

Help a Wild Friend!

Each year the Sanctuary's wildlife hospital treats over 5,000 sick, injured, and orphaned wild animal patients. The Sanctuary's primary goal is to return recovered animals to their natural habitats. Nearly 90% of the patients admitted to the Sanctuary's wildlife hospital have suffered some type of human related injury, which includes: illegal gunshots, collisions with cars, poisonings, entanglement with fishing line, and electrocutions.

It is very expensive to provide the professional care needed to treat injured wildlife. The annual medical and grocery bills alone for the Sanctuary total nearly \$100,000.00. The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization, and although it does not charge for its services, the Sanctuary is not a government funded agency. Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is funded entirely by donations from caring people just like you!

You can help save a life by sponsoring an animal or becoming a member today! Your donation will help provide the necessary food, shelter, and medicine for the animals in the Sanctuary's care. Simply fill out the sponsorship application below and return it to the Sanctuary with your tax-deductible donation for as much as you can. You can sponsor one of the Sanctuary's permanent residents, or choose an animal from the list below. Thank you in advance for your support!

Sponsorship Levels

Type of Animal	Month	Year
Reptiles	\$15	\$180
Water Birds	\$25	\$300
Skunks, Raccoons & Opossums	\$35	\$420
Hawks, Owls & Falcons	\$50	\$600
White-tailed Deer	\$65	\$780
Crocodiles & Alligators	\$75	\$900
Bobcats, Foxes, & Otters	\$100	\$1,200
Eagles	\$150	\$1,800
Bears & Panthers	\$200	\$2,400

Harriett: (*River Otter*) - taken out of the wild illegally and raised as a pet.

RC: (*Red Shouldered Hawk*) - hit by a car and suffered a fractured wing.

Dakota: (*Florida Panther*) - sold illegally and confiscated by wildlife officials.

Scout: (*White-tailed Deer*) - raised illegally as a pet after mother was killed.

Polly: (*Opossum*) - orphaned when mother was hit by a car.

Sparky: (*Bald Eagle*) - electrocuted by a high power line.



Harriett



RC



Dakota



Scout



Polly



Sparky

Sponsorship / Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone(s): _____ Sponsored Animal: _____

Please send your tax-deductible donation to:

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary
2500 Jupiter Park Drive, Jupiter, FL 33458

Monthly Annually \$ Amount _____
 Friend \$25 Family \$50 Parent \$100 Guardian \$250
 Corporate \$500 Lifetime \$2,500 Other _____



Weekly Activities at the Sanctuary

Monday:

3:00pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

4:00pm Alligator & Crocodile Feeding
(Alligator & Crocodile Exhibit)

Tuesday:

3:00pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

Wednesday:

9:30am Story Time for Toddlers
(Cypress Amphitheater)

3:00pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

Thursday:

12:30pm Hunters of the Sky
(Owl Alcove)

3:00pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

Friday:

2:00pm Snakes Alive!
(Serpentarium)

3:00pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

Saturday:

11:00am Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

2:30pm Wildlife Encounter Program
(Cypress Amphitheater)

Night Walks at the Sanctuary

November through March

7pm - 9pm 3rd Friday of the month
\$6 (13 and older)

\$4 (ages 3 through 12)

Call to make your reservations!

(561)-575-3399

Shop and Help Save a Life!

The Sanctuary's gift shop offers a wide variety of educational books and toys, jewelry, home décor, and many other unique items.

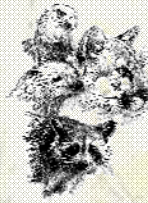
It is a great place to do your holiday shopping or find that perfect gift for a special occasion. Not sure what to buy the wildlife enthusiast in your life? How about a gift certificate?

The best part about shopping at Busch Wildlife is that 100% of the proceeds go to support the Sanctuary and its animals.

Visit

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary

At Loxahatchee River District



2500 Jupiter Park Drive
Jupiter, Florida 33458
(561)-575-3399



Visitor Hours:

Monday through Saturday 10:00am to 4:30pm
Closed Sundays (except for special events)

Sanctuary Admission:

Walk-in Visitors (friends and family) - Free!
(donations are greatly appreciated)

Organized groups, private tours, schools, clubs, scouts, birthday parties, and etc., please contact the Sanctuary's education office for more information, pricing and availability.

