



# Critter Creek Wildlife Station's Fall Open House

**SATURDAY, September 21**  
**11:00 AM until 2:00 PM**

**Save the Date**

## Amazon Shoppers Aid Alert

Do you shop through AmazonSmile? If you use Amazon, you can support Animals for Education by adding us as your supported charity when you shop through Smile.Amazon.com To select us as your charity go to Smile.Amazon.com and you will be asked to pick a charity—search for Animals for Education. Pick us as your charity and Amazon then donates a portion of your purchase to us—Animals for Education—Critter Creek Wildlife Station. It costs you nothing extra to use AmazonSmile, but for us there is a reward of a monetary donation each month.



Additionally, Amazon has recently started Charity Lists. You go to Amazon.com or Smile.Amazon.com and then at the top of your screen under Account & Lists Click on AmazonSmile Charity Lists then search for Animals for Education and you will see our currently needed items and how many of each we need. You can then purchase an item and it will be sent directly to us. No muss; no fuss. Thank you for whatever support you can offer.

CIRCLE OF SUPPORTERS  
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Categories	Annual Dues
Student	\$ 15
Senior	\$ 15
Individual	\$ 25
Family	\$ 50
Sponsor	\$ 100
Patron	\$ 250
Corporate or Life	\$ 1000

Make checks payable to:  
Animals for Education

Members receive our quarterly newsletter  
Visit [CritterCreek.org](http://CritterCreek.org) to see back issues of the Chronicle

Mail to:  
Critter Creek Wildlife Station  
36710 Sand Creek Road  
Squaw Valley, CA 93675

## Release Sites Needed

As we enter the summer season, we need to begin looking for safe and appropriate release sites for: opossums, crows, pigeons, dove, ducks, Canada geese, hawks, Barn owls, Great Horned owls, kestrels, coyotes, fox, and raccoon. We define “safe” as away from busy roads, no attack dogs or cats, no nearby bait-poison or traps, adequate vegetation or cover and some access to water. By “appropriate,” we mean an environment suitable for that particular animal. The area needs to provide food resources and by that we don’t mean dog or cat food in someone’s back yard. While we try to return animals to the area they came from, that area may be too dangerous, so we are seeking other locations. As you can see from the pictures below of areas where we have released animals in the past, the environments are quite varied.

If you have an area we could use for releases, please take a picture and email it to [crittercreekwildlife@hughes.net](mailto:crittercreekwildlife@hughes.net) with your contact information.



### Simba the Caracal Enjoying His New Home

Simba was housed with two other exotic cats, but he didn’t always get along with them. We worried that if we moved him to his own enclosure he would miss his roommates. He is housed across from them so he can readily see them. Ever since his move, he has thrived. He has developed his own personality.

## Heron Creek Remodeled



Above: Creek with all rock removed

Below: Etching and Neutralizing



Heron Creek and Web-Foot Wash were first built in 2008. Over the past years we have had to clear all the rock along the creek bed to replace the pond liner because ground squirrels had chewed holes in it. This is a tremendous amount of work. We have had to go through this process at least twice. I don’t think there is a single volunteer at Critter Creek who hasn’t had to “pitch rock.” This last time we decided to try a more permanent solution--concrete. With the help of Rich Beatie and his Fresno Fence crew and the expertise of Shawn Conigliaro of MudDucks Concrete and his friend with a concrete pumper truck, we were able to get the job done pretty economically. Once the concrete was poured, it had to be etched, neutralized, and sealed. After those jobs were done, all the rock had to be put back in place. A big thank you to a volunteer work crew from Provost and Pritchard. These generous souls spent several hours covering the sides and bottom of the creek with river rock. We were able to restore the plants, none the worse for wear after we had set them aside when we first began the project. In the end the enclosure looks great. The heron, ducks, and geese are back in their home just in time for the hot summer days.



Creek with its coat of sealant rock. We were able to restore the plants, none the worse for wear after we had set them aside when we first began the project.



Volunteer work crew replacing river rocks



Heron Creek up and running