

May 2010

imagine a better world



If you can dream it you can achieve it

Growing, Growing, Growing

Beholdance is growing by leaps and bounds. Youth from all over the area are getting involved with conservation and community service through Beholdance. After three years of solid experience, the group is making a big impact locally, proving kids can make a positive difference. From the launch in July 2007, Beholdance has three operating youth chapters in North Carolina and is looking to expand. We have grown from 7 members to 159.

The Kannapolis Chapter membership is growing at each meeting and the group is working seamlessly together to create outstanding service projects. The Asheboro Chapter is growing as well as

their seniors are moving on to college and handing down their positions to other youth leadership. It is exciting to see the growth taking place. Some of our rising seniors are making an impact at their colleges.

To share a few of the numbers, we have topped 4578 Volunteer Service Hours since the inception. Beholdance youth have packaged over 13,680 pet meals for pets in need. They have sponsored surgeries for 4 children through the smile train and are getting ready to sponsor several more through recycling aluminum cans. We have sponsored children in Africa by providing vitamins to their clinic. Beholdance is gearing up for the launch of the first shipment of clothes for Ramona's Closet to Mexico in July 2010

where it will link youth in the US to youth in Mexico. Wildlife is safer and the Environment has been touched by caring young hands that have set out to make a difference locally and globally. Join us as we celebrate three years of success in conservation and community service managed by youth.

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Beholdance Ambassador / Guardian Programs Launch



2010

Get ready for the "Beholdance Conservation Ambassador" and "Beholdance Guardian" program launch in July 2010. Dakota Palacio, the Beholdance Founder has been hard at work, designing the program and working with web designers to design a tween/teen friendly website to support the new programs. The goal is to engage youth in service projects that help with environmental, humanitarian, and/or helping endangered or threatened species while engendering strong character and leadership in the youth that participate. To find out more visit the Beholdance website.

ACE / Beholdance Sell Spiders



Tori Cantales & Jaclyn Swartz

Yes, we said Spiders!

Beholdance teamed up with the Animal Career Exploration (ACE) Club at AL Brown High School for Spirit Week and hosted a Spider Sale to benefit Beholdance K9 Krunchies and Feline Munchies for senior's pets in need with Cabarrus Meals on Wheels (CMOW). For fun the group took advantage of the local rivalry between Kannapolis and Concord. The Wonders sold plastic spiders and candy. Students supporting the cause were asked to place their spiders into a three foot coffin that was delivered with the spiders, bug spray and other insect eradication items to Concord Spiders before the big football game.



Katie Waldroup, Dakota Palacio, Zac Swartz, Malia Barrett, Jaclyn Swartz

Hannah Love, Liz Mallory, Zac Swartz, Jaclyn Swartz, Katie Waldroup, Dakota Palacio, Tori Cantales, Malia Barrett, Renee Smith and Amanda Surles all took part in the sale. Also, to gain some additional donations, Dakota Palacio and Tori Cantales took on the cold weather and asked for donations at the gate for the big game. The group raised \$267.72 to support Beholdance K9 Krunchies and Feline Munchies.

K9 Krunchies & Feline Munchies – Packaging Continues

Packaging started immediately for CMOW after the ACE & Beholdance Spider Sale. The group packaged and delivered 88 pounds of dog food and 25 pounds of cat food. The group has also picked up over 500 pounds donated by Pets and Co that will be packaged in December for CMOW senior's pets.



Dakota Palacio & Olivia Reilly

Packaging is scheduled to continue as donations come in. The summer months are slow so we will be using the funds raised from the Spider Sale to cover the needed pet food.

To-date, 2007-2010, Beholdance has packaged over 13,680 pet meals.

Cabarrus Meals on Wheel

What a successful fundraiser and fantastic team!

Beholdance youth participated for their third year in the Cabarrus Meals on Wheels – Sunday Soup Sampling. This event brings in a lot of local people that support CMOW.