Visit the Sanctuary's website at

www.buschwildlife.com

Or call (561)-575-3399 for more information.

"Like" us on Facebook 

Wish List

Digital X-Ray Machine.....	\$40,000
Medical Diagnostic Equipment.....	\$15,000
Intensive Care Unit.....	\$10,000
New Outdoor Rehab Recovery Enclosures.....	\$15,000
Nursery and Incubators.....	\$5,000
New Panther Habitat.....	\$50,000
Funding for Medication and Medical Supplies.....	\$25,000
Funding for Animal Care Supplies and Food.....	\$75,000
Funding to Re-build Fox Habitat.....	\$25,000
New Bobcat Habitat.....	\$35,000
Funding for new Welcome Center.....	\$50,000
Supplies and Materials for Nature Classroom.....	\$5,000
New Snack Shop (Nature Café & Watering Hole).....	\$25,000
Salary for Wildlife Rescue Field Staff.....	\$30,000
New Exotic Animal Habitat.....	\$15,000
New Interpretive Signage for Exhibits.....	\$10,000
Money.....	all shapes and sizes!
Volunteers.....	willing to have fun and get dirty!

Wildlife

Times



Busch Wildlife Sanctuary
At Loxahatchee River District
2500 Jupiter Park Drive
Jupiter, Florida 33458

Fall 2011 / Winter 2012
www.buschwildlife.com
(561)-575-3399

Sanctuary's New Hospital Under Construction

Since opening to the public in 1997, the Sanctuary's hospital has operated from a double-wide trailer. This space has also been shared with other Sanctuary operations such as food preparation/storage, intensive care, administration, and education. Although the old hospital was equipped to handle many typical medical cases in-house, it was frequently necessary to take animal patients to local veterinary facilities, such as our friends at Harmony Animal Hospital, for x-rays and more extensive procedures.

Currently, the admissions of sick, injured, and orphaned animals to the Sanctuary's hospital are over 5,000 patients per year. It is an understatement to say that we have exceeded the capabilities of our current hospital, but somehow we have made do until now.

The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the grounds of the Loxahatchee River District. The District

serves as a special district of the State of Florida with the main mission of preserving the Loxahatchee River and its associated environments. The Loxahatchee River was Florida's first federally designated "wild and scenic" river. As part of the District's operations, it maintains a research laboratory that studies and monitors the health of the Loxahatchee River and the District's waste water treatment facility.

