

EDUCATION PROGRAM GUIDE

OUR STORY



Raven Ridge is a non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center in Washington Boro, PA specializing in healing injured birds of prey, mammals, and waterfowl in the Lancaster County area.

OUR MISSION

Our goal is to give wild animals a second chance at life across this beautiful state and beyond. We're constantly expanding our facilities to offer the highest-quality care to as many animals as we can. Once our patients are fully healed, we release them into the wild again, where they can live out the rest of their lives as part of a healthy and balanced ecosystem.

Conservation is at the core of our growing operation. Human activity, such as driving, neighborhood development, and hunting, can sometimes confuse or injure the animals that lived in the area before us. By offering our services for no charge, we hope to reach every person who encounters injured wildlife so we can give that animal a fighting chance. We want to help all of our neighbors, whether they're feathered or furry!

"OUR QUALITY OF CARE IS THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE"

IN THIS GUIDE:

- Raven Ridge's Story
- Education Program Overview
- Meet the Animal Ambassadors
- Program Descriptions
- Special Events
- How to book a program
- Pennsylvania State Standards

OUR STORY

ABOUT OUR FOUNDER

Tracie Young, a dedicated Pennsylvania resident, has always had a deep passion for animals. After witnessing the devastation caused by the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion in 2010, which resulted in the largest oil spill in marine drilling history, she felt compelled to aid the countless animals affected. This motivated Tracie to pursue a career as a wildlife rehabilitator, dedicating years to volunteering and apprenticing under licensed professionals. Her diligence led to nearly perfect scores on the required Pennsylvania Game Commission tests, propelling her towards her dream of becoming a wildlife rehabilitator.

"For me personally, choosing this path has proven to be an enriching journey, filled with challenges. The opportunity to share knowledge and experiences with vast generations is invigorating. Our ecosystem and its inhabitants continue to inspire an endless sense of discovery that I want to continue to share and teach about. I am determined to make a meaningful impact and give Pennsylvania's wildlife a second chance."

--Tracie



Call (717) 808-2652 or email education@ravenridge.org

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



WHY DO WE OFFER EDUCATION PROGRAMS?

In addition to helping sick, injured, and abandoned wildlife, we run education programs that help our community learn about these amazing animals. With every program we run, we hope to educate people about these fantastic animals and foster an appreciation for our local wildlife.

WHAT MAKES OUR PROGRAMS DIFFERENT?

Most people have never had the opportunity to meet wildlife in a safe, educational environment. Our ambassador program provides a unique experience to meet wildlife up close and personal.

WHY SHOULD YOU BOOK A PROGRAM WITH US?

When you book an education program with us, you are not only getting a fun and exciting learning experience but also directly supporting our rehabilitation efforts. Wildlife rehabilitators do not receive any federal or state funding and operate entirely from the money received through donations and education programs. Any money we make from our education programs goes back into helping animals in need. This helps provide for food, medical treatments, surgery, housing, and more.

WHO LEADS THE PROGRAMS?

Our educators are RRWC staff and volunteers who are passionate about wildlife and desire to share their knowledge with others. All educators are trained to handle our animal ambassadors and deliver the programs with safety and quality in mind. Before volunteering with RRWC, all volunteers must pass PA's Child Abuse History Clearance and PA's State Police Criminal Background Check.

MEET THE ANIMAL AMBASSADORS

Due to injury or imprinting on humans, some animals that Raven Ridge rehabilitates are considered “unreleasable.” This means they can no longer survive in the wild on their own.

Because every animal deserves a second chance, these patients become permanent residents of Raven Ridge, and some even become ambassadors!



