

Training

All trainees must be at least 18 years of age and in reasonably good health without a compromised immune system.

- 🐾 Sign and return all consent and volunteer forms.
- 🐾 Attend 2-3 hour orientation session.
- 🐾 Update tetanus.
- 🐾 Partner with a veteran volunteer for 4-12 weeks.

Challenges

- ↓ Committing to and completing at least one 4-hour shift per week.
- ↓ Learning many procedures and protocols. Volunteers must not be sensitive to correction as this is often how one learns.
- ↓ Not knowing what's ahead. Given the population, it's impossible to plan or anticipate every situation that will arise during a shift.
- ↓ Working under stress. This is often the case during "baby season" when the population is high and very needy.
- ↓ Must be able to witness loss of life as only 50-55% of population are successfully rehabilitated.

Typical Shift

- 🐾 Priority is feeding, medicating, and treating all wildlings.
- 🐾 Read log and charts prior to any care.
- 🐾 Make diets and prepare food, documenting any food shortage in log. Morning shifts defrost food for raptors.
- 🐾 Feed, medicate and treat all inside and outside wildlings per directions, refreshing and cleaning cages. Log your activities, being sure to document any behavior change.
- 🐾 Do dishes and laundry, documenting any shortage of supplies.
- 🐾 At the end of the shift, if time allows, replenish food dishes for next shift.



Expectations

- 🐾 Wash hands before and after attending each wildling.
- 🐾 Use sterilizing techniques when cleaning cages, dishes, etc.
- 🐾 Lock all cages.
- 🐾 Wear protective gloves with high risk wildlings.
- 🐾 Notify director immediately if any animal appears to be sick.
- 🐾 Report all bites to the director.
- 🐾 Voices must always be low and soft as to not disturb wildlings.
- 🐾 Learn and follow all procedures and instructions given by the wildlife rehabilitator.
- 🐾 Surrender any and all wild animals to WWI.
- 🐾 Understand the goal is the successful release of wildlings into their appropriate natural habitat.

Additional Info

- 🐾 During "baby season" (April through Sept) nearly 70% of the work is inside the facility.
- 🐾 Almost 50% of your time will be spent cleaning and changing cages.
- 🐾 There is written protocol for every facility usage - Intensive Care Unit, sinks, laundry, aviaries, cages, etc.
- 🐾 Novice volunteers will not be handling mammals or high risk wildlings. With demonstrated desire and aptitude, volunteers can increase hands-on skills over time.
- 🐾 WWI treats between 300-500 wildlings a year, releasing 50-55%. Thousands of volunteer hours are devoted to their treatment and care.
- 🐾 Without the commitment and hard work of our valued animal care volunteers, WWI would not exist and thousands of wildlings would not have a second chance at life. If you're up to the challenge, give us a call.

Reasons for Dismissal

- 🐾 Incompetence and no signs of improvement.
- 🐾 Constant unexcused absence or tardiness.
- 🐾 Inattention to detail that may harm animals.
- 🐾 Conflict with other volunteers.
- 🐾 Disrespect to any wildling.
- 🐾 Extreme emotional sensitivity to procedures.
- 🐾 Keeping and/or treating wildling as pet.
- 🐾 Behavior detrimental to the health, safety, or reputation of our wildlife program, including gossip or idle talk that could be damaging to the center, staff or other volunteers.

Rewards

Without question, the greatest rewards of being a WWI animal care volunteer are the personal experiences you will have and the satisfaction of knowing you've played a part in the successful rehabilitation of many precious wildlings.

"Being an animal care volunteer at WWI is hard work, but if you stick with it you will have amazing experiences you would never have dreamed of having."

CATHIE DONOHOE, VETERAN WWI VOLUNTEER



Volunteer Application

(Please Print)

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip _____

Email _____

Best Time to Call _____

Preferred Phone _____

Birth Date _____

Briefly state why you would like to be a WWI animal care volunteer: _____

Directions to Facility

Heading South on Rte 119 through Youngwood, turn right at Chestnut St (McCauley's Funeral Home). Drive to end of road. WWI is last house on right before pond.

Heading North on Rte 119 through Youngwood, turn left at Chestnut St (Youngwood Fire Department sign at this intersection.) Drive to end of road. WWI is last house on right before pond.

Please Note: The wildlife center is closed to the public except for pre-scheduled appointments to deliver injured or orphaned wildlings and scheduled volunteer orientations.



Wildlife Works, Inc.

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Animal Care Volunteers

