

New Wildlife Rescue and Drop-off Centre Now Open at Assiniboine Park Zoo

For immediate release: Winnipeg, May 29, 2025 – The Assiniboine Park Conservancy (APC) and Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre are pleased to announce the opening of a new public drop-off location in Winnipeg where sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife can receive temporary care before being transferred to Wildlife Haven’s facilities in Île des Chênes, Manitoba.

“Educating visitors about how they can safely co-exist with wildlife is an important part of what we do here at Assiniboine Park and Zoo,” said Dr. Charlene Berkvens, Director of Animal Health and Nutrition, Assiniboine Park Zoo. “We are very pleased to partner with Wildlife Haven and support the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife when they need our help.”

The new facility was identified as a key initiative under a memorandum of understanding signed by the two organizations in August 2023 that outlines a commitment to jointly advocate for and take action to conserve wildlife and their natural habitats within Manitoba.

“We’re proud to launch this new drop-off location in partnership with the Assiniboine Park Conservancy. It’s a natural extension of how well our organizations already work together,” said Zoe Nakata, Executive Director, Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre. “By making it easier for the public to bring in sick, injured, or orphaned wildlife, we’re removing a barrier to care, and ultimately giving more wild animals a second chance.”

The new Wildlife Rescue and Drop-off Centre is in a publicly accessible area on the west side of the parking lot at the Assiniboine Park Zoo’s main entrance at 2595 Roblin Boulevard. The facility will be open daily. Specially trained APC volunteers will manage the intake process with guidance and support from the Zoo’s veterinary team, who will provide health and welfare assessments and temporary care as needed before animals are transferred to Wildlife Haven’s facilities.

Anyone who finds an injured or orphaned animal is asked to call Wildlife Haven in advance at (204) 202-3806 for guidance. Their trained staff and volunteers will determine if the animal is eligible for care and provide advice on next steps. In some cases, human intervention may not be the recommended course of action.

Animals Eligible for Care

- Wildlife Haven cares for over 170 species of native Manitoba wildlife including mammals, songbirds, reptiles, raptors, and waterfowl.
- They do NOT accept skunks, raccoons, mice, wolves, bears, fish, invertebrates, or hooved animals such as deer, moose, or elk.
- They also do NOT take in cats, dogs, domesticated animals, exotic reptiles or invasive species.

More information can be found on the Assiniboine Park Conservancy’s [website](#).

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Representatives from the Assiniboine Park Zoo and Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre will be available today between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. for interviews scheduled upon request. Interview requests outside of those times will be subject to availability.

For interviews and information requests, please contact:

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