BARRON VON VULTURE

Black Vulture



MERET

Broad-winged Hawk



TEDDY

Barred Owl



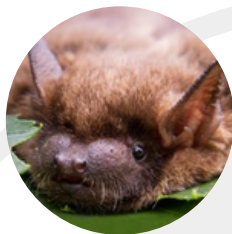
PHOENIX

Peregrine Falcon



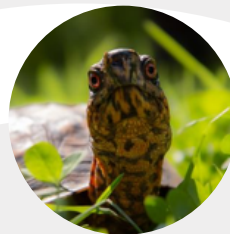
MONSTER

Striped Skunk



MARTY

Big Brown Bat



OZZY

Eastern Box Turtle



HARRIET

Eastern Box Turtle



OBERYN

Black Rat Snake

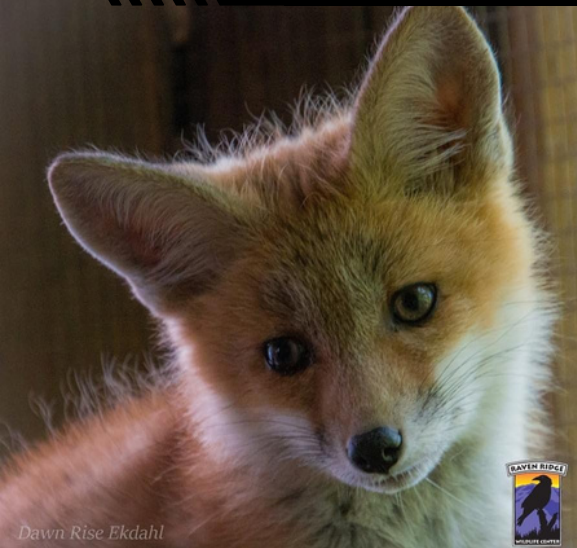
Any program that includes a visit from an animal ambassador will have this symbol of Barron Von Vulture next to the description.



Raven Ridge Wildlife Center possesses all of the necessary permits and licenses from the Pennsylvania Game Commission, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA, and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission for the possession of Pennsylvania's native wildlife for education and rehabilitation purposes.

Call (717) 808-2652 or email education@ravenridge.org

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



No matter what you'd like to learn about, Raven Ridge has a program to suit your needs. We offer a variety of programs tailored to every age group.

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

These are our most popular programs that are suitable for a variety of audiences and events.

PENNSYLVANIA'S WILDLIFE



Pennsylvania is full of beautiful mountains, valleys, and rivers filled with beautiful creatures. This program will serve as an introduction to wildlife native to Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic region, featuring animal ambassadors from a variety of species and habitats.

Program Length: 1 hour **Cost:** \$300

BIRDS OF PREY



Hawks, Owls, Falcons, oh my! This program focuses on the fantastic predators of the sky. Learn what makes these birds unique and how they are built for hunting. With help from some of our ambassadors, get up close and personal with these fascinating creatures.

Program Length: 1 hour **Cost:** \$300

OWLS AND OWL PELLETS



Learn about the night's fiercest predator! Meet some of our owl ambassadors and learn what makes an owl different from their daytime cousins. Then dissect an owl pellet from the Center's owl residents to discover what that owl ate for dinner.

Program Length: 1 hour **Cost:** \$300

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

PRESCHOOL Ages 3-5

ANIMAL SENSORY EXPLORATION

Young learners will embark on the ultimate sensory experience as they learn about Pennsylvania's native wildlife. Using our collection of pelts, skulls, and other fun supplies, groups will learn the essential characteristics of common animals they might see out in the wild.

Program Length: 45 minutes

Group Size: 20 students + chaperones

Cost: \$250

WILDLIFE THROUGH THE SEASONS

Living in Pennsylvania means experiencing the beauty of all four seasons. In these programs, young learners will explore how animals' behavior changes throughout the year. They will learn how they prepare for winter or how they stay busy in the summer. This program has one lesson designed for each of the four seasons. Book one lesson or all four throughout the year for the whole experience!

Program Length: 45 minutes

Group Size: 20 students + chaperones

Cost: \$250 for 1 lesson or \$850 for all four lessons

ELEMENTARY Grades K-6

WILDLIFE DETECTIVES

Put your detective skills to the test! Using our collection of skulls, pelts, and other animal specimens, the students will become detectives and solve a mystery at the wildlife center.

