

HELLO

Meet our two new permanent resident owls: Mr. Tufts and Savanna

"MR. TUFTS" is a great horned owl rescued in October 2009 at Veterans Park. A maintenance worker found the owl on the ground beneath a tree, unable to fly. Upon examination, we found that he had sustained an injury to his right wing in addition to head trauma and a fungal infection.

Great horned owls can be found from forests to deserts or even in city parks. They usually nest in abandoned nests of hawks or squirrels. Great horned owls have large yellow eyes, stocky bodies and visible ear tufts. Although these tufts are often mistaken for ears, they are actually there to aid in camouflage. They eat a wide variety of foods including rodents, skunks, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

"SAVANNA" is a female short-eared owl received in November 2009 with a fracture to her right humerus (wing). She was taken to a local veterinarian to pin her wing, but she is still not able to get full extension of her wing to sustain flight. Short-eared owls live in a variety of habitats including prairies, marshes, meadows, open fields and savannas. Short-eared owls are most often seen hunting at dawn and dusk (crepuscular). Their favorite foods are voles, small rodents, songbirds and insects. Short-eared owls are ground nesters and are uncommon in Northeast Ohio.

