

# For Assistance with Injured or Orphaned Wildlife, please call 1-609-292-2966



Every year, especially during the spring and early summer, the lives of many young animals are disrupted. Well-intentioned people may attempt to 'save' these animals, and more often than not, the mother is nearby witnessing her young being taken. Young **rabbits** found at a nest site do not need to be rescued. The mother rabbit will not return if a person is standing near the nest site.

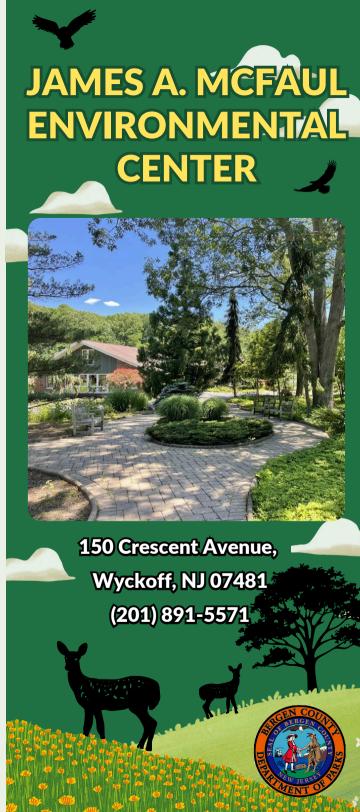
Young **birds** are sometimes found on the ground near a nest. When this happens, the best thing to do is to put the bird carefully back into the nest. Don't worry about getting your scent on the bird; it will not affect the mother's care. If you can't reach the nest, make an artificial nest and put it in the bushes or a tree limb nearby.

If you find a young **fawn** lying alone, **leave it there**. The mother comes back several times each day to nurse the fawn. If you've already picked the fawn up and brought it home - **put it back**. Even one or two days after removal from the wild, fawns have been successfully reunited with their mothers by returning them to the place where they were found. Adult deer spend much of the day feeding. Fawns that are not strong enough on their legs to keep up with the adults are left behind. Usually, young fawns are quite safe because their color pattern and lack of scent help them to remain undetected until their mother's return.

James J. Tedesco III
County Executive

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS** 

Department of Parks
Craig Dorsett
Acting Director



## What is available at the James A. McFaul Environmental Center?

The main building, which overlooks the waterfowl pond, has an Observatory, browsing library, and natural science exhibits.

Winding paths and <u>nature trails</u> take you to <u>animal shelters and garden spaces.</u>

A <u>wheelchair-accessible boardwalk</u> takes you along the edge of the pond to a <u>two-story</u> <u>observation platform</u>.

A <u>covered picnic pavilion</u> is available near the main building and another open, wooded picnic area sits on top of a hill.

<u>Nature-study workshops</u> and lectures are offered to children and adults throughout the year. Call Center for times.

For schools and other groups, a large selection of <u>nature education programs</u> are conducted on weekdays by our staff.

There are <u>free Tuesday films</u> and other special events throughout the year.

75,000 daffodils and flowering trees adorn the grassy slopes. Plantings of ornamental grasses, herbs, roses, and wildflowers provide additional beauty in any season.

A <u>naturalized field area and woodland</u> contain many plant species that provide food and shelter for a variety of wildlife species, including insects, birds, and mammals.



#### **About the Center**

Originally a pig farm, the 81-acre property was purchased by Bergen County in 1962. In 1966, the 2.5-acre waterfowl pond was excavated. The paved drive, animal shelters, and parking areas were added soon after and the Wildlife Center opened to the public in 1967.

In 1987, the name of the park was changed to the James A. McFaul Wildlife Center in honor of the longtime Bergen County Parks Executive Director who had been instrumental in the development of the site. Then, in 1990, the name was changed to the James A. McFaul Environmental Center to better reflect the park's programs.

Today, the Wildlife Sanctuary offers nature programs and workshops. The site includes a waterfowl pond, bird shelters, a boardwalk, a nature trail, specialty gardens, a gazebo, and natural science exhibits.

#### Contact us:

(201) 891-5571 mcfaulenvironmentalcenter@bergencountynj.gov

### What You Should Know

- The James A. McFaul Environmental Center is open year-round to the public.
- Admission is free; call for seasonal hours.
- All groups of 10 or more must have a Park Use Permit.
- Wedding photo permits are available.
   Professional photography also requires a permit.
- The park is carry-in/carry-out so trash must be removed or placed in dumpsters located in each parking area.
- The park is a wildlife sanctuary; all plants and animals are protected by law.
- No feeding of wildlife.
- No pets of any kind are permitted in the park.

