

Wildlife Rehabilitation



Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation



Wildlife Rehabilitation

What is Wildlife Rehabilitation?
Wildlife Rehabilitation: Is it for You?
It's the Law
Wildlife Rehabilitation Permits



Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation

What is Wildlife Rehabilitation?

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Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation

What is Wildlife Rehabilitation?

Rescuing, caring for, and arranging for veterinary care of orphaned, sick, displaced or injured wild animals with a goal of releasing them back to their natural habitats



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What is Wildlife Rehabilitation?

Rescuing, caring for, and arranging for veterinary care of orphaned, sick, displaced or injured wild animals with a goal of releasing them back to their natural habitats

Rescue Rehab Release



Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation

What is Wildlife Rehabilitation?

Rescuing, caring for, and arranging for veterinary care of orphaned, sick, displaced or injured wild animals with a goal of releasing them **in a way that they may survive** in their natural habitats

Rescue Rehab Release



Introduction to Wildlife Rehabilitation

What is a Wildlife Rehabilitator?

A person who obtains or works under the current required government permits and pursues ongoing training and education to engage in the practice of wildlife rehabilitation



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Involves

- Determining if an animal needs rehabilitation
- Administering first aid
- Taking the animal to a veterinarian
- Administering medication



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Involves

Caring for the animal (diet, feeding, housing needs)
Cleaning, cleaning, cleaning and more cleaning
Monitoring health and growth



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Involves

Preparing the animal for release

Releasing the animal (selecting site, time)



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Involves

- Arranging placement or euthanasia if not releasable
- Educating the public
- Resolving human-wildlife conflicts
- Acquiring/Building and repairing cages



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Is Not

All Fun

A Paid Activity

Even a Hobby

An Activity for Children



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Is Not



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Misconceptions

Loving wildlife is all that is needed to be a rehabilitator
Experience with pets qualifies someone to be a rehabilitator



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Other Misconceptions

Wildlife likes to be petted and loved
Wildlife appreciates the help we give it



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Help! I've been captured by monsters!

We are predators

Flight or Fight

Conservation withdrawal



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Wild Animals are Not Pets

“Bambi syndrome”

Can you prepare your animal for a free and wild life?



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Benefits to you

Connection with wildlife and nature
Opportunity for learning about
wildlife

Satisfaction from releasing animal
back to wild

Personal way to give back to nature

Opportunity to educate others



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Why do people become rehabilitators?