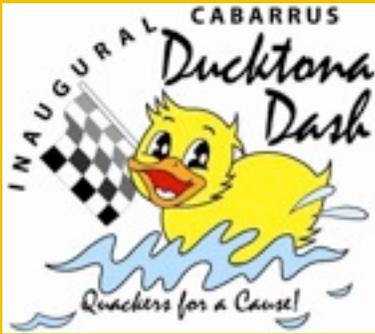


Jaclyn Swartz & Amanda Surles

Beholdance youth helped to serve guests, plate and serve deserts, refilled drinks for guests, distributed supplies, cleared tables and managed trash collection to help make the event smooth and enjoyable.

This year's Beholdance Team really did a great job pulling together. Guests usually arrive at various times; however, this year many came early so the event was packed with supporters. The Beholdance youth showed great teamwork and covered a wide variety of areas at the event. Join us in congratulating our Soup Sampling Beholdance Team Members: Zac Swartz, Dakota Palacio, Jaclyn Swartz, Amanda Surles, Tori Cantales.

Many of the Beholdance team members that attended the Soup Sampling have participated for three years and their experience was very evident and much appreciated. Outstanding Teamwork!



June 5, 2010

Calling all Race Fans!

Beholdance youth will be hosting a kid's zone for the Ducktona Dash. This is the first annual Duck Race to benefit Cabarrus Meals on Wheels and the local Free Clinic.

Come out and participate as they drop 4,000 rubber ducks into the lake at Frank Liske Park to see who is first across the finish line. Great prizes are available to winners of the duck race, including cash, private hot air balloon rides, Old Stone Vino Bistro Gift Certificates, Golf Club Round Passes, Clubhouse tickets to the NASCAR 300 race, Panther Tickets and more. Come enjoy a fun day in the sun for a good cause; enjoy Moon Walk, Games, Food, Arts and Crafts.

To help at the event, contact Dakota at dpalacio@beholdance.org to be added to the schedule. To join the fun you can adopt a duck for the race for \$5 or a Quack Pack of 5 ducks for \$20. If you want to enter the race contact us at info@beholdance.org or see an ACE or Beholdance member.

Treat the earth well.

It was not given to you by your parents,
it was loaned to you by your children.

We do not inherit the Earth from our Ancestors,
we borrow it from our Children.
Ancient Indian Proverb

Beholdance members pause for a photo with Can Guy at the Viva Verde Earth Day Festival.



Katie Waldroup, Tabatha Graham, DeAnna Butcher, Jamie Biggerstaff, Cory Hoyes, Robin Sherrill, Zac Swartz and Dakota Palacio

Viva Verde Earth Day Festival

April 24, 2010, Beholdance youth hosted earth and environmental education activities and games for the Viva Verde Earth Day Festival. Brad Swartz, Zac Swartz, Bill Hodge, Dakota Palacio, Cory Hoyes and DeAnna Butcher anchored the event and managed the prep work. Dakota managed the event and handled all the arrangements and ordering of supplies, DeAnna and Cory assisted with packing and set up, while Brad, Zac and Bill helped get the totes and games transported to and from the event. With everything set up bright and early, the group then enjoyed speaking to other youth at the event and playing games with younger kids.

Hannah Love and Dakota Palacio managed our information booth and spoke to visitors about local environmental issues as well as invited youth to come out and join Beholdance. Game booths were managed by Katie Waldroup, Tabatha Graham, Dustin Barringer, Devon Scott, DeAnna Butcher, Dakota Palacio, Cory Hoyes, Zac Swartz, Bill Hodge, Benjamin Cantales, Amanda Surles, Hannah Love, Adam Love, Jamie Biggerstaff, Robin Sherill, Haley Stewart, Renee Smith and William Osborne. Stevie Ray Wunder, Alisha Holt, Jose Silva from A.L. Brown's Environmental Club and the Beta Club joined Beholdance Youth to help out at the festival. Special thanks to Jonathan Palacio, Samantha Palacio, Saundra Spry, Michael Hoyes, Nadine Bucek, Leslie Palacio, and Brad Swartz who helped make the event successful by transporting members, games as well as helped anywhere needed for the event.

