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# TALES FROM THE TREE

*The Quarterly Newsletter of Ziggy's Tree Wildlife Rehabilitation Center*



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Website: [www.ziggystree.org](http://www.ziggystree.org)

E-mail: [ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com](mailto:ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com)

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## **IT'S A QUIZ!**

It's time for another quiz! We enjoy learning new and interesting things about our natural world. We've compiled some fun facts about some of our native wildlife found right here in Middle Tennessee. Let's see how knowledgeable you are in regards to our wild friends!

1. Which animal can survive extreme cold by entering a state called torpor?
2. What is the term for a group of crows?
3. What type of animal is a frog?
4. What mammal can fly?
5. Which animal is known for its ability to roll into a ball when it feels threatened?
6. Which is the only native Tennessee turtle species can completely close its shell?
7. Which of our mammals have the most teeth?
8. What 3 species of squirrels live in Tennessee?
9. Which of our native squirrels are nocturnal?
10. Which of our native mammals have up to 13 babies at a time?
11. Which of our mammals can be striped or spotted?
12. Which of our mammals can have up to 7 litters per year with 3 to 8 young per litter?
13. Which of our mammals are often called "Whistle Pigs"?
14. Which native Duck has her babies in a tree cavity high above the ground, and returns to same location every year to raise her young?
15. How many venomous snakes are commonly found in Middle Tennessee?
16. Which of our mammals feature tufts of hair on their ears and their favorite food is rabbit?
17. How do vultures keep their legs and feet clean?
18. How many of our native Tennessee mammal species have both parents caring for their young?
19. How many woodpecker species are there in Tennessee? And can you name them all?



**Thataway for the answers**

1. Hummingbird. The Ruby-Throated Hummingbird is the only species native to our area.
2. A murder. Please no jokes about 2 crows being an attempted murder.
3. Amphibian. They spend part of their lives on land and part on water. They cannot regulate their own body temperatures and rely on the surrounding environment to warm them up or cool them down.
4. Bat. Another fact – there are over 1500 species worldwide, with 16 calling Tennessee home
5. Armadillo. They have been naturally expanding their range into Tennessee following one of their food sources – the fire ant.
6. Eastern Box Turtle. They have a very small home range, generally the size of a football field.
7. Virginia Opossum. They have 50 teeth, more than any other mammal.
8. Eastern Gray Squirrel, Eastern Fox Squirrel and the Southern Flying Squirrel.
9. Southern Flying Squirrel. They don't really fly but can glide long distances.
10. Virginia Opossum (can you tell we find opossums fascinating?)
11. Skunk. The Spotted Skunk is uncommon in Tennessee and are listed as a species of conservation concern due to declining populations.
12. Eastern Cottontail
13. The Groundhog (Woodchuck)
14. The Wood Duck. The young are easy to identify with their Cleopatra eyeliner – the stripe is only behind the eye.
15. Four. Copperhead, Timber Rattlesnake, Pigmy Rattlesnake and Cottonmouth.
16. Bobcat
17. Vultures keep their feet clean through a behavior called urohidrosis, where they urinate and defecate directly onto their own legs and feet. Ewwww. Their waste is highly acidic and acts as a natural antiseptic and disinfectant, killing the harmful bacteria and parasites they pick up while walking on rotting carcasses.
18. Five. Red and Gray Foxes, Coyotes, Muskrats and Beaver all have both parents participating in raising the young.
19. Seven. Six are year-round residents (Downy, Hairy, Pileated, Red-bellied, Red-headed, Northern Flicker) and the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is a regular winter visitor.

## **HERE'S WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO**

It was a busy winter for our mammal team. We overwintered a record number of 60 squirrels. With our intake of 30 this spring, we did have to suspend our mammal intakes. We are finally working through our releases with the last of the spring babies expected to be released in June. We'll remain closed to intakes while we work through cage inspections and repairs. We are hopeful we'll have everything up and running in time for the fall crop of babies.

Our songbird team saw a dramatic upswing in our April intakes. We were up by almost 50% by the end of the month over last year's intakes. As always, we are seeing a lot of robins and wrens as our first babies of the year. We don't know at this point if the early onslaught means an early end to the baby season or if we'll be busy through August as we are in a typical year. Although we're no longer sure what a typical year is.



Ziggy's Tree

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTER



Help us  
Build a Stronger  
Future for  
Wildlife

# JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS!

Make a lasting impact. Help wildlife thrive.

Ziggy's Tree Wildlife Rehabilitation Center is growing, and we're looking for passionate, experienced individuals to join our Board and help guide our mission to save, heal, and release wildlife in need.



## WE ARE SEEKING LEADERS WITH EXPERTISE IN:



### FINANCIAL

Help ensure fiscal responsibility and sustainable growth.



### STRATEGIC PLANNING

Guide the big picture and help shape our future.



### REAL ESTATE

Assist with property opportunities and facility planning.



### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Lead the charge in securing major gifts and funding.



### SOCIAL MEDIA / JOURNALISTS

Share our story and help us connect with the world.



### SPONSORS

Build relationships that create lasting support for our mission.

Your skills. Our mission. Incredible impact.

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO OR TO APPLY!

[Ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com](mailto:Ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com)

Together, we can give wildlife a second chance—today and for generations to come.

## **SUPPORT ZIGGY'S TREE**

- Become a member – just complete the application on the back of this newsletter, or visit our website to download and print an application.
- Give a gift membership to a friend!
- Purchase items from our wish list.
- Donate newspapers (we use those to line cages and cover the tables under the cages)
- Contact us about volunteer opportunities, such as transport, animal releases, administrative/office work, fundraising, board membership or contributing to our newsletter
- Like us on Facebook and stay updated on releases, admissions, and other news.
- Invite us to speak to your church or civic group – we love to tell people about the work we do!

***Check our website at [www.ziggystree.org](http://www.ziggystree.org) for other ways you can support us!***

### **WISH LIST**

- Gift cards (grocery store, Lowe's, Home Depot, Tractor Supply)
- Frozen Bloodworms or Brine Shrimp
- LCD Projector
- Fresh Vegetables (carrots, kale, sweet potatoes)
- Paper Towels
- Facial Tissues
- Toilet Paper
- Unscented laundry detergent

Text us at 931-841-9781 to arrange to drop off any of the above items.

For assistance with orphaned or injured birds or general questions about wildlife, text LouAnn at 931-841-9781.

***Looking for a project for your scout troop, church, school or civic group? We could use small bluebird or woodpecker boxes to use with our young cavity nesting birds. Contact us for more information.***

## **KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS**

Thanks to our 128 participating families in the Kroger Community Rewards program, we have received our first quarter check for \$308.11. The funds we receive annually through this program are covering approximately one month of our operating costs.

If you shop at Kroger and would like to support us through this program, just go on-line to <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>, and enroll your rewards card, selecting Ziggy's Tree as your charity. You still get gas points and discounts – and Kroger donates money to us!

Don't have an e-mail address or computer access? You can still sign up. Just call 1(800) KROGERS, OPTION 3 or 1(800)576-4377, OPTION 3.

For privacy reasons, Kroger does not provide names of those who have signed up to support us. So even though we can't thank you personally, please know that we are extremely grateful for your support.

And please ask your friends and family to enroll and support us!



# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS!

(January 2026 through April 2026)

## WILDLIFE CHAMPION

Deborah Trimble  
Hall Giving Fund of Fidelity Charitable

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Banjo Baby Squirrel Fund & Cheryl Schur

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Sunny Gate Garden Club \* Cathy Jackson \* Gingi Arden  
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Pet Medical Center \* Haley Veterinary Clinic

### IN-KIND & CASH DONATIONS

Tammy Barrett \* Abigail Zachritz \* Dayle Sailor  
Tanika Merrett \* Joshua Spacht

### MATCHING DONATIONS

Verizon

## 2026 RELEASES

### FEBRUARY

1 Purple Finch



### MARCH

1 Eastern Bluebird



### APRIL

54 Eastern Gray Squirrels  
6 Southern Flying Squirrels



Ziggy's Tree Wildlife Rehabilitation Center  
PO Box 713  
Tullahoma, TN 37388



**NOTICE: YOUR MAILING LABEL CONTAINS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE.**

To avoid any interruption with delivering your newsletter, we ask that you renew at least one month before the date shown. Use the Membership Form provided below.

**PLEASE RENEW, STAY INFORMED, WE NEED YOU!!!**

**YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT ZIGGY'S TREE, I AM ...**

- A N E W M E M B E R**  
 **R E N E W I N G M Y M E M B E R S H I P**

Memberships are for one year  
Gift Memberships are also available.

**Please Mail This Form To:**

**Ziggy's Tree WRC  
PO Box 713  
Tullahoma, TN 37388**

*PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.*

___ Individual	\$30.00
___ Family	\$50.00
___ Supporting	\$100.00
___ Sustaining	\$250.00
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- I would like to receive my newsletter by email.

I am interested in volunteering in the following areas:

- \_\_\_ Environmental Education  
\_\_\_ Wildlife Rehabilitation  
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Checks should be made payable to Ziggy's Tree WRC. You can also renew/donate by credit card at [Paypal.me/ziggystree](https://www.paypal.com/merchot/?x=1&from_seller=ziggystree) or Venmo at [@Ziggystree](https://www.venmo.com/Ziggystree).

Not sure what to get that special someone for birthdays, anniversaries or just because? Consider giving them a one year membership to Ziggy's Tree!

Members receive our newsletter.

*Ziggy's Tree strives to be environmentally conscious. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy of our newsletter, please check the box above or e-mail [ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com](mailto:ziggystreewildlife@gmail.com) to be placed on our mailing list.*