



# Animal Tracks<sup>(TM)</sup>

[The Wildlife Sanctuary](#) 435 Cougar Lane, Ellijay, GA 30540

March 2011

## When Good News is Bad News



There is a funny thing about good news in the non-profit world that we have experienced at the sanctuary. When the news is good, donations fall off. In our case, donations virtually stopped!

Although some good things are on the horizon, the sanctuary is still in need of your support on a regular basis. For the next three months, we will be seeing the arrival of injured and orphaned baby animals. These are very challenging because they require special formula, around-the-clock care, and usually arrive on the brink of death. The toughest part of our job is to lose one - even just one.

The next toughest part of our job is to turn some away. When we do not have the funds for formula and infant care, we have to turn away even the most precious little ones so we can focus our funds on those we have. Right now, given the drop off in donations, we would have to turn away more than we care to think about, knowing their next step is to be humanely put to death. It goes against everything we stand for - rescuing, rehabilitating, raising and releasing injured and orphaned wild animals.

Your donations truly make a real difference in the lives of wildlife. [Please click here](#) and [make a donation today](#) to give to the general funds we need to save the infants. Thank you for your support.

## Volunteer Day - March 27, 1:00 'til Done!

The Wildlife Sanctuary is having a clean-up day on Sunday, March 27 from 1:00 p.m. until done to clear out leaves, brush, sticks, and fallen branches from the hiking trails and regular pathways. We have been blessed over the past several months to have people asking how they can volunteer. Here is your opportunity to help us prepare for spring.

This year, we will be open each Sunday for general tours. We will also be scheduling private tours and educational programs throughout the work week. As you may know, the sanctuary is closed Saturdays.

If you would like to lend a hand to our clean-up efforts, please contact Nick Rutledge at [nick@thewildlifesanctuary.com](mailto:nick@thewildlifesanctuary.com) and be at the sanctuary by 12:45 p.m. on Sunday, March 27. Nick will organize teams and tasks. Volunteers will also learn about serving at the sanctuary in other roles, such as nursery help. Get out in the fresh air of the north Georgia

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**Send to a Friend:** Our sanctuary could use lots of supporters. Please encourage your friends to visit our web site and...

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

### Contact Us:

The Wildlife Sanctuary  
435 Cougar Lane  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
[wildlife@ellijay.com](mailto:wildlife@ellijay.com)  
PH: 706-276-2980

Thank you  
for your  
support to  
Save our  
Wildlife.

Sincerely,  
Debbie Cylke  
Wildlife Director  
and  
Tim Grady,  
Executive Director

**Note:** If you would like to be a Founding Member of the [Sanctuary Endowment Trust](#), please call the Executive

mountains and help wildlife thrive!

## Creature Feature:



### Baby Raccoons

Baby raccoons are about as cute as they come. This is a picture of one just three weeks old. It is very common for an orphaned baby to be dehydrated. At 3% to 10%, they can usually be saved. They may also be chilled from their dehydration or the absence of their mother. To pull them through, we administer liquids either orally or intravenously. If they are suffering from hypothermia, they must be warmed before oral rehydration, although it is touch-and-go at this stage.

Once stabilized, which may occur at a local veterinary office if the animal was brought there first, the baby can be kept with others on warming blankets and fed at regular intervals. They are sweet, gentle and grow more curious as the days pass.

A few words of caution: 1) Feces [poop] from baby raccoons is highly toxic [deadly] to infant and toddler humans. 2) Raccoons are a Class C animal, meaning a rabies carrier. While infants rarely have active rabies, they should be handled only with gloves. Even saliva or nose mucus from a sneezing raccoon can transmit the disease. 3) Do not attempt to rescue adult raccoons. There is no cure for rabies. Adults seen during the day may be rabid - stay away and call animal control. 4) Please tell your children to report injured or orphaned animals to you - before they touch or approach it. Some may simply be wandering with a mother nearby that can become aggressive to defend her young.

The Wildlife Sanctuary will keep orphaned infant raccoons through the summer and release them in the late fall or next spring when they are strong enough to survive on their own.

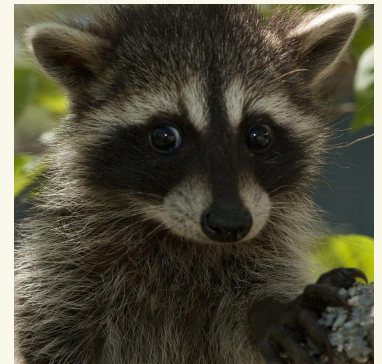
Director in confidence at  
404-574-8119.

### How You Can Help



Please consider making a donation to The Wildlife Sanctuary today. You can also sponsor an animal and receive a sponsorship certificate. At higher levels, you may receive tour passes, t-shirts, photographs, or even a plaque at the species habitat. [Simply click here to sponsor an animal today.](#)

Please help us...



I'm hungry and have no  
mommie...

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