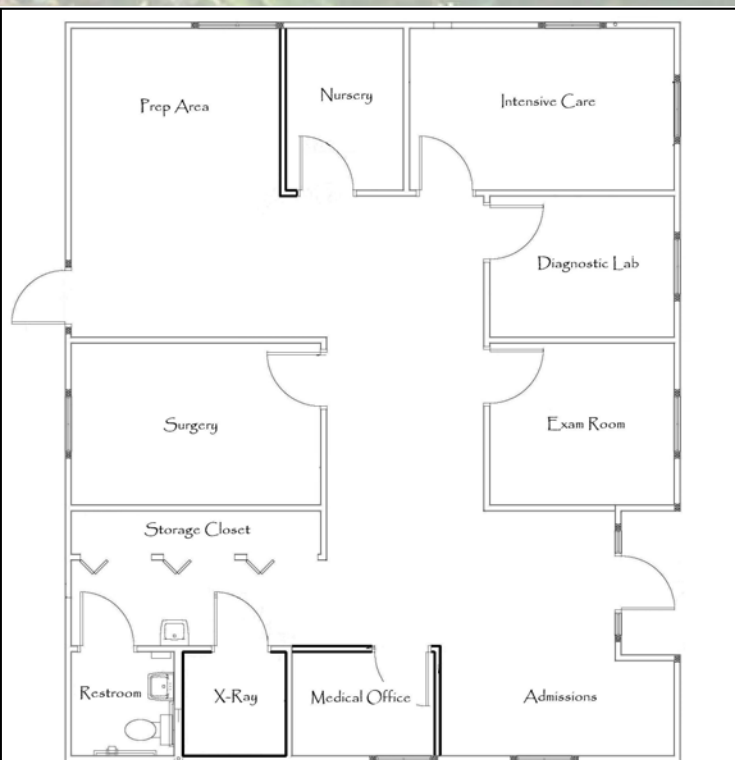


The Loxahatchee River District has experienced its own size constraints with its laboratory operations and needed to expand into a new facility. Just a few months ago, the District completed the construction of its new WildPine Laboratory. This has freed up its old laboratory building. The Loxahatchee River District has generously made this building available to the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary to serve as a new wildlife hospital.

This building is conveniently located in the southwest corner of the Sanctuary's facility, just off the Cypress Boardwalk. Through the generous donations of the Bernice Barbour Foundation and the Loxahatchee River District, the Sanctuary is remodeling the building to accommodate a fully comprehensive wildlife hospital. The new hospital will be equipped with a surgical suite, diagnostic lab, intensive care unit, nursery, exam room, x-ray, and medical office.

Each year the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary treats thousands of wild animal patients. Nearly 90% of these animals have been injured in one way or another by human related causes. Such injuries include: collisions with automobiles, fishing line entanglement, illegal gunshots, poisonings, electrocutions, and attacks by dogs and cats.

The new hospital will greatly help the Sanctuary with its medical treatment of injured animals and ensure the safe and healthy return of recovered patients into the wild.



Busch Wildlife Sanctuary Hospital

Animal Care Director Graduates Vet Tech Program



The animals and staff of the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Sanctuary's Animal Care Director, Amy Kight, for her recent completion of her Florida Certification as a Veterinary Technician.

Certified veterinary technicians are graduates of an accredited program and passed a rigid competency examination. Certified technicians serve as educators, laboratory technicians, animal nurses, and professional assistants to the Veterinarians.

Eagle Returns to the Wild After Surgery

There is a lot that goes on behind the scenes at the Sanctuary. A young adult eagle that was suffering from a severely fractured wing was rescued. Through the expertise of Dr. Heather Johnston and a nearly three hour reconstructive surgery, the bird's wing was set using a special apparatus and technique to keep the broken bones aligned during the healing process.

After months of rehabilitation and physical therapy, the eagle was flying almost effortlessly again in the Sanctuary's flight cage. Once the bird had regained its muscle strength, it was ready to be returned to the wild.

As part of an Earth Day celebration at the DuPuis Wildlife Management Area near Lake Okeechobee, the recovered bald eagle was released back into the wild with nearly a hundred people to wish it well.



Dr. Heather Johnston releases a bald eagle.

You Can Take the Animal out of the Wild...

But, you can't take the wild out of the animal. Cypress, the great horned owl, proved that point to us for nearly 20 years.

Cypress was brought to the Sanctuary in 1992 after being hit by car. She had a badly fractured wing and head and eye trauma. Her injuries were too severe for her to be released, so Cypress initially became an animal ambassador and helped our education staff teach people about owls. But, when Cypress began laying eggs we put her wild instincts to work raising orphaned baby owls. By minimizing human contact, she gave the young owlets a much better chance of survival in the wild.



She gained international fame and was featured on Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures when the show filmed the surgery to restore she eyesight. Sadly, Cypress passed away recently.

Her legacy lives on though, as her last foster child was released into the wild this past October. There's no doubt, Cypress lived a full life and touched the lives of so many.

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary

...a real wild adventure

The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary provides a fantastic learning experience to people of all ages about the fascinating wonders of Florida's wildlife and natural ecosystems. More than just a place to see animals, the Sanctuary truly is a real wild adventure. The Sanctuary's educational exhibits, wildlife presentations, and guided tours are ideal for schools, special interest groups, scouts, community and civic organizations, clubs, birthday parties, corporate picnics, weddings, and camps.



