



The Avian Promise
Raptor Month™
October 2007

"The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe about us, the less taste we shall have for destruction."

— Rachel Carson © 1954



<http://RaptorMonth.org>

A Project of The Avian Promise, Inc

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Wild Bird Centers

<http://www.wildbird.com/willowgrove>

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MikeDupuyFalconry.com*

The Avian Promise

Mission:

coordinating educational information about wild birds; promoting a greater awareness of wild birds and advocating positive environmental changes to benefit wild birds and humans



Raptor Month!™

*A Celebration
of our Birds of Prey*

Theme 2007:
"The American Bald
Eagle: Pesticide
Poster Child?"

The Avian Promise
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Some Bald Eagle Facts

- Ben Franklin thought that the Turkey would make a better National symbol than the Bald Eagle
- Bald eagles may use the same nest year after year, adding more twigs and branches each time. One nest was found that had been used for 34 years and weighed over two tons!
- Bald Eagles are a very important part of the environment. By eating dead animal matter, they help with nature's clean-up process.
- Bald Eagles can actually swim! They use an overhand movement of the wings that is very much like the butterfly stroke
- The Bald Eagle was threatened with extinction in the 1960's due to pesticide use, habitat loss and other problems. It was placed on the endangered species list at that time.
- The Bald Eagle can fly 20 to 40 mph in normal flight and can dive at speeds over 100 mph!
- Bald Eagles live up to 30 years in the wild, and only reach maturity at 4-5 years of age
- An Eagle's wing span can be up to 8 feet!

Fun Raptor Information Websites

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
www.birds.cornell.edu

Partners in Flight
www.partnersinflight.org

The American Bald Eagle Foundation
baldeagles.org/eagleinfo.html

The World Owl Trust
www.owls.org/index.html

Hawk Watch International
www.hawkwatch.org

The Raptor Center
www.raptor.cvm.umn.edu/raptor/info/home.html

The Peregrine Fund
www.peregrinefund.org/default.asp

Raptor Month 2007 *A Celebration of our Birds of Prey*

Raptor Month is an invitation to set aside time during the month of October to celebrate our wonderful Birds of Prey. This year's theme: "The American Bald Eagle: Pesticide Poster Child?", presents many opportunities to explore and discuss how far we have come (or not) since Rachel Carson's now famous book, *Silent Spring* (first published in 1962).



Northern Spotted Owl

The Bald Eagle continues to be a symbol of the effects of pesticides on our environment. Forty years after the



ban on DDT, Eagle eggs are still hatched through human intervention due to egg shells that are too thin. At this printing, the Bald Eagle may soon be re-

Bald Eagle Chicks moved from the endangered species list, a move which is disturbing to some of us. Your Raptor Month™ celebration need not adhere to our theme. We challenge you to be creative and find new ways to help us remember these largest of avian creatures (okay, in a few cases, quite small!) during October.

Please visit our website and log your event so that others can join in on the fun!

Thanks in advance for helping to make this the BEST Raptor Month ever!!

Request for Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Phone _____

- Please send E-Newsletter
- Please send Raptor Month Brochure
- Please contact for school programs
- I would like to purchase additional Stickers (50 for \$3.50)
- Contact me about _____

Please accept my donation for
____ \$25 ____ \$10 ____ \$5

____ Another amount of \$ _____

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Exp Date _____

Thank you for your support of The Avian Promise and the Raptor Month initiative. Please visit our website often for Additional information and a list of Raptor Month activities.

www.RaptorMonth.Org