

Our Mission at Wild for Life is to provide qualified, professional care, housing and nutrition to injured and orphaned wildlife until they can be returned to their native wild habitats; as well as, educate the public regarding native wildlife, wildlife habitats, conservation and preservation of the precious environment we share.

Wild for Life Volunteer Expectations

1. When you **commit** to a time and date, we expect you will be here. We understand there may be times you might not be able to make your scheduled time, but please let us know in advance if possible. Please call, no matter what.
2. When at Wild for Life, we expect that you **stay on your given task** and that you give 100% effort. We will never ask you to do anything we wouldn't. We aren't here to socialize for long periods of time or to baby-sit children. We have our own wild babies to feed!
3. As a vital part of this small organization, we want you to **ask questions** – about your tasks, about an animal, or what ever. We are all here to learn from each other. Ask for help if you need it.
4. Volunteers do not start out feeding and caring for rehabilitation animals. **Volunteers that wish to have animal contact begin with cage cleaning and dish washing.** We want to know you are committed to our cause. With time you may progress to caring for animals but patience and dedication is mandatory.
5. When working with or **around rehabilitation animals, we whisper quietly if something needs to be said. We don't cuddle or play with rehab animals.** This is to prevent humanization (imprinting) and reduce stress. We want our rehabilitation animals to remain as wild as possible so we limit human contact to a minimum. Many of the animals at Wild for Life are potentially dangerous, so please be extremely cautious when working around or in an enclosure. Volunteers may only enter animal enclosures (whether it's a big flight cage or a small carrier) with the permission from a Director, Staff Member, or Volunteer Coordinator.
6. We want you to **have fun and learn** a lot. But please understand **that there are many dirty aspects** to working at a wildlife center including poop scooping, cage cleaning, and paper pushing. We all have to do some of it.
7. We request you are current on your Tetanus vaccination. Let us know if you get cut. We want to make sure it is cleaned and bandaged properly to prevent infection. We have only had one person lose a finger to a wild animal. Just kidding, but we never want that to happen. If working directly with rehabilitation animals, we encourage you to receive rabies preventative vaccinations.

8. **Wash your hands** frequently. Get in the habit of washing your hands with Calstat (waterless hand cleaner) between animals and enclosures. We recommend that you wear rubber gloves when cleaning cages or feeding birds of prey. This is for your safety and the safety of the animals! Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water before leaving the facility.
9. **Sign out** using your time sheet in the office. This helps us keep track of how many volunteer hours are committed to Wild for Life on an annual basis.
10. Each new volunteer goes through a **four-month “Review Period”**, receiving a two-way evaluation (we evaluate you, and you evaluate us) at the end of the third month. This is to ensure that you are dedicated, happy, and committed to our mission. Wild for Life will periodically (approximately 1 time a year) give **two-way evaluations to all its volunteers**. This is so the organization can consider what needs to be improved from your perspective and also allows Wild for Life the opportunity to give you feedback on what’s going well and where improvements can happen. Suggestions for improvement should never be taken as a criticism but as an opportunity to grow in your personal weaknesses (we all have them because no one is perfect). We believe that these evaluations strengthen our organization while allowing each of us involved in the organization to improve our weaknesses.

If at any time you feel uncomfortable, confused, or frustrated, please let us know. We are in this together, here to help, and make your volunteering at Wild for Life an awesome experience.

Pre-Volunteer Questionnaire
Wild for Life: Center for Rehabilitation of Wildlife, Inc.

Name _____ Date _____
Address _____
Email _____
Phone _____
Date of Birth _____
Age (required only if under 18) _____
Emergency Contact _____
Emergency Phone Numbers _____

1. To gain a better understanding of your interests, please check the following activities and projects you would like to be involved in. What are you interested in?

Grounds Maintenance

- Path/Nature Trail up keep
- Planting
- Flower bed maintenance (weeding/pruning)
- Mowing
- Painting
- General maintenance/repair

Administrative Assistance

- Grant writing
- Paper filing and organizing
- Making phone calls/answering the phone
- Preparing mail outs
- Website articles
- Working on the newsletter
- Researching potential donors, corporate partners, and other means of funding
- Working on the annual benefit
 - Events Logistics (location, food vendors, music contracts)
 - Acquisitions of prizes for Raffle and Silent Auction
 - Marketing (radio, TV, magazine, newspaper, bill board ads and distributions of promotional materials)
 - Seeking Corporate Sponsorship and Ticket Sales

Animal Care and Support

Please note that all Animal Care and Support volunteers begin by cleaning cages and washing dishes. Just because Animal Care is a selected interest, does not mean you will be selected to give hands-on care for animals.

- Cage Cleaning
- Washing and Disinfecting Dishes & Carriers
- Preparing food (chopping fruit, sorting worms)
- Feeding educational Birds of Prey (they eat dead mice)

- Cleaning the enclosures of the Birds of Prey
- Feeding Rehab Animals (mostly songbirds)
- Feeding Farm Rescue Animals
- Support in medical procedures
- Animal Transport
- Handle educational Birds of Prey
- Enrichment (preparing entertaining objects for educational animals)

Cage Building/Cage Maintenance

- Cage Maintenance
- Specific cage construction
- Cage Repair
- Making perches in enclosures
- Roost box construction

2. What experience do you have in your interest areas?

3. Do you have other interests at Wild for Life? What are they?

4. What are your expectations of volunteering at Wild for Life?

5. Do you have your Tetanus vaccination?

YES

NO

6. What times are you available?

Week days

Afternoons

Mornings

Evenings

Specific day: _____

Saturdays

Afternoons

Mornings

Evenings

Time may vary week to week

7. What type of time commitment are you willing to make?

- More than once a week
- Once a week
- Every other week
- Monthly

8. What are two qualities you would use to describe your work ethic?

9. What are two strong qualities/characteristics you will bring to our organization?

10. What are some of your weaknesses?

11. Do you work better independently or in a group? Why?

12. Have you visited our website? (www.wildforlife.org)

- YES
- NO

13. I have read, understand, and agree to comply by the Wild for Life Volunteer Expectations:

- YES
- NO

Once we receive and review your pre-volunteer questionnaire, we will contact you. If we feel that you will be an asset to our organization, we will schedule an interview and tour of Wild for Life.

Please mail your pre-volunteer questionnaire section only (retain the expectations section for your files) to:

Wild for Life
33 Possum Trot
Asheville, NC 28806

Phone: 828/ 665-4341
Website: www.wildforlife.org