Children and adults alike find the Sanctuary and its programs to be informative, entertaining, and extremely educational. Real live animals are a unique part of the learning experience. The Junior Naturalist Program offers school-aged children the opportunity to be a part of the Sanctuary's wildlife rehabilitation and environmental education efforts. The Sanctuary also provides life experience opportunities to special needs youth; works with at-risk children; and provides community service opportunities for students who need to perform hours for school, and adults with court ordered community service hours.

The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and conservation of Florida's wildlife and natural resources. This unique refuge combines an environmental learning center with a wildlife hospital. Nature trails lead visitors through pine flatwoods, oak hammocks, and cypress wetlands, where they can encounter a variety of native animals from eagles to panthers, crocodiles, otters, foxes, deer, snakes and more. Bring the whole family for a real wild experience, or schedule your group's visit with the Sanctuary's education department.

**For more information call:
(561)-575-3399.**

Surviving as a Non-profit in these Trying Times

Even in the best of times, operating a non-profit organization is a very challenging venture. Top that off with caring for injured “wild” animals that don’t really belong to anyone and aren’t going to be adopted, but instead are being rehabilitated and released back into the wild. With no real owner to cover the costs, now you really have your work cut out for you

Busch Wildlife Sanctuary was originally founded back in 1983 by David Hitzig, the Sanctuary’s executive director, and a group of friends who began caring for injured wildlife in their back yards, simply because no one else was taking on the task. Over the years the Sanctuary has grown from a back yard operation into a well-recognized facility that now cares for

over 5,000 wild animal patients a year.

The typical perception of the general public is that our tax dollars are used to fund a government agency that cares for injured wildlife, because, after all, they are part of America’s natural environment. However, that couldn’t be further from the truth. In Florida, there are no government funded facilities that take care of injured wildlife. That job falls entirely on the private sector. The Busch Wildlife Sanctuary is a private non-profit organization, whose main source of funding comes from private contributions.

It may shock you to learn that the average donation people made when they brought an injured animal to the Sanctuary this year has been less than \$10. Although any donation is greatly appreciated, the true

costs, even for the most simple injury or smallest animal, is almost always more than \$10.

Baby animals need around-the-clock attention. Sick animals need daily medication. Injured patients need surgery and follow-up care. And, all animals need food and proper accommodations. All of this combined and the overall operating expenses can eat away at the financial resources quicker than one can imagine.

Times are tough for everyone these days, but operating a non-profit organization is even more challenging while trying to fight the harsh economy and remaining an admission free facility. Your contributions are essential for the survival of the important services the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary offers the community.



Creature Feature - Southern Flying Squirrel

Southern flying squirrels are found throughout much of Florida in wooded areas, especially with old oak trees. They are buff brown with a light beige underside, large eyes, and a broad flat tail. They have a loose fold of skin along each side from wrist to ankle. When they extend their feet, the fold creates a wing-like surface so that the squirrel can glide from tree to tree. This year the Sanctuary has received a number of orphaned baby flying squirrels.

Animals get Five Star Accommodations

Planning a family trip to New York City can be a daunting task for just about anyone. Imagine the stress of booking the flights and finding the perfect hotel overlooking Times Square. Don’t forget to pack the essentials and arrange ground transportation for all of the gang.

Did we forget to tell you that your trip will include a pelican, crane, fox, turtle, owl and a crocodile? Imagine the look of the airline and TSA agents as you walk up with your family of travelers and luggage, complete with munchies, including meat, fish, crickets, and enough bird chow to keep everyone happy for the flight.

Getting through security will be quite the challenge as you herd your wild crew through the scanners. There you are, barefoot and beltless, with a bunch of wild “kids” running amuck without their leashes and collars. Remember the rules apply to everyone!

There is no doubt that the flight attendants will have a puzzled look on their faces as you try to squeeze Frasier Crane

and Red Fox into their assigned seats. “What do you mean you need multiple seatbelt extensions?” If you are wondering if the animals really get to travel in the plane, the answer to that question is “yes”, and due to safety regulations they are always guaranteed a window seat.

When you arrive at your destination, no typical New York taxicab will do for this group. A luxury cargo van awaits to whisk you and the critters away to the Big Apple. While checking-in, you’ll be sure to raise a few eyebrows as other hotel guests realize who’ll be hooting it up down the hall.

