

# WILDLIFE REHABILITATION INTERNSHIPS

Positions available for 2017

- 2 Mammal Nursery Interns
- 1 Avian Nursery Intern

Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center, based in Salem, Oregon, is a multi-species native wildlife rehabilitation center serving several counties in Western Oregon.



Learn hand rearing care, medical treatment and husbandry.

Housing on premises can be provided.  
40-hour workweek required.



For detailed description of program and application, please email [info@turtleridgewildlifecenter.org](mailto:info@turtleridgewildlifecenter.org)



# TURTLE RIDGE WILDLIFE CENTER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Turtle Ridge Wildlife Center (TRWC) offers internships to care for many species of injured and orphaned native wildlife. Internships at TRWC are intended for individuals interested in exploring careers in a myriad of animal sciences. Internships offer a path to build skills and establish a good work history. Turtle Ridge is a small center that cares for all species of **Songbirds, Raptors, Waterfowl** and **Mammals**. We provide the majority of our medical care within our clinic but we are only looking for interns to specialize in caring for our orphaned Avians and Mammals. The experience you will receive is invaluable and working in a rehabilitation center is a privilege and a labor of love. The rewards are incredible. There is nothing like saving a beautiful wild animal and giving him or her a second chance at life.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNSHIP CANDIDATES:

- Must have completed a minimum of two years of a college degree program in biology, zoology or another related field. Candidates with less than two years of college course credit will only be considered if a letter of recommendation from an instructor in the field of interest is submitted.
- Candidates must have excellent communication skills and the ability to work in a team environment. They must be self-motivated and reliable, willing to work in all weather conditions, and have the ability to lift 50 pounds.
- Interns will be required to prepare a Power Point presentation about a specific species they have worked with over their internship with TRWC that highlights natural history and how the rehabilitation process assures the best 2<sup>nd</sup> chance at life upon release.
- Candidates must be willing to commit to studying our care manuals.
- Candidates must be strong in spirit and able to emotionally handle the physical state in which the animals might arrive. They are often in starvation mode or in pain from injuries and interns must be able to understand that this is the reason we exist: To help them recover and eliminate their suffering.

## SKILLS THAT YOU WILL LEARN

- Syringe and gavage feeding of neonate avian and mammal species
- Sub-cutaneous hydration of avian and mammal species
- Handling techniques of all species including Raptors
- Housing requirements needed for each species
- Pre-Release methods introducing them to their natural environment upon release
- Nutrition and diet preparations
- Administrations of oral medications

Our need for interns is primarily to provide dedicated care for orphaned Avian & Mammal species. However, time may be allowed to work and learn skills in our medical clinic or with our *Ambassador Birds of Prey* educational programs.

## **TYPES OF WILDLIFE YOU WILL ENCOUNTER**

Most of the wildlife entering our center come from urban areas. We directly serve three large counties in the Willamette Valley and, in addition, will often take in wildlife from elsewhere as there are limited resources in Western Oregon. Rehabilitators in Oregon are required to notify and turn over Deer, Bear and Cougar to Oregon Department of Wildlife within 24 hours so there is no long-term care for those animals. Our intake is approximately 800 Avian and 200 Mammal species per year. The following is an example of who we encounter:

### **MAMMALS:**

Raccoon, Squirrels and Chipmunks, Porcupine, Beaver, Fox

### **BIRDS OF PREY:**

Owls, Hawks, Ravens & Crows

### **WATERFOWL:**

Ducks, Geese, Heron, Marsh birds

### **SONGBIRDS:**

Jays, Robins, Grosbeaks, Cedar Waxwings, Wrens, Sparrows, Nuthatches, Towhees, Thrush, various Swallow varieties, Hummingbirds, Warblers, Swifts, Woodpeckers, Bushtits, Doves, Finches

## **WHAT WILL YOUR SCHEDULE BE LIKE?**

We will be choosing (2) Mammal Interns and (1) Avian Intern. Shifts will change according to animal species that are in care. The month of April will typically be the training month as intake is slower. We ask for 8 hour days (with breaks of course), 5 days a week. The shift schedule and days off will change as needs change. When there are neonate mammals, each mammal intern will rotate nights for a week since there will be feedings at 11PM, 2AM and 5AM. It is not guaranteed that interns will have the same days off nor will the days off be consistent each week.

## **ACCOMODATIONS**

If you are from out of the area, we will have cottage on premises by 4/1/2017 which can house 3 interns. You will be able to make simple meals and take showers. We do not provide food but you will receive a \$50 stipend per week.

If you are interested in discussing further details before completing an application, please feel free to contact either Jessy Gill or Charles Harmansky at 503-540-8664.