Volunteer Information and Agreement

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with The Wilderz at Pocono Wildlife! Your dedication and time allows us to care for over 3,000 animals a year. Without the helping hands of volunteers like YOU, we would not be able to keep up with the volume of animals we take in. For every hour spent preparing food bowls, feeding baby squirrels, or cleaning cages, you are giving an animal another chance.

Volunteering at a wildlife facility is 90% custodial. This means the majority of the work done is spent cleaning. Whether it be cleaning cages, dishes, laundry, or the facility itself, it all is extremely important in maintaining the health and safety of our patients and staff.

Our volunteers are trained based on their attention to detail, ability to follow instruction, show of commitment, and willingness to learn. No previous experience is necessary to be a volunteer with us. We do require at least a 3 hour commitment when volunteering (that means not coming in 3 times a week for 1 hour, but rather coming in 1 time a week for 3 hours) as many tasks require extended periods of time. The variety of animals we intake are highly seasonal. The majority of our patients come in during baby season: late March through September, when we’d need the most amount of support.

I understand it is a privilege to work with wild animals; and it also entails responsibility. As a volunteer with The Wilderz at Pocono Wildlife, I shall always be compassionate in working with wildlife in our care.

AS A VOLUNTEER, I WILL:

* Show up to my scheduled shift or give at least 24 hours notice that I will be unable to work.
* Wear proper personal protective equipment for handling each species.
* Notify staff if I am bitten or scratched by an animal in our care while volunteering.
* Maintain cleanliness and personal hygiene for the protection of both myself and the animals.
* No perfumes, colognes, or fragrances
* Not handle any Rabies Vector Species (skunks, raccoons, foxes, coyotes, bats, and groundhogs) without obtaining RVS Certification and providing proof of immunity.
* Complete all assigned tasks to the best of my abilities in a timely manner.
* Become familiar with the organization’s mission statement, policy, and procedures.
* Bring an enthusiastic and hard-working attitude when I come in to the center.

It is important to recognize that a volunteer may be exposed to many zoonotic diseases (those that are transmissible from animals to humans). While common sense and good hygiene can 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 with The Wilderz at Pocono Wildlife.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_