Sounds like a reality TV show, doesn’t it? But, it is actually just a typical day in the life of our “celebrity” animals and their handlers while on the road with national television personalities like Jack Hanna and Julie Scardina.

This is Ginger the brown pelican checking out her view as she looks out at Times Square before heading to the Studio for an appearance on the Today Show.



Look Out, There's a New Fox in Town



Jane

For years, Jane the red fox has won the hearts of Sanctuary visitors. However, she had a tough life before coming to us in 2005. Jane was most likely born on a fur farm and made her way to the pet trade, where she was sold illegally to a private owner. Jane escaped and was hit by a car. After a local veterinarian treated her, she was brought to the Sanctuary.

Jane most certainly was not your typical fox. Her easygoing nature and bubbly personality made her an ideal candidate as an animal ambassador. Jane has traveled the country with the Sanctuary's educators appearing at various educational programs and television shows.

As Jane has gotten older, she has developed some minor medical issues that make it more difficult for her to keep up with the demands of her stardom lifestyle.

Recently, a young red fox, whom we named Kenzle, was given to us by a woman who bought her illegally at a pet store, but she quickly realized that foxes should not be kept as personal pets.

Kenzle has that same sparkle in her eyes as we saw in Jane so many years ago. She seems destined to follow in Jane's footsteps. With help from Jane, Kenzle will continue to educate the public about foxes and the downfalls of exotic pet ownership.



Kenzle

What To Do When You Find Injured Wildlife

- ✓ Use common sense and think of your safety
- ✓ Try to contain the animal
- ✓ Keep the animal warm & quiet
- ✓ Do not pet or handle the animal
- ✓ Do not try to feed or give water to the animal

When rescuing a wild animal, your first thought may be to comfort the creature and provide it with food, but handling the animal can cause stress, and feeding can cause harm, since the diets of wild animals are very complex. It is better to do as little as possible until you can get the animal to a wildlife rehabilitation facility.

Call Busch Wildlife Sanctuary for help at: (561)-575-3399

People Say and do the Darnedest Things...

"A bobcat just killed my favorite chicken, can I shoot it and have it stuffed?" "I saw a raccoon swimming in my pool this afternoon, that means it has rabies, right?" "There's an orphaned baby bird in my back yard, but the mother keeps dive bombing me every time I try to rescue it." "I found a really pretty snake, can I keep it as a pet?"

Here at the Sanctuary we try very hard to help people deal with their wildlife issues. But, that often means having a lot of patience when talking people through their situations while at the same time trying to find the best end result for both the individual and the animal. We must also take into consideration the regulations that govern and protect the environment and wild animals.

Most people think relocating wild animals from populated areas to more remote and natural habitats is better for the animal in question. Sounds like an easy solution; however, relocation has its own set of complicated issues and more often is

not in the best interest of the animal, or the environment. Studies have shown that there is a high mortality rate and greater potential for the spread of disease when wild animals are moved at the hand of man as opposed to natural dispersal.

Animals like bobcats and foxes are great at controlling rodent populations, but they are not above taking a free meal. If you have chickens or ducks on your property, it's like having a big sign saying free buffet today.

A common misconception is that when nocturnal animals, like raccoons and opossums, are seen out during daylight hours, they must be sick or carrying rabies. However, there are no rule books for the animals to follow, so when the hunger hits, they simply take a walk through nature's pantry. And, after all, it is south Florida, so do as the natives do and take a dip in the pool.

Baby birds come out of the nest way before that can even fly, momma bird

will continue to care for her babies, even when on the ground. If there is a potential danger of dogs or cats, simply put the baby in a wicker basket and hang it in a nearby tree or bush. The mother bird will use the basket as a new nest. Believe it or not, most birds can't smell, so you don't have to worry about whether you touch the baby.

A little common sense will go a long way when dealing with wildlife issues. Safety should always be the first priority, but keep in mind, we share this beautiful planet of ours with all sorts of amazing creatures so let's do our best to live in harmony with nature.

Picture on the right is of a friendly gentleman who walked into the Sanctuary's wildlife hospital with a venomous coral snake wrapped around his neck.

