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**CRITTER CREEK WILDLIFE STATION
WINTER OPEN HOUSE**



**SATURDAY, Dec. 12, 2015
11:00 AM until 2:00 PM**



Gate will close at 1:30 pm to allow you enough time to tour. The Open House will be unguided, so the pace is leisurely offering more opportunities to take pictures. Our volunteers will be on hand to answer questions. Visit our gift shop where you'll find unusual handcrafted gifts for the holidays. Relieve the stress of the season with a visit to the foothills with family. Admission is by donation. Call (559) 338-2415 for information or look online at www.crittercreek.org



Tonka, our young mountain lion, can now be viewed romping around in his outdoor enclosure.



- Tour takes about 1 ½ hours.
- Our field parking is free.
- Baked goods, coffee, and cocoa will be for sale in the courtyard.



Lovin' the Great Outdoors

Tonka can now be viewed from his outdoor enclosure. He has been enjoying the wide open spaces. At first, he was a little amazed by all the movement and noises around him, but all the activity helped to fill his day and ward off boredom. He has made friends with Romeo, the pot-bellied pig that lives on the outside of his cage. Romeo is totally unconcerned with Tonka. They seem to enjoy each other's company. Tonka purrs when he sidles up to Romeo. Romeo will control the vegetation around the enclosure making the use of weed-eaters unnecessary. Tonka continues to interact with us, playing hide and seek when we visit him. He already has a thick warm coat of fur in preparation for the winter.



SEASON FOR RELEASES

We have been busy releasing fox, coyote and raccoons. Catching these mammals on film as they run away isn't easy. This young raccoon decided to pause to sample the fare in the field where we released him.

Linen Drive

Our linen supply was woefully depleted by the spring baby season. We can use:

- towels (all sizes)
- sheets (all sizes) even the fitted sheets are useful once we cut the elastic off
- pillow cases are especially needed

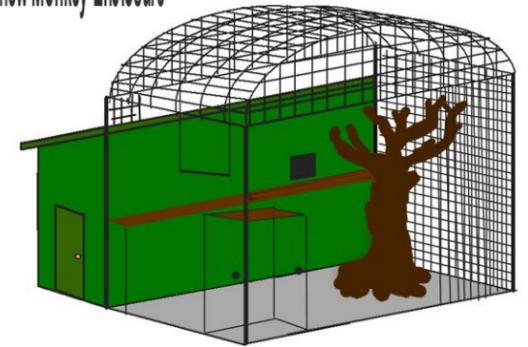
Donated linen can be stained but cannot have holes or be shredded since claws and talons easily get wrapped up in the strings. We currently do not need blankets.

You can bring your donations to Open House or give us a call-338-2415-and we will arrange a drop off location.

New Project

The renovation of the enclosure for Cheena, Capuchin Monkey, is underway. We have demolished what used to be our raccoon rehab area to make room for the monkey enclosure expansion. The new enclosure will give her a better bed room facility plus give us a storage area. She will also gain approximately 4 times the amount of outdoor space that she currently has. Some of that space will be over 16 feet in the air. She will be able to stay where she is currently while most of this work is taking place. If you have a soft spot for Cheena and would like to donate to the project you can go online and contribute through the Give Direct button-100% of your donation goes to Critter Creek and to this specific project. Or send your donation directly to Critter Creek Wildlife Station.

Rough of new Monkey Enclosure



Critter Creek Designated as an Eagle Facility

I want to thank those volunteers who were able to attend the symposium for California rehabilitators held a few weeks ago. We all learned a great deal and had a chance to talk to other volunteers across the state. One session was a meeting on new concerns regarding eagle rehabilitation. Eagle rehabilitation has become more restrictive over the years and Critter Creek is now one of only nine facilities throughout the state that meet all the U.S. Fish and Wildlife regulations to rehabilitate both bald and golden eagles. We currently have two permanent golden eagles-Kaweah and Tahoe. Both eagles were transferred to Critter Creek from places lacking the facilities to house these majestic birds. We are also currently rehabilitating two juvenile bald eagles (like the one in the picture) and one juvenile golden eagle. Come to the Open House and see these incredible masters of the sky.