Pictured above, several Beholdance youth members taking a pause to have their picture taken with E the Recycle Can Guys to support recycling.

What event partners are saying...

"The cities of Concord and Kannapolis and Cabarrus County are grateful for all the help they provided at Viva Verde Earth Fest. I cannot praise Beholdance enough. There really aren't enough words to express my satisfaction in the job they did at Viva Verde Earth Fest and all the other programs they have been involved with.

My sincere thanks to Dakota and each and every Beholdance member who worked so hard to further education and service in this and other communities. The world needs more groups like yours!"

Amanda Smith-Thompson, Environmental Educator - City of Concord

SPEAK UP ~ ADD YOUR VOICE



Fewer Than 200 Remain

The Spirit Bear remains threatened on Princess Royal Island in Canada. As the trees continue to fall the bears are being forced out, which is affecting their gene pool. This is a huge tragedy because this bear is genetically unique. One out of 10 of the black bears turn white. They are not albino. The bears are being threatened by logging as well as trophy hunting.

Help us let Premier Gordon know we want a future that includes our Spirit Bear and it is up to him as Premier of British Columbia to ensure the bears survival.

Lear more and Join us, sign the petition at:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/142/help-save-the-spirit-bear>



Keep the Ban on Whaling

On Earth Day it was announced that the International Whaling Commission was working a deal to open commercial whaling for the next 10 years. Given the number of whales this places in danger, it is simply not acceptable after decades of work to protect the various species.

Whaling, should not be allowed and we wish the President and others in charge of the decision being made in regard to allowing whaling to consider the plight of the species. They are already battling Climate Change, Water Pollution, Dead Zones, Seismic Testing and many other factors that place them at high risk. To add whaling, would place many in the 'Endangered' category on the ESA as well as cause possible extinction if allowed for 10 years.

Lear more and Join us, sign the petition at:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/2/Keep-The-Ban-On-Commercial-Whaling>

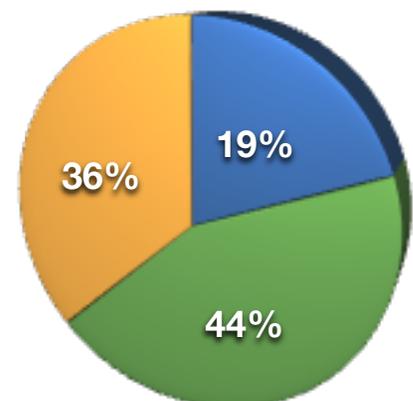


Airgun Seismic Surveys

Beholdance Youth Coalition is stepping forward to speak up for the wildlife and the waters off North Carolina as well as the North Atlantic to keep it safe from Airgun Seismic Surveys. This causes great harm to marine life including whales, dolphins, turtles and fish. Learn more and join us in signing the petition at:

<http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/Keep-NC-NorthAtlantic-Safe>

Beholdance Growth



- 7/1/1007-6/30/2008
- 7/1/2008-6/30/2009
- 7/1/2009-6/30/2010

Service Hours as of May 12, 2010, before 2010 year end close

May

May

June

July



Beholdance Youth planning up coming events, discussing environmental issues and taking steps to make a difference both locally and globally



10

Beholdance Kannapolis Chapter Meeting

5

Ducktona Dash

12

Beholdance Kannapolis Chapter Meeting

14

Beholdance Kannapolis Chapter Meeting

Watch for more coming events on the Beholdance Website

Strut Your Mutt & Birthdays to the Rescue



Strut Your Mutt is an annual event that takes place in communities where concerned pet owners step forward to make a difference. They come out to participate in a dog walk to help raise money for homeless pets. Locally, Olivia Reilly set up her book booth to help raise money for pets in need at the event. She asks for donations and trades a book for a donation. All the funds go to a group close to Olivia's heart.



Olivia Reilly

This selfless 7 year old comes to the rescue, quite literally. Olivia also traded her birthday presents for a fun day of animal activities. Helping add much needed funds to a local

start up animal rescue named Catering to Cats and Dogs.



