Summer Internships Available At The Bird Center of Washtenaw County

The Bird Center of Washtenaw County, Inc. is seeking paid and unpaid interns (college student or recent graduate) for April/May through August 2016. The Center is located in the Ann Arbor Area. We are currently accepting applications. Interviews will be held as applications arrive. For an application visit www.birdcenterwashtenaw.org. Previous animal experience is desired, but not necessary.

In 2015, we admitted approximately 900 birds of approximately 65 different species. We handle songbirds and provide emergency care for waterfowl and wading birds. Raptors are given emergency care and sent to other rehabilitators. Interns will be supervised by staff who hold both Michigan DNR and U.S. Fish and Wildlife permits for rehabilitation of birds, as well as trained supervisors who have taken courses in rehabilitation from national organizations.

We will pay funded interns at the minimum wage of $8.50 per hour. Funded interns work a 36.25 hour week and have two days off. Unfunded interns work a 20 hour week. Shifts for interns will be 7 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. for one shift and 1:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the later shift. Usually an intern would work one shift per day. This is a four month commitment. We operate seven days a week and answer public phone calls from opening until closing. There is a one week probationary period.

Duties of Interns:
Feeding baby songbirds of many different species.
Teaching fledglings to self feed on natural food items (this includes live mealworms).
Cleaning of bird housing and the center.
Administering medications and other treatments to injured birds.
Answering telephone calls from the public in a professional manner (we will train you).
Accepting birds from the public and obtaining the legally required information.
Entering rescue and injury information into national wildlife rehabilitation database.
Possibly going out on rescue missions.
Possibly taking birds to veterinarians.

You will learn: bird anatomy, proper housing and diets for various species and how to feed them, signs of illness in birds, starvation, head injuries, etc., how to diagnose fractures, how to measure and administer medication, how to weigh and handle birds, how to educate the public about birds and ways to alleviate bad interactions between birds and the public.

Interns must be in good health, at least 18 years of age, and have a healthy immune system. Non-smokers are desired. This will be another exciting summer, please join us! Volunteer opportunities are also available for those unable to commit to an internship.