



Mission Statement

Carolina Raptor Center is dedicated to environmental education and the conservation of birds of prey through public education, the rehabilitation of injured and orphaned raptors, and research.

Vision Statement

Carolina Raptor Center will be the premier regional environmental education, rehabilitation, and research center, using birds of prey as its signature method of educating the public about the importance of conservation efforts.



6000 Sample Road
Huntersville, NC
704-875-6521
www.carolinaraptorcenter.org



Volunteer Information



Volunteer! Come Visit.
Come Learn.
Come Be Amazed!

Tel: 704-875-6521
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VOLUNTEER...

Volunteers are the lifeblood of Carolina Raptor Center. From bandaging wings to building new aviaries to greeting visitors in the gift shop, Carolina Raptor Center's dedicated volunteers do it all!

What does it take to become a Carolina Raptor Center Volunteer?

If you have enthusiasm for the environment we can use your skills!

How do I find out more about volunteering?

Attend an orientation session. You will get an overview of the different activities volunteers engage in, as well as a tour of the facility. Orientation is held 10 am–1 pm on Saturdays. Contact Carolina Raptor Center to find out about the next volunteer orientation.

What if I want to volunteer as part of a work, school or church group?

We are glad to arrange dates and times to fulfill all Carolina Raptor Center volunteers needs.

My schedule is inconsistent. Can I still get involved?

Absolutely, there are so many ways to get involved at Carolina Raptor Center and we are very committed to accommodating to all the volunteers needs.

Is there a minimum age for volunteers?

Children can volunteer as a group to do a project, or, if they are 10-15 years old, they can find an adult (person 16 +) to volunteer with them.

How do I sign up?

Contact Louise Bhavnani, Volunteer Coordinator, via email at lbhavnani@carolinaraptorcenter.org or by phone at 704-875-6521 ext. 102



Volunteer testing blood in the rescue center at Carolina Raptor Center





Here are just a few services our volunteers provide:

While working behind the scenes with the birds is critical to the daily operation of Carolina Raptor Center, some of our most important work is interacting with the public. That's where we share our message of environmental education and conservation with the community. Enthusiasm, patience and a desire to communicate with the public are the primary requirements. Here's how you can help:

Exhibits

Carolina Raptor Center visits over 100 exhibits every year. These exhibits are crucial exposure because we get the opportunity to interact with people who have never visited or heard of Carolina Raptor Center.

Many of our \$500 donors made their donation after talking with volunteers. People are fascinated by the live birds, and love to share their own raptor stories.

Many exhibits are held on weekends, and we ask that you stay for at least one 3-hour shift each quarter.



Docent Program

If you are a natural teacher or simply love raptors and want to share your enthusiasm with our visitors, we hope you'll consider becoming a docent. Docents are lecturers or teachers at museums or universities, or in our case nature preserves! The primary responsibility of a docent is to give accurate, interesting information to our visitors, and to convey enthusiasm and positive energy about the environment. Docents may be scheduled on weekends and during the week, so it is the perfect way to get a very rewarding, interactive volunteer experience for only a few hours a month.



Admissions/Gift Shop

Volunteer duties include greeting visitors when they come in the front door, answering questions, directing people to the nature trail and restrooms, and ringing up purchases on the cash register. You will be given a "cheat sheet" of the most frequently asked questions. Gift shop volunteers work in an air-conditioned space and are not required to

spend an entire day. Volunteer for a few hours a month and you'll spend a pleasant afternoon helping a good cause!

Weekday shifts are from 11 am–2 pm and 2-5 pm, Weekend shifts are from noon-3 pm and 2-5 pm.

Without dedicated operational volunteers Carolina Raptor Center would simply have to close its doors. These volunteers do everything staff does, from administering medications to caring for aging resident raptors. It all begins with transport volunteers, who bring birds to the door.



Transport Volunteers

To get the birds into the hands of medical exports, volunteers must be willing and available to pick up the birds and transfer them to Carolina Raptor Center or another rehabilitation center. Training is provided on how to capture and secure a bird that might be injured, this is a good area to volunteer for people who work from home, because availability and dependability are important traits for drivers.

Hours arranged through direct contact with Carolina Raptor Center

Rescue

The "ER" personnel: the first to help with examining the bird. Other responsibilities include providing food, medication and physical therapy for the injured or orphaned raptor. Rehabilitation is a specialty – you must be dedicated, dependable and willing to get close to some dangerous creatures. The rewards are immeasurable!

Interested in immediate volunteer opportunities? Contact Louise Bhavnani at lbhavnani@carolinaraptorcenter.org or 704-875-6521 ext. 102 or visit our website at www.carolinaraptorcenter.org for inquiries.



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