Garage Sale For Habitat

The Asheboro Chapter hosted a garage sale to benefit Habitat for Humanity. The group got together early on March 20th for a great cause. Kiara Martin, Cory Mason, Kaitlyn Mason, Morgan Gaines, Heather Poe, Victoria Luther, Jacob Beason, Danielle Galipeau, Tiffany Seawell and Kathlene Rieger worked the event. Special thanks to Trish Vinocur and Missy Mason for their support. The group raised over \$400 for Habitat for Humanity in Asheboro.

Ramona's Closet

Shirts, pants, shorts and more continue to pour in for Ramona's Closet. Dakota has a utility room full of bags and boxes. After reviewing the quality of the clothes, it has been decided to break up the distribution of the clothes into areas of need. The business and professional cloths turned in will be going to Dress for Success in Charlotte, NC. The

group works to provide quality business and professional clothing to women in need in our area. Mens professional attire will be going to Career Gear and/or to other local programs helping men get back in the workplace. Temperature appropriate clothing will be separated and shipped to Mexico for Ramona's Outreach or to South Africa care of Umbono depending on the season. Others will be sent to local outreach programs so they can get into the hands of those in need rapidly. Shoes and sunglasses are needed in South Africa. Children and adult clothing is needed in Mexico.

Keep your eyes on Beholdance coming events as we will be hosting Wash-Dry-n-Sort events as large enough groups of clothes come in and are ready to be distributed. If you are interested in joining the laundry events and helping out with washing, drying, sorting and boxing contact Dakota Palacio at dpalacio@beholdance.org.

Green Tip...

Add 2 plastic small bottles of water to your toilet tank and save a half gallon to a gallon on every flush (for a family of 4, this save an average of \$90 a year on your water bill.)



Zac, Dustin and Bill cleaning up plastic guttering found on the roadside during litter sweep

May Litter Sweep

The morning was overcast and cool to start off litter sweep as members arrived and geared up for cleaning the Kannapolis Parkway on Saturday, May 1, 2010.



Bill Hodge

Zac Swartz, Bill Hodge, Dakota Palacio and Dustin Barringer, turned the first quarter mile stretch into a competition and they had well over 300 pieces of trash each when they stopped counting, which shows the level of littering taking place on the parkway. This just proves how important it is to care about the environment.

Several interesting things were found on the highway this sweep including: plastic guttering found by Bill Hodge and Zac Swartz, CD's found by Dakota Palacio, and a hard hat found by Dustin Barringer. The best wildlife finds go to Michael Waldroup who found a baby black snake and helped it back into the safety of the woods and to Brenda Waldroup and Amanda Surles who found a doe trying to find her way back to the woods. Michael Hoyes spotted our resident Black

Vultures circling high overhead, midway through the sweep, showing they have not left the area even with all the construction and are still calling the towers home. Also a resident Red Tail Hawk was seen soaring overhead down near the towers and a feisty Canadian Goose appears to have taken up residence in Tom's Pond near Caremoor.

This event was anchored by, Zac Swartz, Katie Waldroup, Devon Scott, Amanda Surles and Dakota Palacio and they shared their experience with several new Beholdance members Bill Hodge, Dustin Barringer, and Liz Mallory that came out to support the event. Special thanks to Jimmy Palacio, Brenda Waldroup, Michael Waldroup, Saundra Spry, Leslie Palacio and Michael Hoyes for being Safety Leads for the event and keeping everyone safe on the roadside.



Kannapolis Beholdance

The day ended up hot and steamy as the group wrapped up the event with 17 bags of trash and 3 bags of recyclables cleaned off the parkway. A mini sweep is scheduled for the end of July and our Anniversary Sweep will be in September in conjunction with the Governor's Litter Sweep Week.

