



BLUE RIDGE Wildlife Center

Want To Get Hands On With Wildlife?

Wildlife Rehabilitation Internship

The Blue Ridge Wildlife Center (BRWC) is a full-service wildlife hospital and rehabilitation center located in Boyce, Virginia, caring for 2,000+ native mammals, birds, and reptiles annually. The BRWC provides qualified students the opportunity to get hands-on experience assisting with the daily husbandry of these animals.

Learning Opportunities Include: Native wildlife identification, species-specific handling techniques, husbandry of native wildlife, rehabilitation of injured and orphaned wildlife, knowledge of wildlife diseases and toxins, learning how to educate the public on wildlife issues, opportunities to work with our wildlife veterinarian, mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts, and general natural history of the species we see.

Intern Expectations and Responsibilities:

Rabies-vaccinated applicants will be given preference. Non-vaccinated applicants will not be allowed to handle any of the 5 rabies vector species we care for (Raccoons, Foxes, Bats, Skunks, Groundhogs). Full-time and part-time internship opportunities are available on a rolling basis, but are generally expected from **January - April, May - August, September - December.** Internships must be a duration of at least 3 months up to a year. Full-time interns work 5 days/week. Part-time interns work 3 days/week. Housing may be available for full-time interns in the summer only. Interns must be able to work a flexible schedule, including weekends, evenings, and holidays. Opportunities to work with our wildlife veterinarian will be available, but this internship's focus will be primarily on rehabilitation. Interns will have several areas of responsibility including:

- Feeding birds, mammals, and reptiles of all different ages (dependent on season).
- Cleaning and maintaining caging for a wide variety of wildlife species (mammals, birds, reptiles).
- Preparing diets for all species in care.
- Admitting new patients & following protocols to properly prepare for their continued care.
- Keeping records on all patients and entering data into our computer database.
- Learning how to recognize signs of illness in young birds and mammals.
- Assisting staff with wildlife rescues and releases as needed.
- General cleaning and projects required to maintain the efficiency of the facility.

This work is physically demanding and fast paced. Interns must be in good physical condition, enthusiastic to learn new skills, and able to work outdoors in all weather conditions.

Application Procedure: Please send a resume, cover letter, and 2 letters of recommendation to:

Jessica@blueridgewildlifectr.org

Jessica Andersen
Blue Ridge Wildlife Center
106 Island Farm Ln
Boyce, VA 22620

Cover letter should include: Dates and duration of internship, whether housing is needed, whether the applicant is rabies vaccinated, what the applicant will get out of this internship, and what makes the applicant a good choice for an internship at the Blue Ridge Wildlife Center.

FOR INTERNSHIPS BETWEEN MAY AND AUGUST, APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 1ST.

All other prospective internship materials should be received at least one month prior to internship start date.