

**Wildlife Welfare, Inc.**  
**Waiver and Release 2016**

Some diseases are common to wild animals and to humans, and if transferred to humans are a potential hazard to human health. Some human diseases are carried by wild animals although the animals are apparently healthy. These diseases are known as zoonoses, which may include but not be limited to Coccidiosis, Giardia, Leptospirosis, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Salmonellosis and Rabies. Parasites such as fleas, mites, and ticks may transfer to humans or other animals and may cause or carry disease. Mechanical injury such as scratches and punctures may result from teeth and/or claws. Chemical poisons in or on a wild animal may cause toxicity to humans handling them (or other animals interacting with humans).

Measures should always be taken to reduce health hazards, including careful washing after handling animals, keeping animal rooms well ventilated and disinfected, keeping human food away from animal areas, and treating all sick animals following approved procedures. Never open the carcass of a dead animal. Seek medical advice immediately if you are unwell, especially if suffering from a fever, cough, watery eyes, or a skin rash, or if a mild illness fails to improve, and mention that you are or have been in close contact with wild animals.

**STATEMENT OF VOLUNTEER** : I have read and fully understand the paragraphs above and the risks associated therewith. On behalf of myself, my heirs, assign(s) and next of kin, I hereby waive and release, indemnify, hold harmless and forever discharge Wildlife Welfare, Inc., and its agents, employees, officers, Board of Directors, affiliates, successors, individually and collectively, from any and all liability, losses, damages (including loss of use), expenses, demands and claims incurred in connection with or arising out of any injury or alleged injury to persons (including death) or damages or alleged damage to property whether known or unknown, in law and equity, that I ever had or may have, arising from or in any way related to my participation in any of the events or activities conducted by, on the premises of, or for the benefit of Wildlife Welfare, Inc. I will further defend and indemnify Wildlife Welfare, Inc. for any claims made against Wildlife Welfare, Inc. by the undersigned, his or her heirs, personal representative(s), or his or her minor children, while I attend and/or participate in any activities or functions of Wildlife Welfare, Inc. I acknowledge that this waiver of liability does not apply to any acts of gross negligence, or intentional, willful, or wanton misconduct.

I understand that the activities that I will participate in and that the animals that I will care for are unpredictable, may be dangerous and may cause serious damage and/or serious or grievous injuries, including bodily injury. I understand that I will be in contact with a variety of wildlife, which may include, but not be limited to, squirrels, opossums, rabbits, and birds. I understand that they may act in an unpredictable way to sounds, movements, other people, or other animals and that these actions could result in injury and/or damage.

Initial: \_\_\_\_\_

I fully understand the potential hazards to human and animal health of zoonoses, and I appreciate the character and extent of the risks to my health and that of my family that may result from handling, treating and caring for wild animals. I understand that I must take measures that may reduce hazards to my health and public health. I fully and knowingly accept the risk of these hazards voluntarily.

I have been given the link to North Carolina laws regarding wildlife found at <http://www.ncwildlife.org/licensing/otherlicensespermits/wildliferehabilitationlicense.aspx> and have reviewed the information located therein. If I am handling or working with migratory birds or other animals controlled by federal law, I have also reviewed the laws and regulations regarding the requirements for said birds and other animals. I know and agree to comply with all state and federal regulations, conditions and limitations of the North Carolina Rehabilitator License and, where applicable, the Federal Rehabilitator's License.

If I have volunteered to transport animals or run errands for Wildlife Welfare, Inc. with my own vehicle, I certify I have insurance as required by law and am aware that I am driving my vehicle at my own risk; Wildlife Welfare Inc. will not provide any type of insurance coverage or reimbursement for damages of any kind whatsoever. I agree to indemnify Wildlife Welfare, Inc. in the event of an accident while acting in this capacity.

By this waiver, I am entering into this agreement freely, openly and knowingly. I understand I have the option of not handling, treating, or caring for wild animals and, in consideration of being able to volunteer and participate with Wildlife Welfare, Inc., I am making an informed and intelligent choice knowledgeable of the risks. I assume any and all risks, take full responsibility and waive all claims of all personal injury, death, or damage to personal property associated with the Wildlife Welfare Inc.

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**Signature of volunteer**

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**Printed Name of volunteer**

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**Date**

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**Wildlife Welfare representative/witness**

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**Date**