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Bald Eagle Recovering After Entanglement in Fishing Line and Trapped in Neches River

The Nation's Bird Now in Care at Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center

 [\[Hi-Res Images and B-roll Available Here\]](#)

HOUSTON (April 15, 2025) — A bald eagle, estimated to be more than 4-years-old, is recovering at the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center after being rescued from the Neches River in late March. The eagle's wing was caught by a fishhook, attached to some fishing line hanging from a nearby tree. The entanglement left the national bird [trapped in chest-high water](#) and unable to fly to safety.



Following the rescue, the eagle was transported to the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center where the embedded fishhook was successfully removed from his wing. The eagle is currently regaining strength and mobility in the Center's Outdoor Flight Complex, a key step in preparing for the bird's release back into the wild. Wildlife specialists expect a full recovery as the eagle begins practicing flight in a safe, open-air environment. [You can watch the eagle's first flight since the rescue here.](#)

Wildlife enthusiasts can follow the eagle's progress live via the [Houston SPCA's wildlife cams](#) until the bird is ready to return to its natural habitat.

Did You Know?

- The bald eagle has been the national symbol of the United States since 1782.
- They can fly up to 10,000 feet and dive at speeds of 75–100 mph to catch prey.
- After facing extinction in the lower 48 states, bald eagle populations have made a remarkable recovery and were removed from the federal endangered species list in 2007.
- A bald eagle's wingspan can reach over 7 feet — nearly the width of a small car!

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