



## **SUPER FLIGHT - The Story**

Just because the Bald Eagle has been saved from the brink of extinction doesn't mean our commitment to these beautiful birds is over. As their populations grow we will have to provide adequate facilities and professional care for those that become sick or injured. The Illinois Raptor Center (IRC) has admitted more Bald Eagles this year (2015) than all the eagles admitted in the last 23 years combined.

The IRC is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) professional rehabilitation facility serving the wildlife and people of Illinois with wildlife rehabilitation and conservation education since 1991. The IRC has been located on 25 acres along the Sangamon River in Decatur, IL, since it purchased the land in 1994.

The IRC is involved in raptor research projects with Millikin University and works closely with the University of Illinois' Wildlife Medical Clinic.

The IRC has 30 outdoor caging units for its education birds and a wildlife hospital with 36 outdoor hospital caging facilities and a barn that has been converted into a medium sized flight cage. Although the IRC has rehabilitated both Bald and Golden Eagles in our existing facilities, they aren't truly adequate for these giant birds.

The IRC is asking animals lovers, eagle lovers, and the people of Illinois who care about the conservation of Bald Eagles to join us in building the largest flight cage for eagles in the Midwest. The 400 foot flight will be able to handle the rehabilitative needs of numerous Bald or Golden Eagles at one time - as well as other native raptors in need of exercise before their release back to the wild.

Ameren Illinois has kindly come forward to fund Phase 1 of the project with materials and some volunteered labor to stake out the building perimeters and set eighty-five 24ft. long 6x6 posts in the ground. Posts are in the ground and braced as of this writing.

Phase 2 (our first crowd funding goal) will consist of framing the building which is estimated to cost \$56,000.

Phase 3 (our second crowd funding goal) will construct the roof (alternating steel siding and wood slats) which is estimated to cost another \$50,000.

Phase 4, the last phase, will consist of constructing walls (alternating steel siding and wood slats) and building doors to create sections. Then we will build perches and habitat. This final phase (our 4th and final crowd funding goal) is estimated to cost \$53,000.



This is the largest project and the most money we have ever asked from the public – but it is entirely worth it. And something that certainly needs to be done for continued conservation of these birds.

We are asking for small donations from a lot of people to make our four phase goal of \$159,000. Let's come together and do this!

### **Watch IRC's Super Flight Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8x2oEfcblOs&feature=youtu.be>

### **Donate through Paypal from our website**

<http://illinoisraptorcenter.org/>

### **Donate at PayPal Giving Fund**

<https://www.paypal.com/us/webapps/mpp/search-cause?charityId=145971&s=2>

### **Donate by mail to**

Illinois Raptor Center  
5695 W. Hill Road  
Decatur, IL 62522-9520

*'Nobody made a greater mistake  
than he who did nothing because he could only do a little.'*  
Edmund Burke