Beholdance
Volunteer Service
Hours To-date:
4,578
7.2007 - 5.12.2010

Earth, Teach Me

Earth teach me quiet ~ as the
grasses are still with new light.
Earth teach me suffering ~ as old
stones suffer with memory.
Earth teach me humility ~ as
blossoms are humble with
beginning.
Earth teach me caring ~ as
mothers nurture their young.
Earth teach me courage ~ as the
tree that stands alone.
Earth teach me limitation ~ as
the ant that crawls on the
ground.
Earth teach me freedom ~ as the
eagle that soars in the sky.
Earth teach me acceptance ~ as
the leaves that die each fall.
Earth teach me renewal ~ as the
seed that rises in the spring.
Earth teach me to forget myself
~ as melted snow forgets its life.
Earth teach me to remember
kindness ~ as dry fields weep
with rain.

An Ute Prayer

Eco-Float Award Pays For Vitamins For Children In South Africa

Beholdance February Press Release:

Kannapolis, NC – (February 17, 2010) Beholdance is pleased to announce, "local youth service projects and compassionate outreach in action continues to cross borders and is making a positive difference," stated Dakota Palacio, Founder of Beholdance.

Founder, Dakota Palacio contacted Ron Davis, who is the CFO of the non-profit group called Umbono that helps people in South Africa. Palacio had learned that three Umbono pre-schools and one local clinic that Umbono created had children in need. To assist, the Beholdance youth created an environmental / conservation themed float to educate youth on the parade route about reuse, renew and recycling, one of Beholdance educational conservation messages. The group received second place in the civic category in both the Concord and Kannapolis Holiday Parades. Beholdance youth elected to allocate the prize money to a South African Service Project to help other children by purchasing vitamins to improve the health of their pre-school children.

Tim Morley at Cannon Pharmacy assisted with getting the most out of the prize money as well as donated an additional 25 bottles to the cause. Jordan Whitley, a regular visitor to South Africa with Umbono, delivered the Beholdance vitamins to the Manguzi Hospital's HIV/AIDS Clinic to the care of the physician-in-charge, Dr. Colin Pfaff. Due to education and extreme need in the area, the Umbono professionals, including Nic Vaughan-Hones - Umbono's "man-on-the-ground" chose to have the vitamins dispensed out of the local medical clinic to ensure the children most in need receive them and that there would be no waste. "Dr. Pfaff was very happy to get them," shared Davis.

"Beholdance is pleased to help make a positive difference in the lives of others. Our thanks to the Kannapolis and Concord Parade Sponsors and Organizers, Tim Morley at Cannon Pharmacy, Ron Davis and Jordan Whitley with Umbono and to all the Beholdance Youth that help create a winning conservation float that made it possible," stated Dakota Palacio.



CMOW Flapjack Breakfast



March 20, bright and early several Junior Board Member headed out to make a difference right here in their own community. They joined forces with Cabarrus Meals on Wheels (CMOW) for their Flapjack Breakfast Fundraiser at Applebee's in Concord, NC.

Tori Cantales, Amanda Surles, and Hannah Love (Jr. Board Members) and parent supporter Nadine Bucek managed to serve a restaurant full of CMOW guest. They handled hostessing, waiting on tables as well as clearing tables for the event. "These girls were fantastic," stated Lisa Church with CMOW.

Earth Hour

We made sure we got left in the dark!!!

On March 27th at 8:30pm millions of people, 1000s of cities, globally famous monuments... all switched off their lights for just 1 hour in a symbolic show of support for our one and only planet. It helped to give a clear message to leaders that we want to protect the planet.

One Simple Act. One Huge Message

Storm Drain Marking

Due to challenging weather over the winter and early spring storm drain marking was put on hold. It will resume in May.

At the last Beholdance meeting it was decided dates would be scheduled and anyone wishing to take part in the marking events will need to contact the team lead listed. Please check the Beholdance website and news for coming storm drain marking events.

Say What...

"During the set up of the Habitat Benefit dance, I helped in organizing the chairs for the guests to sit in. I also was in charge of putting the chips into many bowls. When the kids began to walk through the door and give their donation, I felt so excited at the fact that so many people cared about our vital cause. The event was a total success and I would really be interested in participating in another dance. This event inspired me to have the desire to be more involved with Beholdance."

