

Press Release



32275 Fox Hollow Rd
Eugene, OR 97405

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cascades Raptor Center Set to Reopen After Unprecedented Community Support

After suffering serious damages from the winter storm, Cascades Raptor Center is set to reopen next week.



Raptor Center staff and volunteers rake debris, gather branches, and remove fallen trees from the site.

Eugene, January 31, 2024 –

Nearly three weeks after the Cascades Raptor Center was forced to temporarily close due to winter weather, the Center is set to reopen again next week, in part due to an amazing outpouring of love from the community. Raptor Center staff were left in awe over the past weeks as over a thousand community members reached out to donate, volunteer, and express sympathy at the destruction caused by the severe weather which struck Lane County mid-January.

“I’ve always known that our community stands behind us, but I’ve been blown away and overwhelmed by the sheer amount of support we’ve received,” said Executive Director Julie Collins. “The community’s passion has been incredible, and it’s truly reminded me why we’re doing this work.”

The Center is pleased to announce that they will open to the public again on Friday, February 9th, from 10AM to 4PM. As a special thank you to the community members who made the reopening possible, the Center will have a private soft opening on Thursday, February 8th, free to any members of the public who donated to the repairs or volunteered on-site after the storm.

“It’s been really incredible,” said Maddy Broedel, Development Director. “We have notes from hundreds of people, of all different ages and from all over the country. One of the notes was from an 11-year old donating to their favorite owl. It really warms your heart.”

Through community donations, the Center has raised enough to fix the damages incurred by the storm, pay their team, and continually operate their Wildlife Hospital despite the lost admission revenue caused by the closure.

Despite re-opening next week, there is still a lot of work to be done. Damaged aviaries are not likely to be fully reconstructed until mid-March, and tree damage has expedited the need for new fencing at the Center. If anyone in the community knows a fencing company who may be able to lend a hand, please reach out to the Center directly at 541-485-1320. Nevertheless, Cascades Raptor Center is excited to open their doors to the public again, and continue their mission of connecting people to wildlife.

Cascades Raptor Center is happy to offer the press on-site access to the Nature Center on Thursday, February 8th as well, to conduct interviews with staff or supporters, take photo/video of the birds and damaged aviaries, or enjoy the facilities. For additional questions, photos, or to schedule an interview with executive staff or the Resident Care Team, please reach out to Maddy, the Development Director, at maddy@cascadesraptorcenter.org or at 541-485-1320.

About Cascades Raptor Center

The Cascades Raptor Center is a 501(c)(3) nature center and wildlife hospital in Eugene, Oregon that specializes in raptor rehabilitation. The Center, which hosts 33 permanent inhabitants from 25 species, is open to the public year round for visits and educational programs,

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