



TreeHouse Wildlife Center Volunteer Packet

Name: _____

Please return via: drop off, email (no photos), or mail in.

treehousewildlifecenter@gmail.com

23956 Green Acres Rd., Dow, IL 62022

Wildlife Rehabilitator's Code of Ethics

A wildlife rehabilitator should strive to achieve high standards of animal care through knowledge and an understanding of the field. Continuing efforts must be made to keep informed of current rehabilitation information, methods, and regulations.

A wildlife rehabilitator should be responsible, conscientious, and dedicated, and should continuously work toward improving the quality of care given to wild animals undergoing rehabilitation.

A wildlife rehabilitator must abide by local, state, provincial and federal laws concerning wildlife, wildlife rehabilitation and associated activities.

A wildlife rehabilitator should establish safe work habits and conditions, abiding by current health and safety practices at all times.

A wildlife rehabilitator should acknowledge limitations and enlist the assistance of a veterinarian or other trained professional when appropriate.

A wildlife rehabilitator should respect other rehabilitators and persons in related fields, sharing skills and knowledge in the spirit of cooperation for the welfare of animals.

A wildlife rehabilitator should place optimum animal care above personal gain.

A wildlife rehabilitator should strive to provide professional and humane care in all phases of wildlife rehabilitation, respecting the wildness and maintaining the dignity of each animal in life and in death. Releasable animals should be maintained in a wild condition and released as soon as appropriate. Non-releasable animals, which are inappropriate for education, foster-parenting, or captive breeding have a right to euthanasia.

A wildlife rehabilitator should encourage community support and involvement through volunteer training and public education. The common goal should be to promote a responsible concern for living beings and the welfare of the environment.

A wildlife rehabilitator should work on the basis of sound ecological principles, incorporating appropriate conservation ethics and an attitude of stewardship.

A wildlife rehabilitator should conduct all business and activities in a professional manner, with honesty, integrity, compassion, and commitment, realizing that an individual's conduct reflects on the entire field of wildlife rehabilitation.

TreeHouse Volunteer Opportunities

Wildlife Rehabilitation

Volunteers in wildlife rehabilitation will be trained in the daily care of the animals that are currently at our center. Tasks include animal husbandry such as cage cleaning, animal handling, diet preparation, as well as general hospital upkeep such as laundry and general cleaning. Volunteers may also assist staff with animal examinations and treatments as well as accompany staff on rescues if a call comes in during their shift. These volunteers need to be able to commit to at least one shift every other week. Most volunteers commit weekly.

Education

Volunteers in Education will assist the Education Director in programming at the center as well as participate in outreach programs away from the center. Tasks may include greeting guests/being present in the education center, giving tours, participating in scheduled programs such as school field trips or summer camps, helping out at a booth, and participating in TreeHouse events as an educator. Education volunteers will also get the opportunity to learn how to handle our education animals for programs if interested.

Fundraising

Volunteers in fundraising will attend the monthly fundraising meetings to help organize and run events or fundraising campaigns for TreeHouse. Funding is extremely important with all of the animals we have to care for. If you like to plan events, make items to sell in the gift shop, have grant writing skills, or have other skills that can help raise funds then we can use your help!

Construction/Maintenance

Volunteers in Construction/Maintenance help the center by fixing issues that may pop up around the center such as repairing enclosures after a storm, checking our appliances if they stop working, or building new perches or nest boxes for our animals if the old ones need to be replaced. These volunteers will also assist in the construction of new enclosures or buildings. These hours are flexible. Most of the volunteers in this area will come up to the center in their free time and ask what they can fix or work on. There is always something to be done!

Gardening/Landscaping

These volunteers assist with the landscaping around the building as well as around or inside the enclosures. TreeHouse has been making steps to include more native plants and gardens on our grounds and we need the help of enthusiastic gardeners to create and maintain these garden areas! These volunteers will also assist with attracting pollinators to our grounds and tagging monarch butterflies. Besides creating natural plots for pollinators and other native wildlife, these gardens help make our grounds beautiful and inviting!

Wildlife Transport

This volunteer opportunity is perfect for those who live too far away to help out at the center on a regular basis or for people who like to drive. Volunteers in wildlife transport will receive phone calls from their area about animals in need. They will then evaluate the situation, contain the animal if needed, and either bring the animal to TreeHouse or meet with a staff member or another volunteer halfway. These volunteers allow us to be able to help animals at greater distances! To become a volunteer transporter, it is recommended that you have your own crate, net, and gloves.

Volunteer Application

DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ How do you prefer to be contacted? Phone Email Text

Are you a member of TreeHouse? YES NO

How long will you commit to volunteering at TreeHouse?

1 MONTH 3 MONTHS 6 MONTHS 1 YEAR LONGER

When are you available?

