



# Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

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## **FREE FAMILY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CHALLENGES** *Important and Timely Advice For Kids and Adults As Spring Wildlife Babies Arrive On the Scene*

Bay Village, Ohio --- As a prelude to the spring wildlife baby season, Lake Erie Nature & Science Center will highlight the *Ins & Outs of Wildlife Rehabilitation* during a free, family-friendly program on Saturday April 26 at 3 p.m. Part of the *Meet An Animal* series, this program will feature some close encounters with former rehab patients (including a snake, owl and opossum) that could not be released and became permanent residents of the Center.

The program will also give Rehabilitation Coordinator Megan Tadiello a chance to pass along some important advice about what people should and shouldn't do to help wildlife in need. That advice is especially important at this time of year.

"We are heading into our busiest season when spring animal babies dramatically increase the need for our services," says Tadiello. "First and foremost, it's important to teach your kids never to touch the baby wildlife they may encounter, even in your own backyard." The Center urges everyone to call for advice before interfering with any wild animal -- adult or baby -- for the safety of people and for the protection of the wildlife. The rehab staff can be reached at (440) 871-2900 ext 204.

The Kenneth A. Scott Wildlife Rehabilitation Program provides rehab services at no charge to the public, relying on donations to take in approximately 1,400 injured and ill wild animals each year, with the goal of release back into the wild. Center rehab staffers also field thousands of phone calls annually, educating callers one at a time about how to coexist with wildlife. A free fact sheet, *I Found Baby Wildlife – Does It Need Help?*, is available online at <http://www.lensc.org/wildlife/faq.htm>.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center operates the only wildlife rehabilitation facility in Cuyahoga County. The Center's rehab staff has been certified to perform wildlife rehabilitation by the International Wildlife Rehabilitators Council, receives continuing education, and has all of the appropriate state and federal permits required to perform wildlife rehabilitation.

Lake Erie Nature & Science Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to nature and science education, including live animals, interactive exhibits and a world-class planetarium. The independent Center is located in the Metroparks Huntington Reservation at 28728 Wolf Road in Bay Village. For more information, log on to [www.lensc.org](http://www.lensc.org) or call (440) 871-2900.

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