



“...responsible stewardship of wildlife and habitat.”

Seasonal Wildlife Care Assistant - Job Profile

Overview

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah (WRCNU) is the only wildlife rehabilitation center in Northern Utah and the largest one in the state. We provide a place for the public to bring orphaned or injured wildlife with the goal of rehabilitating and releasing healthy individuals back to nature. We admit close to 3,600 patients annually of native Utah birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians as well as migratory species. The majority of the animals we see come to us during the “baby season” which typically runs April 1 to August 31.

Position Summary

WRCNU is seeking Seasonal Wildlife Care Assistants to provide daily care of injured or orphaned wildlife during our “baby season.”

Job Duties

Include but are not limited to:

- Diet preparation for assigned species in care (may include dead prey including mice, insects, and quail.)
- Daily feeding of species assigned in care.
- Daily cleaning of animal enclosures which may include hosing and scrubbing of indoor kennels.
- General cleaning including sweeping/mopping floors, washing dishes, washing/drying and folding laundry, disinfecting counters and sinks.
- Reporting maintenance or safety hazards to the rehabilitation staff.
- Additional duties, as requested by staff.

Qualifications

- Must be a self-motivated individual with a sincere interest in working with wildlife.
- Attention to detail, punctuality, reliability and a strong desire to learn are desired.
- Must demonstrate personal accountability to ensure that all responsibilities are completed effectively and in a timely manner.
- The individual must be able to read, write and speak English fluently.

Work Environment

- The position is physically demanding, fast-paced, repetitive and will require standing for long periods of time.
- Lifting and hauling items up to 20 lbs., including trash and recycling, may be required.
- Consistent exposure to animal odors, allergens and animal waste may be expected.
- The individual must be able to work both independently and cooperatively as part of a team which includes volunteers, interns and staff.
- The individual will be expected to follow all applicable rules, regulations and protocols of WRCNU and be expected to represent WRCNU professionally at all times
- The individual must be able to deal with the likelihood of dead or dying animals that are under WRC care and rehabilitation.
- The position may require interaction with members of the public who have adverse or little understanding of the wildlife laws, care or treatment of wildlife.

[Do not complete the Application until you have fully read and understood the next page titled, “A Serious Commitment.”](#)

A Serious Commitment

If you are considering volunteering with the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah, we ask that you take the risks of Covid-19 very seriously. All of our volunteers must be compliant with the CDC Covid-19 guidelines. Please do not put our facility or wildlife at risk. We are the only center for wildlife in Northern Utah, treating over 3,600 patients annually. If our facility is unable to remain open and operational, **any** native wild animal in need of assistance will have no options other than to suffer or be euthanized.

We are only accepting a small number of new volunteers this year and will be working with a minimal staff in order to ensure the ability to remain physically distanced. The center is largely volunteer-driven and our patients depend on us for their food, housing, and medical needs. This means each volunteer and their role at WRCNU is essential. We ask potential volunteers to evaluate their schedules and other commitments before they join our team. Volunteers are expected to attend their scheduled shift every week - missing a scheduled shift can impact our patients' lives! We do understand that there may be times when you will need to miss a day. Please let us know as far in advance as possible (several days or more) so that we can ensure coverage of your shift.

All incoming volunteers are required to commit to a regular volunteer shift for the duration of our "Baby Bird Season", this runs through August. Many volunteers continue to volunteer after this period, but this is the minimum we require. During the winter, shifts may be shortened depending on the need and availability of volunteers. At any given time, some shifts may be full and not open to new volunteers.

Additionally, Wildlife Rehabilitation is a Dirty Job!

Our work is tedious, dirty, and often physically demanding. Most tasks involve cleaning, carrying things, bending down, and being on your feet for the duration of your shift.

There is a lot of poop, dirty things, and live mealworms involved. We must utilize and prepare many whole animal foods including dead mice, rats, fish, etc. which we purchase from animal food vendors. If you are squeamish or do not like cleaning, you may want to consider other options.

Please dismiss any images of Snow White or Animal Planet from your imagination! What we do and how we do it, is governed by state and federal laws that we must follow. We are working with wildlife and must take care to respect them and their needs. We are here to help them; they are not here to entertain us. This means we do not cuddle or talk to our patients. Their need to remain wild is our utmost priority. If you are seeking an opportunity to connect with and cuddle animals, please consider volunteering at a domestic animal rescue.