Chris Morrison, Asheboro, NC

Asheboro Chair, Kiara Martin, in the News

Our very own, graduating senior, Kiara Martin recently was interviewed on Fox News about her high school / early college experience and the fact that since she was five she's never missed a day of school.

While being interviewed, Kiara also shared information about Beholdance as well as her future education and career goals. Take a minute and visit the link below to hear the interview for yourself.

We're proud of you Kiara and all that you have done for Beholdance.



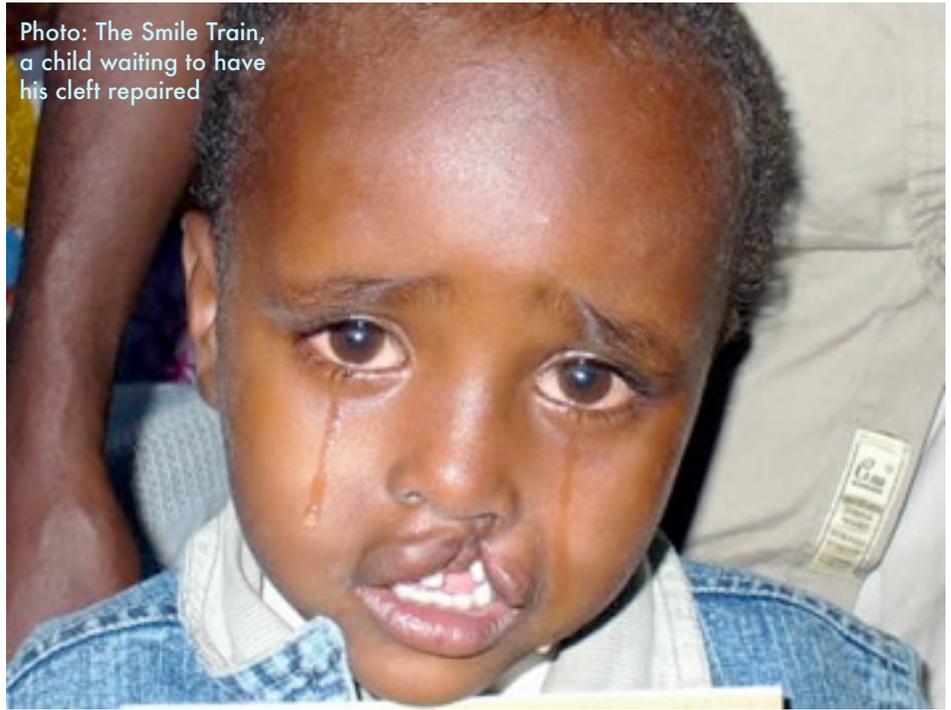
http://www.myfox8.com/news/inspiredliving/wghp-il-stupendous-student-100511_0.6482615.story

Beholdance Mission

To come together and take a look at issues effecting the health and well being of our planet and to stand up and give our youth a voice to our future, while instilling values, character and education regarding conservation and community service to better the world in which we live. To bring focus to our future because we are the generation that will inherit the earth and it is our voice and actions that will ensure it will be loved, protected and healthy for the coming generations.

www.beholdance.org

Photo: The Smile Train, a child waiting to have his cleft repaired



Beholdance Youth Changing Twelve Lives

Since the launch of Beholdance, one of the charities of choice selected by the youth members is The Smile Train, a leading cleft lip and palate repair organization.

The 2007-2008 Beholdance first year, the youth sponsored one surgery by recycling aluminum cans and using those funds to sponsor the surgery. The second year, the group was challenged by the economic down-turn and aluminum dropped from .60 a pound to around .22 a pound. This made it more difficult to do a complete surgery through recycling so the group held a quilt raffle as well as launched several individual service projects in local neighborhoods and schools to increase the can collections and funds. In 2008-2009, the Kannapolis youth were able to sponsor three surgeries.

This year, 2009-2010, with the economy still struggling the Beholdance youth members were able to raise enough through the recycling program to pay for one surgery. These collections included community can donations from First Bank, CISTECH and from other neighbors and Beholdance youth members.