YEAR-ROUND SUMMER ONLY OTHER _____

How many days a week are you available? All Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat Sun

What times? Any 9am-12pm 12pm-4pm Only after 4pm

May we reproduce photos you appear in for TreeHouse promotional or education materials? YES NO

How did you learn about the volunteer program at Tree house?

Which volunteer opportunities would you like to participate in?

Wildlife Rehabilitation

- Help care for the wildlife at the center
- Requires commitment of one shift every other week, most commit weekly
- Become a permanent resident care specialist

Education

- Help teach the public about TreeHouse and our native wildlife

Fundraising

- Help the center raise funds through projects and events

Construction/maintenance

- Help the center build new enclosures and maintain current structures

Gardening/Landscape

- Help establish and maintain the native gardens and landscaping
- Assist with attracting pollinators and tagging monarch butterflies

Wildlife Transport **(if interested, please fill out last page)**

- Respond to calls about wildlife in need in your area

Volunteer Hold Harmless Form

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

In consideration of your acceptance of my volunteer participation with TreeHouse Wildlife Center, I hereby- for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns waive and release all claims for damages, which I may hereafter accrue, against the TreeHouse Wildlife Center, its sponsors, agents, representatives, or assigns. This waiver and release applies to any damages which may be sustained and suffered by me in connection with my association with or participation in the volunteer program at TreeHouse Wildlife Center. I further acknowledge that I have been sufficiently informed by TreeHouse Wildlife Center of the laws, rules and regulations under which the Center operates; and that I will abide by those laws, rules and regulations. I have been informed and understand the risks associated with rabies and other diseases in wild animals. If any animal under my care inflicts an injury upon a human, I will report the incident to TreeHouse Wildlife Center immediately and will abide by all pertinent policies and regulations. I attest that I have received a tetanus shot within the past 10 years, and I understand that, in the event of an injury, I shall receive a booster shot if it has been more than 5 years since my last tetanus shot. I will do so at my own expense. I attest and verify that I have been sufficiently informed of the risks involved in the program and that I will be sufficiently trained to participate in this program.

Signature of Volunteer

Date _____

Signature of Parent (If volunteer is under age 18)

Date _____

Signature of Witness

Date _____

Volunteer Policies

- Volunteer Handbook acceptance page must be signed and returned before training.
- All volunteers must attend an orientation training, with a staff member or senior volunteer trainer, before beginning their service.
- All volunteers must have a Signed Hold Harmless and Insurance Waiver on file before their service.
- Volunteers are asked to keep current emergency contact names and numbers on file. Please notify a staff member when/if changes need to be made
- TreeHouse reserves the right to terminate the volunteer contract at any time.
- All volunteers must have had a tetanus shot within the last 10 years.
- If a volunteer is injured at TreeHouse they agree to notify a staff member immediately.
- In general, volunteers must be at least 16 years of age. Children who are younger - and wish to volunteer must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
- All volunteers must abide by the policies of TreeHouse Wildlife Center and by the Wildlife Rehabilitators' Code of Ethics.
- Volunteers are required to follow instructions and directions given to them by staff members and any supervisors.
- TreeHouse Wildlife Center requires a minimum commitment of 1 shift at least every other week if you are volunteering to work in rehabilitation and animal care.
- No visitors are to accompany a volunteer to help with animal care unless first having filled out paperwork, a Hold Harmless form, an insurance Waiver, and have been to an orientation.
- No smoking/vaping is allowed on the grounds.

By signing below, I state that I understand these policies and agree to follow them while serving as a volunteer for TreeHouse Wildlife Center.

_____ Date _____
Signature of Volunteer

_____ Date _____
Signature of Parent (If volunteer is under age 18)

Note any exceptions to any policies below:

Signature of Volunteer Coordinator _____ Date _____

TreeHouse Wildlife Center Transporter Questionnaire

DATE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

Please check boxes or fill in the answers below:

Are you a member of TreeHouse? YES NO

How long will you commit to transporting for TreeHouse?

1 MONTH 3 MONTHS 6 MONTHS 1 YEAR LONGER

When are you available to transport?

YEAR-ROUND SUMMER ONLY OTHER _____

How many days a week are you available?

All week M-F Weekends only Other _____

What times of the day can you transport?

Any 9am-12pm 12pm-4pm Only after 4pm

If only after 5pm are you willing to keep the animal overnight? YES NO

Do you require an animal to already be contained/captured to transport? YES NO

Do you wish to attend rescue & transport training? YES NO

How do you wish to be notified? TreeHouse calls me give my number out

List any animal you will not be willing to rescue? _____

May we reproduce photos you appear in for TreeHouse promotional or education materials? YES NO

Date _____

Signature of Volunteer

Date _____

Signature of Parent (If volunteer is under age 18)