

## **Internship Opportunity: Full Time Wildlife Rehabilitation Intern**

### **Program Description**

This internship at **Walden's Puddle, Wildlife Center of Greater Nashville** will provide on-the-job training in basic wildlife rehabilitation skills. Interns will work full-time under the supervision of professional wildlife rehabilitators and trained wildlife caregivers.

Skills learned will include wildlife species identification and safe handling techniques, nutrition and general care of native wild species and the rehabilitation and care of sick, injured and orphaned wildlife. Interns will assist with animal care, wildlife nursery, and care of our education animal collection

### **Intern will be involved in all aspects of wildlife care including but not limited to:**

- Basic wildlife species identification
- Wildlife Nutrition
- Preparing food/diets for a wide variety of species
- Wildlife care and disease prevention
- Cleaning and maintaining caging for a wide variety of wildlife species (primarily mammals, birds, reptiles)
- Proper disinfection with respect to wildlife health and disease transmission
- General support tasks
- Assistance with medical care
- Administering prescribed medications and fluids
- Assisting the staff with treatments
- Learning how to look for and recognize signs of illness in birds, mammals and reptiles
- Handling and Restraint
- Becoming proficient with safe handling and restraint of wild animals during treatments and all aspects of general care
- Orphan Care
- Feeding and providing care for young orphaned wildlife
- Learning leadership skills in a fast paced, dynamic work environment

## **Commitment**

Participants in our full time internship program will be scheduled 4 (10 hour) days per week for a minimum of 12 weeks.

## **Requirements**

All applicants must be self-motivated individuals with a sincere interest in working with wildlife and the ability to enthusiastically work long hours. Attention to detail, punctuality, initiative and a strong desire to learn are required.

- A motivated self-starter who is mature, responsible and reliable
- A detail oriented individual, able to quickly adapt to new and fast paced situations
- Ability to work hard and work well under pressure
- Intern will possess a strong personal work ethic, high level of integrity
- A strong team player (interns will work closely with volunteers and staff)
- Intern must be able to handle emotional aspects of euthanasia
- Basic knowledge of Tennessee wildlife species an asset
- Demonstrated interest or education in wildlife rehabilitation, conservation, biology, ecology or zoology
- Volunteer experience in wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife management or animal care is beneficial but not required
- Must be able to handle a demanding workload and perform in a fast-paced environment
- Good communication skills and interpersonal skills
- Physically fit – work is physically demanding and may involve heavy lifting (up to 40lbs) of supplies or animals
- Minimum age of 16
- Sense of humour a plus