Program Length: 1 hour

Group Size: 25 students + chaperones

Cost: \$250

ADAPTATION GAMES

Animals are built to survive in the wild. This interactive program will introduce kids to a series of games that will help them understand the special characteristics of different species that allow them to live their lives to the fullest.

Program Length: 1 hour

Group Size: 25 students + chaperones

Cost: \$250

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL Grades 6-12

WILDLIFE & OUTDOOR INDUSTRY CAREERS

The opportunities to have a career in the environmental and outdoor fields are growing exponentially. Hear Tracie's story of becoming a Wildlife Rehabilitator and learn about other career paths to take in the outdoor industry.

Program Length: 1 hour

Cost: \$250

ADULTS

At RRWC, we believe that access to educational opportunities for adults is equally as important as it is for youth. That is why we have created programming that is specifically tailored to the needs and subjects that are applicable to the lives of adults.

COMMUNITY WILDLIFE SAFETY

Have you ever found a sick or injured animal and been unsure what to do? Have you ever wondered how the animals we care for end up at RRWC? This program is designed to educate the public about the most common injuries and situations that land animals in our care, how to prevent them, and what to do if you find a sick or injured animal.

Program Length: 1 hour

Cost: \$250

LIVING WITH WILDLIFE

Education concerning the natural world increases our understanding, tolerance, and appreciation for wildlife. Conflicts are bound to occur in many backyards, parks, and other outdoor spaces where people and wildlife meet. This program breaks down common myths, fears, and concerns that people have when interacting with wildlife and provides humane and caring solutions that allow both humans and wildlife to coexist and thrive.

Program Length: 1 hour

Cost: \$250

CUSTOM PROGRAMS

We do not offer custom programs at this time. However, if you have specific goals or topics you would like us to focus on within a program, please let us know at the time of booking, and we will do our best to honor your request.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOOK US FOR A SPECIAL EVENT

In addition to running education programs, RRWC is also available to book for festivals, vendor, or table events. Check out this calendar of county, national, and international themed days where a visit from RRWC can enhance your event!

JANUARY

5th - National Bird Day

FEBRUARY

National Bird Feeding Month
2nd - Groundhog Day

MARCH

3rd - World Wildlife Day
23rd - World Bear Day

APRIL

7th - International Beaver Day
17th - Bat Appreciation Day
22nd - Earth Day

MAY

4th - Bird Day
Third Friday - Endangered Species Day
23rd - World Turtle Day

JUNE

Last Saturday - World Day
Against the Abandonment of
Domestic Animals

JULY

16th - World Snake Day

AUGUST

4th - International Owl
Awareness Day (IOAD)

SEPTEMBER

First Saturday - International
Vulture Awareness Day
28th - World Rabies Day

OCTOBER

National Animal Safety and
Prevention Month
4th - World Animal Day
10th - World Animal Road
Accident Awareness
21st - National Reptile
Awareness Day
Week of Halloween - Bat Week

NOVEMBER

Lancaster's Extra Give
Giving Tuesday

DECEMBER

4th - Wildlife Conservation Day



Call (717) 808-2652 or email education@ravenridge.org

BOOKING A PROGRAM



Once you pick a program that fits your interests and age group, you need to consider some additional items before booking a program.

PROGRAM POLICIES

Cost, Payment, and Cancellation/Refund Policies

All program fees and lengths are listed under each description. Multiple programs can be booked on the same day, but please be aware that some restrictions may apply. When booking multiple programs on the same day, each subsequent program booked after the first will receive a discount on the standard program fee. Payment must be provided before or at the time of the program. All programs must be booked at least 1 month before your desired program date. Cancellations made up to 24 hours before a program will be processed without a penalty. If RRWC cancels a program for any reason, programs may be rescheduled, or a full refund will be provided.

Travel, Time & Space Requirements

RRWC will travel up to 20 miles from Washington Boro, PA, at no additional charge. Any program further than 20 miles will be charged for the additional mileage at the IRS standard mileage rate. All programs will be scheduled between 9 am and 6 pm. Any programs outside of this time frame will be considered on a case-by-case basis. RRWC staff and volunteers will need access to the event space 30 minutes before the program to set up and 30 minutes after the program concludes to pack up. Programs can be held indoors or outdoors with appropriate cover for rain and extreme temperatures. Groups are asked to provide off-street parking close to the event location for one RRWC vehicle.

