

Outdoor Rehabilitation Intern

Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota – WRC East



The Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Minnesota (WRC) is the busiest independent wildlife hospital in the world, admitting 24,000 patients annually. WRC's mission is to provide quality medical care and rehabilitation for all injured, sick and orphaned wild animals and share its knowledge with the people who care about them.

WRC has a small staff and relies greatly on the efforts of volunteers and especially interns during the busy summer months. WRC provides qualified internship applicants with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience working with wildlife.

WRC is a non-profit organization with locations in Roseville and Grant, MN. This internship will primarily take place at our WRC East location in Grant, MN. Internship positions are unpaid, and housing is not provided. Interns must be 18 years or older.

Learning opportunities include species identification, nutrition, husbandry, behavior, enclosure preparation, and working with dedicated and compassionate volunteers. If you complete this internship in a satisfactory manner, you may qualify for other volunteer and internship opportunities at WRC.

Internship duties and responsibilities

- Commitment of 20-30 hours/week
- Work closely with volunteers by providing ongoing assistance and guidance
- Prepare food for and maintain caging with appropriate furnishings for a variety of species
- Keep wards, pools, and enclosures clean and orderly
- Maintain laundry, clean enclosures, and follow biosecurity protocols
- Unpack and organize supplies, help maintain inventory
- Learn to recognize signs of illness and notify supervisors when there are concerns about a patient's health
- Maintain paperwork and patient records
- Assist rehabilitation staff with various projects as needed
- Must be able to lift 30lbs, be on feet for 4+ hours, and able to work outdoors in varying weather conditions
- Maintain the wild nature of our patients by following WRC policies and procedures
- Treat everyone including staff, volunteers, other interns with respect
- Interns are not working directly with veterinarians in the treatment room, however, upon completion of >400 hours of internship time, the intern may be considered for an hour of veterinarian shadowing per week
- Applicants with the Rabies pre-exposure vaccine series and titer are preferred.
- Shifts will primarily be held at our WRC-East location, with occasional shifts at our Roseville location possible
- Additionally, interns may be asked to drive short errands for supplies, so a vehicle will be necessary.



Rehabilitation Department Staff evaluate interns throughout the internship. Interns who fail to comply with WRC policies and expectations or do not adequately complete duties as outlined in this job description will be informed of our concerns. If corrective action is not taken, interns may be excused from our internship program. WRC has the right to cancel the internship at any time.

Intern Expectations

Time commitment

- We ask that you commit to a timeline of early-May through mid-September *and* a minimum of 300 hours
 - *We understand these dates may not work with your schedule. If you can commit to a minimum of 300 hours in the season, email us with your availability dates.*
- You are required to commit at least 20-30 hours per week. More hours are available; the more you are here the more experiences you will have.
- You are required to work some evenings, weekends, and holidays.
- You are required to be on time for scheduled shifts.
- You are required to stay for your entire shift.
- It is your responsibility to monitor your total hours and ensure you will reach the minimum 300-hour requirement.
- If you know ahead of time that you will not be able to cover your scheduled shift, it is your responsibility to communicate with your supervisor.
- On your second unexcused absence, you will be excused from the internship.

Scheduling

Animal care takes place from 8am to 9pm and interns are scheduled in 4–8-hour shifts. For ease of scheduling, we prefer interns to have set days devoted to WRC for the duration of their internship. However, we understand the need for other jobs and commitments and can provide a flexible schedule as needed. Unless you request it, you will not always be scheduled to open or close or cover all weekends.

Job expectations

- You are expected to complete the duties outlined in the job description.
- Follow all safety, personal protective equipment and biosecurity protocols.
- Interns should strive to provide the best care possible to patients.
- Follow animal care procedures and protocols.

To apply for an Outdoor Rehabilitation Internship:

- Fill out an online application form. This can be found on the internship page of our website or at the following link: <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/439751847>
- A resume, letter of recommendation, and cover letter are required application materials. There is a section to upload these files at the end of the application. If a letter of recommendation is in progress or if your writer prefers to send it directly, please submit this item to intern@wrcmn.org.



If you have any questions regarding internship positions,
please contact intern@wrcmn.org or visit <https://wrcmn.org/Wildlife-Internships-at-WRC/12/>.

Additional Internship Information



What happens in the treatment room? Will I be working with veterinarians?

Outdoor Rehabilitation Interns will NOT be working directly with our veterinary staff, though you may interact with them if you have a patient in need of critical care or if you work for 400 hours.

Every single animal that comes to WRC is given a thorough examination by one of our licensed Veterinarians. We can perform many diagnostic tests to determine what is wrong with a patient such as radiographs, bloodwork, and lead testing. If an animal needs surgery, we have a surgical suite to perform a variety of surgeries here at the center. Unfortunately, our treatment room is an incredibly busy place, and we need to be very selective of who is working there.

