

But you can help by becoming a member or renewing your membership, or by making a tax-deductible gift today in support of Cedar Run. Help us raise \$25,000 to fund our rehabilitation hospital and educational programs so they can do the necessary work you have long appreciated and supported. Complete the form to the right and return it to us, or visit www.CedarRun.org and click on JOIN or DONATE.



Everyone at Cedar Run – humans and animals alike – appreciate all you do to support our mission, wildlife, staff, and volunteers! Hope to see you soon!