Youth Supervision

RRWC's main responsibility is to the animal ambassadors and their equipment. All programs for those under 18 must provide the appropriate number of chaperones, who must remain with the group for the duration of the program. RRWC staff and volunteers are not to be left alone with youth at any point during the program.

Animal Ambassador Policies

Due to insurance/liability and PA Game Commission restrictions, the public is not permitted to have any physical contact with any animal ambassadors during the program. This ensures the safety of both the animals and the participants. Not all education programs offered include bringing an animal ambassador. Not all animal ambassadors will be at each education program. RRWC will bring the appropriate quantity and species of animals depending on the topic and setting of the program. RRWC staff and volunteers have the right to contain or remove an animal ambassador from a program due to any situation that may cause the animal unnecessary stress. This could be due to participant behavior, noise level, animal behavior, environmental factors, or any other reason deemed appropriate by RRWC staff and volunteers.

BOOKING A PROGRAM

HOW TO BOOK A PROGRAM

1. Please read the **Education Program Guide** fully and pick a program that fits your needs and age group.
2. Visit our website to complete the online **Interest Form**.
3. Receive a confirmation & invoice from RRWC staff with final program details.
4. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.
5. **1 Week Prior** - You will receive a reminder email about your program.
6. Enjoy your program!

COMPLETE THE INTEREST FORM

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO SUPPORT US

We cannot do what we do without the generous support of the public. If you would like to provide RRWC with additional support at your program, we are always in need of the following items:

- Paper Towels
- Hand Soap
- Trash Bags
- Canned Dog Food
- Dish Soap
- Canned Chicken
- Sponges/Scrub Brushes
- Bird Seed
- Disposable Gloves
- Pet Food Dishes
- Puppy Pads
- Dog or Bird Toys
- Newspaper
- Small/Medium Blankets



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PENNSYLVANIA STATE STANDARDS



Pre-K: All standards are pulled from the Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood Pre-Kindergarten

Grades K-12: All standards are pulled from the Pennsylvania Department of Education Science, Technology, Engineering, and Environmental Literacy Standards (STEELS).

RRWC programs do not complete all the requirements for covering the standard, but do discuss key concepts and provide supplemental experiences.

All Ages

Pennsylvania Wildlife

Pre-K 3.1 PK.A.1

Pre-K 3.1 PK.A.2

Pre-K 3.1 PK.A.5

STEELS Life Science 3.1.2.C

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.F

STEELS 3.4.3-5.A

STEELS 3.4.6-8.D

STEELS Life Science 3.1.9-12.W

STEELS Life Science 3.1.9-12.X

STEELS 3.4.9-12.D

STEELS 3.4.3-5.F

STEELS 3.4.9-12.H

Birds of Prey

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.D

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.F

STEELS Life Science 3.1.4.B

STEELS 3.4.6-8.D

Owls and Owl Pellets

STEELS Life Science 3.1.5.8

STEELS Life Science 3.1.6-8.K

STEELS 3.4.6-8.D

Pre-K

Animal Sensory Exploration

Pre-K 3.1 PK.A.5

Pre-K 3.2 PK.A.9

Pre-K 3.1 PK.B.6

Wildlife through the Seasons

Pre-K 3.1 PK.A.2

Pre-K 3.1 PK.C.3

Pre-K 4.1 PK.E

Elementary (Grades K-6)

Wildlife Detectives

STEELS Life Science 3.1.2.C

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.B

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.G

STEELS Earth and Space Science 3.3.K.C

STEELS Life Science 3.1.4.A

Animal Adaptations

STEELS Earth and Space Science 3.3.K.B

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.B

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.D

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.F

STEELS Life Science 3.1.3.G

STEELS Life Science 3.1.4.B

Middle & High School (Grades 6-12)

Wildlife and Outdoor Industry Careers