

VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT – Red Creek Wildlife Center

I understand it is a privilege to work with wild animals; and it also entails responsibilities. A RCWC volunteer shall always be compassionate in dealing with the wildlife in their care, other staff members, and the public.

AS A VOLUNTEER I WILL:

- Show up for my scheduled shift or give at least 24 hours' notice via telephone (570.739.4393) that I will be unable to be at the center on my scheduled day. Two failures to appear without notification will result in removal from the volunteer program.
- Wear the proper gloves and/or protective gear for handling each species as recommended by RCWC or any State and Federal regulations. Gloves and goggles are provided at the facility.
- Follow all steps and precautions to prevent escape of an animal, injury to an animal or injury to myself and other volunteers. This includes strict adherence to double door and slider cage procedures in place to prevent attack or escape.
- Notify Staff IMMEDIATELY if I am bitten or scratched by any animal and the skin is broken or any injury occurs while volunteering.
- Notify Staff IMMEDIATELY if an animal is injured, escapes, or if its condition is or appears to be otherwise threatened or in distress, at any time.
- Maintain all standards of cleanliness and personal hygiene for the protection of both myself and the animals.
- NOT handle any RVS (rabies vector species - raccoons, skunks, fox, coyotes, bats and groundhogs) without obtaining RCWC RVS CERTIFICATION and providing proof of rabies immunity. Proof of immunity includes pre- and post-exposure rabies vaccination documentation or a current blood titer showing adequate protection. Volunteers must have a copy of their vaccines and/or titer in their file. Titers must be rechecked every two years.
- Follow the care and feeding instructions given to me by RCWC.
- NOT handle or open cages of animals with which you do not have experience.
- UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE will a volunteer bring a visitor, family or guest with them to the center. ONLY approved volunteers will be permitted on the premises.
- GNOCHING, CODDLING, OR BABYING REHAB ANIMALS IS STRICKLY PROHIBITED!!!! Human imprinting in a wild animals means its death! There are no warnings with this rule. This is an immediate expulsion from RCWC.
- Not leave the center until ALL assigned tasks are complete. This includes but not limited to: scrubbing all cages, changing all paper, making sure all animals are fed and have fresh water, dishes washed, garbage removed and floor swept. Remember there will be volunteers the following day. Please leave the center how you would like to find it.
- Not record, and not post or share any pictures or videos taken at RCWC or during RCWC related activities on social media, without prior written permission from a member of RCWC staff.
- Become familiar with the organization's mission statement, philosophy, policies, and procedures.
- Refrain from confrontations with the public. People bringing in animals are often emotional, and in some cases may have made poor decisions or handled the animal inappropriately. These situations offer a chance at educating the person so better choices can be made in the future. Such interactions are to be conducted by staff, board members and only those volunteers who have been promoted to Public Relations duties.
- Be team players and support staff and other volunteers and be considerate about the views of staff, other volunteers, and clients. Refrain from argumentative and disruptive behavior with staff and other volunteers. Remember, you will be working with others who are also volunteering their time. Negative interactions can make others decide to stop volunteering which would be damaging to our mission. Please leave politics and personal opinions at the door. Together, we are a community joined in the task of saving wildlife.
- It is important to realize that a volunteer will be exposed to many zoonotic diseases (those transmissible from animals to humans). While ordinary common sense and good hygiene will prevent infection, I understand that it is important to tell my doctor that I work with wildlife on a regular basis.

By signing below, I agree with the terms and conditions of volunteering at RCWC.

I understand that RCWC retains the right to terminate any volunteer who does not adhere to these rules and principles.

Volunteer signature: _____ date: _____

RCWC Representative _____