Humane

Environmental

Education

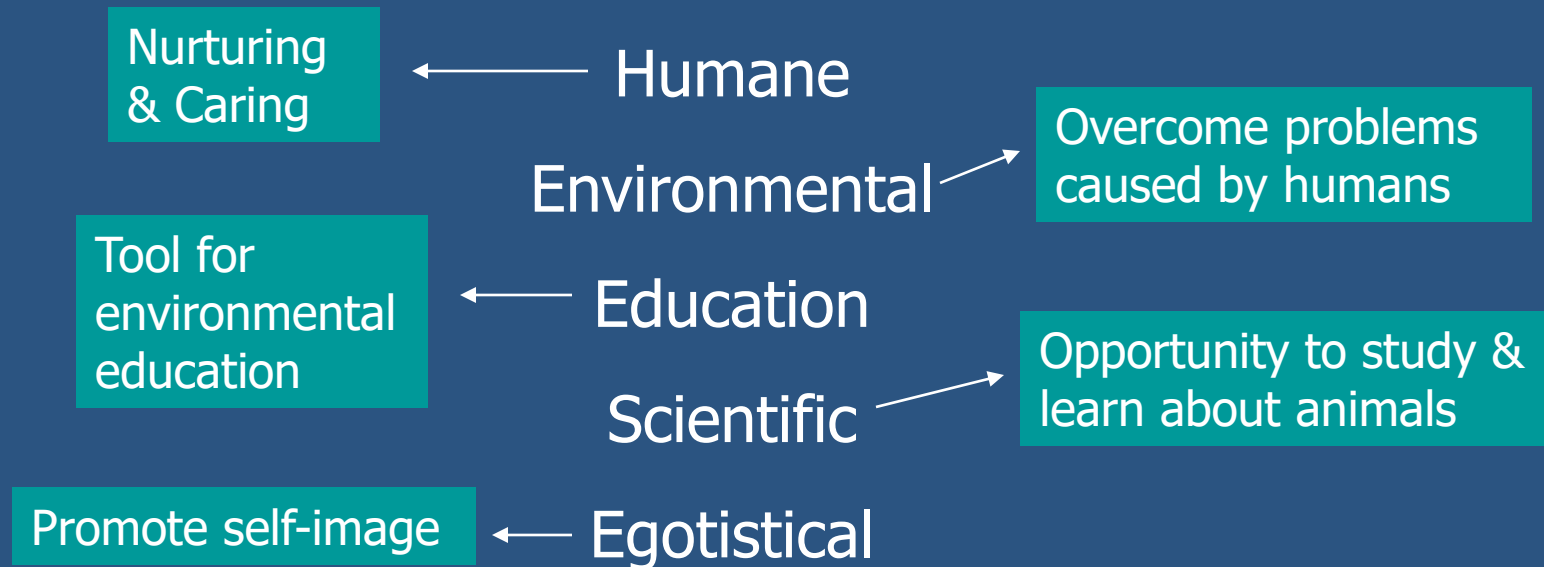
Scientific

Egotistical



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Why do people become rehabilitators?



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What it takes to be a rehabilitator

Time

Money

Emotion

Relationship with a veterinarian

Appropriate setting

Loving animals is not enough



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Stressors

Petting

Excessive handling

Lack of isolation

Frequent presence of a predator

Strange sights and sounds

Overcrowding



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Stressors

Hunger and thirst

Lack of habitual food

Exposure to chemicals



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Other Ways to Help?



Volunteer at a center
Education Programs
Answer phone calls
Transport



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Things You Need to Know...

and will begin learning in this course

Getting Supplies & Services

Wildlife Rescue, Capture & Restraint

Natural History



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Things You Need to Know...

and will begin learning in this course

Handling Wildlife Nuisance Situations

Admissions & Record Keeping

Cleaning, Sanitation & Disease Transmission

Zoonosis



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Things You Need to Know

Caging Types & Minimum Requirements
Nutrition, Nutritional problems
Release Issues & Requirements
Euthanasia



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Things You Need to Know

Caging Types & Minimum Requirements

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Release Issues & Requirements

Euthanasia



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Euthanasia

Euthanasia is:

A good and painless death

The deliberate ending of the life of an individual suffering from an incurable or painful disease

The ultimate gift of mercy to a wild creature doomed by its injuries



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Placement

Placing a non-releasable
animal in permanent captivity



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Considerations for placing a non-releasable animal

Type and quality of the facility

Temperament of the animal

Rarity of the species

Will the animal in captivity have psychological health, physical comforts, security, proper diet, and companionship?



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Euthanasia

Criteria for methods:

Ability to induce loss of consciousness and death
without causing pain, anxiety, or apprehension



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Pentobarbital



Schedule II drug. Directly depresses motor cortex causing general muscle relaxation



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Pentobarbital

Advantages:

Rapid, smooth injection of unconsciousness
Usually aesthetically acceptable

Disadvantages:

IV administration necessary for best results
Requires DEA license
High potential for human abuse



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Other Acceptable Methods

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)

Cervical dislocation

Gunshot



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Methods considered inhumane or unacceptable

Kill Traps

Drowning

Electrocution

Freezing

Air embolism

Cyanide

Nitrogen or argon gas

Strychnine

Acetone

Thoracic compression



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Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit

A permit, license or other written authorization issued by a federal, state, or provincial government agency authorizing the temporary possession of wildlife for the purpose of rehabilitation and eventual release back to the wild



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It's the Law



All birds are federally protected except for Pigeons,
Starlings and English Sparrows

It is illegal to have them in your possession



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Without a permit it is illegal to

Own a mounted/stuffed songbird, bat,
game or furbearing mammal

Possess orphaned birds and animals

Possess a feather of a protected species

Collect bird nests and bird eggs




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APPLICATION
Captivity License for Wildlife Rehabilitation
Apprentice

This application is for individuals applying for a captivity license for rehabilitation that have never held this license in North Carolina or a similar license in another state. Please complete all sections of this application and return to the address listed below. Incomplete applications will be returned.