To get the most out of the funds raised, Dakota Palacio called and spoke with leaders at the Smile Train to see if they were hosting any match grants and found out they were going to be holding a Triple Match near the last week of May through June 2nd. With this knowledge, Dakota went out to friends, family and neighbors that have been helping with the Beholdance recycling program and shared the news of the coming Triple Match. Many which feel strongly about the Smile Train and their mission as well as in support of Dakota and Beholdance made cash donations to take advantage of the match and the ability to help more children. With the extra effort, Dakota raised \$750 to add to the groups \$250. May 25th, a letter with a Triple Match Voucher and a total of \$1000 was mailed to the Smile Train in Washington, DC to sponsor a total of 12 surgeries. This will help children that have been waiting for surgeries to repair their clefts.

Beholdance is proud to sponsor these surgeries and is thankful for the Triple Match Sponsor, which helps to change more young lives. The youth hope to continue to sponsor for years to come.



Watch Out For Wildlife

We live in an age where forest and wildlife areas are being greatly challenged. Many of the natural areas where wildlife thrive is being paved over for shopping malls and residential developments. Beholdance youth is asking you to take an extra minute to watch



out for wildlife that is in the road way. Countless pets and other native wildlife are injured or killed by cars and trucks each day. With busy schedules and trying to meet deadlines or timeliness, we all lose track of the little ones

trying to make it around us that have alternative transportation options, such as hoof, wing or paw. This methods of transportation do not keep up with the 55+ mph cars and trucks we drive. So make a promise and pass with care. Watch out for wildlife in your area.

Ways you can assist...

Eastern Box Turtles

Eastern Box Turtles are starting to rapidly decline in numbers due in majority to traffic injuries or death. These slow moving land turtles do not understand, 'Get out of the road.' They are territorial and remain in the same area. they are the only land turtle found in North Carolina and slow to mature and have very few offspring per year. With the roadside challenges, this is making the numbers of turtles drop rapidly and conservation groups are trying to raise awareness.

If you see a box turtle crossing the road, take time to move it out of the road, in the direction it is headed. Please watch for traffic as the roadside often doesn't prove much safer for humans. If you cannot stop, please take extra precaution to not hit the turtle.

Their survival as a species depends on it.

No Butts

Another roadside hazard for many species is caused by cigarettes being tossed out the car window. If the cigarette is still lit it can create a fire, especially in dry seasons. The cigarette butts are just as big of an issues. Small animals tend to use the filter material for nest and while at the roadside they attract raptors and other birds of prey. These large birds are very single focused and if they are hunting they do not see the oncoming vehicle. They are often too large to lift off quickly and as a result get struck by the passing car or truck. Raptors have hollow bones and an injury like this is often fatal. Those few that do survive the hit too often end up abandoned on the roadside and left to starve or die of their injuries. This can be avoided by keeping your butts in the car and emptying them when you stop for gas or when you clean out your car. This is true for food and other litter.



Snakes, Frogs and Deer

Other native wildlife may be more prominent on the roadside during certain conditions. Before or after a rain storm, snakes and frogs are found in the road. This is because they are headed to higher ground. Please do not squeal your tires over a snake as it only injures the reptile and puts other passengers on the road in danger. Deer are more common in the early morning and late evenings on the roadside as well as in foggy weather so be on the lookout for these large animals. Trust us, you don't want a deer as a passenger in your car or to be a hit and run. It creates a great deal of damage to your vehicle and to the animal.

The Beholdance Promise

Make a promise to yourself and to the planet to watch out for wildlife and environmental challenges in our area. Make a commitment to consolidate your route when driving to help save energy and gas. Also promise to slow down and help protect local wildlife.

Special Thanks to...

Earth Day Pizza Box Sponsors

- Papa Johns
- Little Ceasers
- Pizza Hutt
- Dominaos

Beholdance Top Wildlife Concerns

- Right Whales, Bottlenose Dolphins, and Loggerhead Sea Turtles off NC
- Eastern Box Turtles in NC
- Gray Wolf
- Red Wolf
- Mexican Wolf
- Spirit Bear
- Polar Bear
- Bengal Tiger



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