FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The question is not, can they reason?
Nor, can they talk?
But, can they suffer?
—Jeremy Bentham, philosopher, 1780
Wildlife often present to veterinarians and wildlife rehabilitators with conditions that warrant euthanasia. It can be difficult, however, to apply mammalian methods of euthanasia to species with unique physiology such as reptiles. This interactive presentation will use cases to discuss practical euthanasia methods for reptiles and the (brief) physiology behind these methods compared to others. Emphasis will be placed on freshwater turtles as these represent some physiological extremes.

Dr. Renée Schott will present this live webinar event. Dr. Schott is the Medical Director and a Senior Veterinarian at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (WRCMN), one of the largest rehabilitation centers in the country. Renée has been involved in wildlife rehabilitation for over 15 years and she has worked at WRCMN for over 10 years. Additionally, Dr. Schott teaches courses at the University of Minnesota-College of Veterinary Medicine and she is a Course Instructor for the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. Renee is also a former member of the National Wildlife Rehabilitators Association Board of Directors.

Lecture topics will include:

- Wildlife rehabilitation definition
- Pain?
- Legalities
- Definition of euthanasia
- Evaluating euthanasia methods
  - Animal factors
  - Human factors
  - Remains (carcass) factors
- We must view the above considerations with a practical systems view or process flow

- Case example #1: Snapping turtle brought to a wildlife rehabilitator, obtunded from trauma, barely alive
- Case #2: Painted turtle presents to veterinary clinic BAR but with carapacial fracture over the caudal spine, rear end paralysis, and no deep pain
- Case #3: Common garter snake presents BAR but with spinal fracture and no deep pain to the tail

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**About Lafeber Company**

*Lafeber Company* was built by a father-son team of veterinarians with a shared love of animals and a special passion for birds. Dr. T.J. Lafeber developed the very first commercial bird food pellets in the back room of his veterinary clinic in the early 1970's. Today, our exotic animal diets and critical care formulas are developed by his son, Dr. Ted Lafeber, III along with top veterinarians and nutritionists. An independent laboratory tests every diet to insure optimum pet health. Lafeber Company also consults leading experts in behavior so that our diets promote dietary enrichment.