Part I: Applicant Information			
Applicant's Name:	_____ (Last)	_____ (First)	_____ (M. Initial) _____ (Date of Birth (required))
Resident Address:	_____ (Street)	_____ (City)	_____ (State) _____ (Zip Code)
Mailing Address: <small>(if different from resident)</small>	_____ (PO Box or Street)	_____ (City)	_____ (State) _____ (Zip Code)
Facility Location: <small>(if different from resident)</small>	_____ (Street)	_____ (City)	_____ (State) _____ (Zip Code)
Telephone #: () _____	Email: _____	Country: _____	
Organization Affiliation (if applicable) _____			
Part II: Mentor Information			
I am willing to serve as the mentor for the above-named rehabilitator and will be available to provide professional assistance in the rehabilitation of wildlife.			
Name of Mentor (please print full name)	_____	Signature of Mentor	_____
		Rehabilitation License #	_____
Part III: Applicant Signature			
I hereby certify that all information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have read and understand the rules and statutes pertaining to the possession of wildlife in North Carolina, under 15A NCAC 104.1401 - 1406 and G.S. § 113-272.5 and 113-275 and agree to abide by these regulations. I understand that if I am issued a Captivity License for Rehabilitation of squirrels, rabbits, and opossums, I will be responsible for the humane and ethical treatment of all wildlife obtained under that license and that additional state licenses may be required. I also understand that the Commission may suspend or revoke my license and confiscate all wildlife in my possession should I violate any of these regulations or the conditions listed on my license.			
Applicant's Signature	_____	Date	_____

Make check or money order for \$12.00 payable to NCRWC. Price includes \$2.00 transaction fee as mandated by G.S. 113-270.1B. A service charge of up to \$25 will be charged on returned checks (GS 25-3-506). Mail completed application with fee to:

NC Wildlife Resources Commission License Section
1707 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1700

Rehabilitation Permits

NC Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit

NC Fawn Permit

Federal Permit –

Rehabilitate federally protected
species



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Education Permits

State & Federal Possession Permits-
Possession of live migratory birds for education

State permit & USDA License-
possession of live mammals for education


Other Permits: Salvage



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Permit Application

NC Wildlife Resources Commission website:
www.ncwildlife.org



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[Licensing](#) > [Other Licenses And Permits](#) > [Wildlife Rehabilitation License](#)




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Applicant information →

Mentor information →

Signature →



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Saturday Jan. 30, 2021			
	RVS		Beginner
8:30-9:20	Introduction to RVS* Toni O'Neil		Introduction to Rehabilitation Carla Johnson
9:30-10:20	Fox Rehab* Fosco (Elisa)	Lisa	Basic Medical Terminology for Beginners** Melisse Hopping
10:20-10:40	Break		Break
10:40-12:00	Rabies, the Disease & Vaccinations** Dr. Carl Williams		Anything & Everything Squirrel Linda Bergman-Althouse
12:00-12:30	Lunch break (12:00-1:00)		Lunch break (12:30-1:30)
1:00-1:30			
1:40-2:20	Rabies Species Regulations** Daron Barnes		Medical Math for Small Mammal Rehabbing* Ann Rogers Victoria Benson
2:30-3:20	Skunk Rehab* Fosco (Elisa)	Lisa	Working with Your Vet Nina Fischesser
3:20-3:30	Break		Break
3:10-4:00	Raccoon Rehab* Barbara Ray		Rehabbing Opossums 101 Linda Veraldi
4:10-5:00			

Sunday January 31, 2021			
8:30-9:20	Raccoon Rehab (continued) Barbara Ray		Mammal Physical Exam Jean Chamberlain
9:30-10:20			Capture & Restraint of Small Mammals & Birds Toni O'Neil
10:20-10:40	Break		Break
10:40-11:30	Bat Rehab* Linda Bowen		Handling Wildlife Calls Carla Johnson
11:40-12:30			Fluid Therapy Lecture Toni O'Neil
12:30-1:30	Lunch Break (12:30-1:30)		Lunch Break (12:30-1:30)
1:30-2:20	Bat Rehab (continued) Linda Bowen		Zoonoses Carla Johnson
2:30-3:20			Cottontails Victoria Benson & Paige Person
3:30-4:20	Bobcat Rehab Tracy Keller		
End of Conference			
Please note the schedule is subject to change			



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The End