

Docent Volunteer Job Description

Volunteer Role: Docent

Work Location: This position is located at the Carolina Raptor Center. The address is **6000 Sample Rd, Huntersville NC 28078**. Docents are required to volunteer a minimum of 6 hours a month.

Purpose of Position: The purpose of our Docents is to enhance guest visitation to Carolina Raptor Center and advance the Carolina Raptor Center educational mission. Docents offer special and unique experiences through informal education to our visitors while they are walking the Raptor Trail. Through their enthusiasm, positive attitude and knowledge of CRC, Docents help guests better explore and ignite their excitement for the natural world. Further, Docents can train to assist with greeting groups, outreach programs, and additional off-site educational programs.

Responsibilities and Duties:

- Docents must fill out an application and conduct a virtual interview with the Volunteer Manager
- Be able to pass a background screening through Priority Background Solutions
- Must pay a one-time \$40 volunteer fee
- Commit at least 1 year to volunteering
- Docents are required to attend a Volunteer Orientation Day
- Docents must schedule their first shift with the Environmental Educator or the Volunteer Manager within the following month after their Orientation Day
- Be committed to attending regular continuing education for volunteers

Qualifications: This position best suits individuals with the following:

- Passion for birds of prey, conservation, and education
- Ability to work with minimal guidance
- Desire to interact with people from all backgrounds, ages and abilities
- Willingness to speak up and ask questions

Commitment Expectations: Docents are expected to commit at least 6 hours of volunteer time per month at Carolina Raptor Center. These volunteer hours are flexible and can be scheduled anytime during our business hours. We are open 10:00am-4:00pm seven days a week, March through October, and Wednesday-Sunday November through February.

Training: New volunteers will receive general orientation training with our Volunteer Manager, including a scavenger hunt and on-site onboarding training. In addition, there will be docent specific training during the orientation where you will learn the following:

- Basic history of Carolina Raptor Center
- An overview of our mission
- An introduction to our docent materials and activities
- How to use volunteer system Volgistics
- Tips for interacting with a variety of guests
- Basic bird behavior
- Layout of the trail and facility
- Materials given to be completed at home to help prepare you for success

Additional hands-on training will be given during your first docent shift which will be scheduled with a staff member.

Age Requirements: 16 years old

Cost and Requirements: A \$40 volunteer fee covers a t-shirt, nametag, and cost of background screening. You will also need to pass a background check before starting, provided through Priority Background Information Solutions.