

Wildlife

Times



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

Fall 2010 / Winter 2011
www.buschwildlife.com
(561)-575-3399

New Entryway Building Taking Shape



Many years ago when the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary first opened, its Discovery Center building's main purpose was to serve as an indoor classroom and learning center. Since staffing was somewhat limited back in those days, Sanctuary volunteers rallied together and created a small gift shop at the entrance of the building and helped man the Discovery Center to welcome Sanctuary visitors.

Little by little the gift shop took on a life of its own and became a major focal point of the Sanctuary. Not only would visitors spend time viewing the exhibits in the Discovery Center, but they would also purchase merchandise from the gift shop that helped raise much needed money for the Sanctuary's educational programs and wildlife rehabilitation efforts.

The more successful the gift shop was at raising money for the Sanctuary, the larger it grew and slowly began to take away space from the educational function of the Discovery Center. Although the gift shop is a very successful aspect of the Sanctuary, its location and layout

prevents it from truly expanding to its real fundraising potential, and unfortunately takes away from much needed indoor education space.

To help the Sanctuary offer a better visitor experience and expand its needs for additional indoor learning space, the Loxahatchee River District has offered to contribute \$50,000 toward the construction of a new entryway / gift shop building. An additional \$10,000 contribution has been made towards the project by a private donor, but the Sanctuary still needs to raise an additional \$90,000 to complete the project.

Once completed, the new entryway / gift shop building, will serve as the main welcome center for Sanctuary visitors. The proceeds generated by the gift shop will help fund the Sanctuary's conservation efforts to educate the public about Florida's native flora and fauna along with rehabilitation efforts to rescue and treat sick, injured, and orphaned wild animals.

The new entryway / gift shop building will be located in the

northwest corner of the Sanctuary's picnic area. The new building is being designed to provide visitors with a better overall experience, while addressing some of traffic flow issues visitors unfortunately face now.

Once the new entryway / gift shop building is completed, renovations of the Discovery Center will take place to create an indoor hands-on education center and classroom where visitors can learn about the fascinating wonders of our natural world.

The outdoor exhibits and nature trails at the Sanctuary serve as a living museum of Florida's natural history. Combining this aspect of the Sanctuary's educational mission with indoor learning space once the Discovery Center is renovated, will provide more ways for children and adults to learn about nature, wildlife, and environmental issues while visiting the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary.



*New Entryway Building will make
Sanctuary visit a greater experience!*

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 2nd 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.

Wish List

Digital X-Ray Machine.....	\$50,000
Blood Diagnostic Processing Machine.....	\$15,000
Intensive Care Unit.....	\$30,000
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
New Maintenance Work Shop.....	\$12,000
Funding for new Entryway and Gift Shop.....	\$90,000
New Snack Shop (Nature Café & Watering Hole).....	\$25,000
Salary for Wildlife Rescue Field Staff.....	\$30,000
New Kinkajou Habitat.....	\$15,000
Pressure Washer.....	\$1,200
New Interpretive Signage for Exhibits.....	\$10,000
Funding or Donation for New Website.....	\$5,000
Money.....	all shapes and sizes!
Volunteers.....	willing to have fun and get dirty!

Local Groups Helping the Sanctuary

Special thanks to Chili's Restaurant, Best Friend's Club of Jupiter, Jupiter Lanes Bowling Alley, Miller's Fine Decorative Hardware, LUXE Magazine, and the countless others who participated over the past few months in putting on various fundraising events for the Sanctuary.



Interested in helping? Your business, club or organization can help coordinate an event to help the Sanctuary raise money and get much needed equipment and supplies to help care for injured wild animals and educate the community about Florida's wildlife and natural resources.

Turning Halloween into a Real Wild Treat

Trick-or-treating with a twist, "Busch Wildlife Sanctuary style". Sanctuary staff and volunteers transformed Busch into a wild and spooky scene for its annual Halloween Festival.

The Sanctuary's trails were decorated with all sorts of child friendly Halloween displays ranging from swamp monsters to ghosts. Adding the thrill of seeing the resident animals, the Sanctuary offered the perfect venue for safe family trick-or-treating.

Visitors came dressed in their best Halloween costumes and won their treats by answering tricky questions about the wild animals at the Sanctuary. Games kept the young ones occupied while the adults hung out with friends and caught-up on the latest news.

Sanctuary staff wandered the trails with an array of critters to provide

up-close animal encounters for the entertainment of the trick-or-treaters. Wildlife presentations were offered in the Sanctuary's amphitheater by Mother Nature herself and her junior naturalist helpers.

A bounce house, game prizes, and Halloween snacks had everyone leaving with a smile and full belly.



Trick-or-treating fun at the Sanctuary!

Farewell Ozzie Our Old Friend

One of the biggest attractions at the Sanctuary has been our river otter exhibit showcasing Ozzie and Harriett. Sadly, Ozzie passed away recently, but not without touching the lives of thousands of visitors over the past several years.

Ozzie lived way beyond the expected life span of a wild otter. Even with cataracts, Ozzie would entertain Sanctuary visitors with his playful antics as he ran round his habitat and showed off his water acrobatic abilities.

Ozzie originally came to the Sanctuary after being confiscated by State wildlife officials from someone who was attempting to keep him illegally. Ozzie saw himself more as a

person than an otter and learned to accept Harriett as his partner over time.

We will all miss Ozzie dearly. There was never a day that went by where Ozzie didn't make someone smile. Harriett is getting up there in age too and clearly misses her long time companion.



