



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

28728 Wolf Road, Bay Village, Ohio 44140 (440)-871-2900 www.lensc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
****GREAT PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITY ****
December 3, 2007

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
SHAWN SALAMONE
440-871-2900 EXT. 207

PUBLIC INVITED TO WITNESS RELEASE OF UNCOMMON OHIO OWL

**Saw-whet Owl Picked Up In Brook Park With An Injured Eye
Ready To Wing Its Way Back To the Wild Following Rehab at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center**

An owl that is uncommon in Ohio is completing a successful rehabilitation at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center after suffering from eye trauma. The Saw-whet Owl is expected to spread its wings and fly free again this week. Brook Park's animal control officer picked up the injured owl in a parking lot on October 23.

The Center's wildlife rehabilitators used steroids to treat an injury that caused bleeding in the bird's left eye. The Center's Wildlife Rehabilitation staff believes the injury was most likely caused by a collision with a car. After working to ensure that the predator bird can hunt live prey, the owl is ready to return to the wild. If all goes as planned, the release will take place at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 5 at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center in Bay Village. The public is welcome to witness the bird's return to the wild according to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center's Wildlife Rehabilitation Coordinator, Megan Tadiello.

Injury and Rehab Facts:

- Brought in to Lake Erie Nature & Science Center: Oct. 23, 2007 by Brook Park's animal control officer
- Found: In a parking lot
- Injury: blood in left eye, most likely hit by car
- Treatment: Steroids for 7 days; Live prey training
- Scheduled release: Wednesday, December 5 at 4:30 p.m. at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Road, Bay Village (turn in at the Porter Creek Drive & Wolf Road entrance to the Cleveland Metroparks Huntington Reservation)

Saw-whet Owl General Information:

- A small, brown owl with white spots and dark streaks; It has yellow eyes and a dark beak
- An uncommon owl in Ohio. Will sometimes nest in Northeast Ohio
- The Saw-whet name comes from the "skiew" sound it makes, which is thought to mimic the sound of a saw being whetted or sharpened
- Entirely nocturnal; spends the day roosting in dense foliage