

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

The Wildlife Sanctuary - 435 Cougar Lane, Ellijay, GA 30540

November 2010

## URGENT - Sanctuary Running out of Food

The Wildlife Sanctuary has been blessed for several years with a few sources of donated food for our animals. However, those sources have dried up and now the sanctuary is running out of food to feed the animals. As you know, we aren't flush with cash. However, we now have no choice but to buy food - and that takes money.



**How You Can Help** - our most immediate need is for dog food for our bears, who eat about 3,000 pounds of food a month - yes, 3000! We don't have a wholesale source for it and wish we did - do you know of one? If not, then please either become a member (your dollars go to animal care) or make a donation today.

We hope you find it in your hearts to help us out right now in a big way. We have to stock our dry storage full of food for the winter. 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 buy food right now. By the way, your donations last month helped us catch up on our bills and we thank you for your support.

## Be a Sign Sponsor - \$250 - another way to help!

### North American Black Bear

The Black Bear is the smallest bear on the North American continent and the most widely distributed. In the South, it is not a true hibernator. It becomes lethargic during the winter but may only sleep for a few days or weeks. It is an omnivore that eats mostly vegetation, although it will consume bees, ants, larvae, fish, and some animals. Bears love to snack on honey and will break into hives to extract the honeycomb, despite bee stings. They also love bird seed, although feeders can become lodged on their necks, choking them as they grow. Or, they may suffocate if their head gets stuck in a feeder globe. However, they have an amazing knack to get to even a suspended bird feeder (sotake bird feeders in at night when bears are on the prowl).

Black bears can have fur color ranging from blond, cinnamon, or light brown to dark chocolate brown or jet black. Females can range in weight from 90 to 275 pounds. Males can weigh 125 to 550 pounds. They are incredibly powerful, able to easily flip over a 300 pound flat rock to get at food underneath. They are also excellent climbers. To protect the ir young, females will chase their cubs up a tree and then follow behind. Young bears will often climb trees to escape pursuit, and are commonly "tree'd" in local neighborhoods. Left alone, they will climb down and wander off. Bear cubs will stay with their mothers for 16 to 18 months. If a mother is killed with cubs less than a year old, the cubs will likely die unless they are brought to a sanctuary.

Too Playful With Others



The Wildlife Sanctuary is creating signs to post in front of habitats for every species, both permanent residents and temporary guests. We would like to invite donors to contribute \$250 and tell us the name they want on the sign. It will read as: "This sign sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_"

## In This Issue

[Sanctuary Food Crisis Sponsor a Sign](#)  
[Pepsi Refresh Project T-shirts](#)

## We Need Your Vote!

This is so important that we are mentioning it twice. Click on this logo and vote for us, please. You can vote once each day - texting is the easiest way...



**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!](#)



T-Shirts

Support us by purchasing from over 40 T-shirt selections at our website!

Profits go to help us rescue, raise and release wild animals, and educating the public about the importance of wildlife conservation and habitat preservation.

If you would like to submit a design for consideration, please e-mail a hi-res .jpg image to us. If your design is selected, it will be shown on our Contributors page with your name as the designer!

All designs submitted to us become the property of The Wildlife Sanctuary. All profits from the sale of t-shirts showing your design become funds of The Wildlife Sanctuary - but you get the bragging rights for supporting wildlife!!

## Contact Us:

The Wildlife Sanctuary

Sponsors can be businesses, associations, groups, schools, a high school, middle school, intermediate school or elementary school class, a family, foundation, or "in remembrance of". If you have any question about sign sponsorship and wording, please contact us.

These new 8 x 11 signs will go up this spring before we open to the public. However, we need to get this project underway right now, and these tax-deductible donations will help put some operating cash into our bank account, as well (remember those hungry bears?).

We don't have a form, so please send your donation to our address along with a note that says, "Please list \_\_\_\_\_ as the sign sponsor." Be sure to include your return address so we can mail your receipt for your taxes.

You can also select one of these, but hurry if you want to designate your donation for a specific species sign: Western Cougar, Eastern Panther (3 locations), North American Black Bear, White-tailed Deer, Bobcat, Red Fox, Skunk, Raccoon, Squirrel, Flying Squirrel, Opossum, Ferret, Groundhog, Chinchilla, Screech Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, Red Tail Boa, Burmese Python, Rattlesnake, Reticulated Python, or Tarantula.

You may also sponsor one of the animal story signs, like Annie's story, our black bear who had her claws ripped out by poachers when she was a cub after they shot her mother, or Hercules, Seymour and Jake who's mother was shot and killed for "trespassing." We will be happy to pick a sign if you don't designate one. Sign sponsorships will be for one full year and be read by each tour through the sanctuary.

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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 Director in confidence at 404-574-8119.


## Vote for The Wildlife Sanctuary



The Wildlife Sanctuary is still in the running for Pepsi's Refresh Everything grant program. If we are one of the

Top 2 based on your votes, the sanctuary will receive a major grant for improvements and upgrades. This is A BIG DEAL!

If you know wildlife lovers, please forward this link - or better yet, this newsletter to them. Put it on your Facebook page. Tweet it to your followers, and ask them to tweet theirs. Find us on

Facebook.  Your vote counts! Please use this link to cast your vote:

[www.refresheverything.com/wildlifesanctuary](http://www.refresheverything.com/wildlifesanctuary)

Thank you for voting - you can Vote ONCE EACH DAY!!!

[Forward email](#)

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