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, 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.**

Remodeled Bird of Prey Exhibits Completed

One of the first exhibit areas constructed at the Sanctuary were the bird of prey enclosures. Time, weather, and the hurricanes from a few years ago had taken their toll on the habitats and it was time for a total remodeling job.

A local businessman had visited the Sanctuary and really wanted to help with this project. He loved hawks and falcons and thought by sponsoring the construction of the new enclosures he would not only be helping the Sanctuary, but would also fulfill his lifelong passion and love for raptors.

Sadly to say, with the decline in the economy, the gentleman was forced to back out on his pledge, leaving the project hanging in the wind.

Things like this don't happen very

often, but when they do, all a non-profit organization can do is hope for better times and interest from other funding sources.

Eric Shearouse, a local Boy Scout working on his Eagle Scout Award, rallied his fellow Scouts from Troop 150 to help the Sanctuary keep the bird of prey project alive and earn Eric his Eagle Scout ranking.

The total cost of the project was a hefty \$45,000. Eric was successful in raising nearly \$8,000 in cash contributions, and the manpower of volunteers he organized saved the Sanctuary thousands more in labor costs.

The original bird of prey exhibit area at the Sanctuary

showcased six species of hawks and owls. But, the newly remodeled enclosures now exhibit nine species and include falcons and caracaras.



New exhibit displays nine species of birds of prey.



Living with Wildlife - A guide to our wild neighbors



Florida is home to an amazing variety of animal species, from snakes to raccoons, alligators, foxes, and so much more. People encounter these animals on a daily basis. Living with Wildlife is a new Sanctuary program designed to help community residents and homeowners associations learn about how to deal with wildlife issues. Topics such as, what is normal animal behavior, how to handle common wildlife problems and safely resolve these issues, and how to avoid future people/wildlife conflicts.

For more information contact the Sanctuary's education office at (561)-575-3399.

Making the Doctor's Visit a Whole Lot Easier



We all know how important it is to have a routine medical check-up from time to time to make sure our health and bodies are in good shape. The same holds true for the animals at the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary. Each year the Sanctuary's

permanent residents receive a full medical exam.



Dr. Johnston and Amy Kight draw blood from Dakota, one of the Sanctuary's panthers.

These exams may include blood work, dental cleanings, a complete

physical, and other diagnostic tests. A visit to a doctor's office can make even the best patient a little uneasy. So, as part of the daily routine with our animals at the Sanctuary we perform certain handling and action techniques that simulate particular parts of a regular exam. This makes the trip to the doctor a whole lot less stressful for the animals.

Sometimes though, it is necessary to completely tranquilize an animal to perform the exams and treatments that are required. Imagine trying to clean a bear's teeth, or take a blood sample from a panther. Modern medications make it quick and easy to anesthetize an animal and reverse the effects once the exam or procedure is completed.



Sanctuary Bobcats Make it to National Television

One of the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary's major goals is educating the public about Florida's wildlife and natural environments. Not only does the Sanctuary educate on a local level, but from time to time our education staff travels around the

country to make appearances on various national television shows such as the Today Show, Good Morning America, Jay Leno, David Letterman, and CNN.

Traveling with animals can be quite the ordeal. Just imagine what its like trying to book seats on a commercial airline for two young bobcats.

Such was the case recently when Tom and Jerry, two of the Sanctuary's bobcats, traveled to California to appear on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno. Tom and Jerry joined animal expert Julie Scardina from SeaWorld and Busch Gardens, with a host of other animals ranging from a lynx, to kangaroos, emus, and owl monkeys.

Although the Tonight Show is more of an entertainment show, it also offers the perfect venue to reach millions of home viewers and spread the message of conservation and protection of wildlife around the world.



Jay Leno gets a lesson about bobcats from Julie Scardina from SeaWorld and Busch Gardens.

What To Do When You Find Injured Wildlife

- x Use common sense and think of your safety
- x Try to contain the animal
- x Keep the animal warm & quiet
- x Do not pet or handle the animal
- x 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

Parrots Get New Accommodations

From time to time, the Busch Wildlife Sanctuary receives parrots that were found roaming in unusual places. More than likely these birds are escaped animals that are simply lost and can't find their way.

Unfortunately, sometimes people even let their parrots loose to fend for themselves in the wild when they feel they can no longer care for their pets or handle their sometimes very loud vocalizations anymore.

Although the Sanctuary does its best to reunite the lost birds with their owners, sometimes the birds have traveled several miles and have been away from their homes for an extended period of time, making the reunion an almost impossible task.

Traditionally, the Sanctuary provided these wayward parrots refuge in the Sanctuary's Administration office. However, since most species of parrots are very vocal, it would get very challenging at

times to conduct business on a daily basis with all the screeching and chattering.

A number of years ago, daytime perches were built just outside the Sanctuary's wildlife hospital, but the birds would have to be brought back in at the end of each day.

To help resolve the laborious task of caring for these colorful birds at the Sanctuary and eliminate the sometimes very loud disturbance in the office, Boy Scout Morgan Houk took on the challenge of building new permanent housing for parrots at the Sanctuary.

Morgan's efforts organizing the construction, donation of materials and volunteer labor from his fellow Scouts from Troop #701

earned him his Boy Scout Eagle Award.

The new enclosures now provide the parrots with roomy accommodations and a great way for the Sanctuary to educate the public about these fascinating birds and the responsibilities that come with having these animals as pets.



New parrot enclosures are a big hit with visitors.

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 from some type of human related injury, which include: 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 _____