

**Yes! I want to support the next turtle that needs help!**

\$500    \$250    \$100    Surprise us \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make this donation:    **This One Time**    **Monthly**

*Please complete if your **contact information has changed***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge my **credit card**

Please find enclosed my **cheque**  
(payable to Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre)

Credit Card type: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Code from back of card: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Map Turtle Hatchling  
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Spring 2019

**Dear Wonderful Supporters across the province and beyond...**

We'd like to update you on a case we told you about in our last letter...



As you may remember, in the Fall, we removed a large mass from the mouth of this beautiful male snapping turtle. The sample was sent to a pathologist, who gave us the news that it was benign, so we had been excited about releasing him this spring.

However, as you can see in the photo to the left, this mass has started to regrow. We took three additional large biopsies, under anesthetic, and again they came back as benign. The mass is *acting* malignant, so **we need to get to the bottom of this if he is to have a chance at release.**

We want to give him the best chance possible, and so we have consulted with the specialists at the Ontario Veterinary College, who have agreed to carry out a CT scan on him, in order to find out more about the mass. This may lead to radiation treatment by their oncologist, depending on what is found.

**Needless to say, this carries a large cost – the CT scan will cost approximately \$1,000 and if radiation treatment is carried out, this will cost an additional \$4,000. If we are to be able to get these vital tests done, we need your help.**

**Since we have never seen a malignant tumour in a snapping turtle, we need to find out as much as we can about this case, so we can help others in the future.**

**Please help us to get this valuable member of the turtle community the help that he needs. Your donation will help us to help this turtle, and all that follow.**

Of course, this is only one of 869 turtles that we have overwintering with us! And most of these will be going 'home' in the spring. This takes a lot of work to ensure they are all in top shape to be released – all are microchipped before they go, and have full follow up exams including x-rays and blood where needed. All are returned to the closest appropriate body of water to where they were found...across Ontario!

**In 2018 we released a total of 2,100 turtles!**

Each one of these has their own story, and each one has received the care they need to be strong enough to be released.

<p><b>GIFT SHOP:</b> Our gift shop features unique items, not always available online. Visit us at 4-1434 Chemong Rd., Selwyn to shop in person. You may also shop online at <a href="http://www.ontarioturtle.ca">www.ontarioturtle.ca</a>. Purchase your signs and bumper stickers today – turtle season is just around the corner!</p>	<p><b>PLANNED GIVING:</b> A legacy gift in your will can have a tremendous conservation impact for years to come. It can assist in reducing taxes owed by your estate, while supporting your values and beliefs. Professional financial advice is strongly advised! For more information, email us at <a href="mailto:info@ontarioturtle.ca">info@ontarioturtle.ca</a>.</p>
<p><b>SAVE TURTLES AND TAXES - DONATE SECURITIES</b> Donating publicly traded securities (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, segregated funds) to the OTCC may provide you with significant tax benefits. Transferring securities listed on a public stock exchange directly to OTCC means you may not pay tax on capital gains. This may provide you with a tax saving of up to 50% and may be a greater tax savings than donating the cash proceeds from the sale of the securities, and you get a tax receipt based on fair market value. Contact us for more information – <a href="mailto:info@ontarioturtle.ca">info@ontarioturtle.ca</a></p>	<p><b>DONATE EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, OR SKILLS:</b> Our website "Wish List" covers it all! <a href="https://ontarioturtle.ca/donating-non-monetary/">https://ontarioturtle.ca/donating-non-monetary/</a> We also have an Amazon wish list: <a href="https://amzn.to/2VVYBMb">https://amzn.to/2VVYBMb</a> We LOVE and value our volunteers. Please email us at <a href="mailto:volunteer@ontarioturtle.ca">volunteer@ontarioturtle.ca</a> if you have time and/or specific skills to donate!</p>

Here is another example of the turtles we have overwintering, and an example of how saving one turtle, can actually lead to saving many turtles!



Before



After

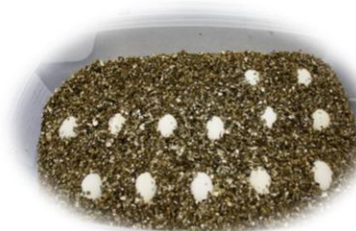
**When this turtle arrived, our veterinary staff leapt into action. Could she be saved?** Turtles have an amazing capacity for healing. So, **despite how severe her injury looked, we knew she had a chance.** Our experienced veterinary technicians began the admission process and made sure she was comfortable. They then took x-rays of her and were delighted to see that **she was carrying 13 eggs!**

The veterinary technicians also took blood samples so that we could follow her progress and ensure her treatment was going well. Next, she was anesthetized for her shell repair.

Once her condition was stable, our veterinarians induced her to lay her eggs, and these were collected and placed in one of our many incubators. **Thirteen beautiful babies hatched!**

Half of the turtles admitted to our hospital are females on their way to lay eggs. We make sure that none of these eggs are lost, and that they are collected, incubated, hatched, and released back to their mother's wetland. **In 2018, we incubated over 4,000 eggs!**

People often ask..."are you sad to see them go when they are released?" And we always respond that releasing is the best part of the job! To see them happily swimming off, to spend the rest of their very long lives in their wetland, is a feeling like no other.



**As you can imagine, with almost 1,000 admissions per year, there is a huge amount of work and cost to bring them back to health.**

**Your gift today allows us to take care of all of the turtles in our hospital, and assists in the purchase of the equipment and medical supplies necessary to ensure their care is the absolute best it can be.**

**Again, we can't say it enough...THANK YOU for enabling us to carry out our vital conservation work.**

**Without you, it would not be possible.** The turtles we release each year help to reverse some of the effects of roads on our wildlife, and buys time to keep populations healthy, while we as a society attempt to 'fix' the problem.

Sincerely,

Dr. Sue Carstairs

Executive and Medical Director, Ontario Turtle Conservation Centre