

Full-Time Animal Caregiver (Bird Care Specialist)

Overview:

VINE Sanctuary seeks a full-time animal caregiver at its Springfield, VT location. This full-time animal caregiver will work cooperatively with the rest of the on-site sanctuary team to provide care for sanctuary residents and to maintain structures and foraging areas. After receiving training, this staff member will assume primary responsibility for avian health care at the sanctuary, including routine check-ups and prophylactic measures.

Duties:

- Perform morning (sunrise) and/or evening (sunset) chores as scheduled (opening or closing coops, filling or emptying feed and water troughs, performing head counts or face checks, etc.)
- Clean and maintain coops and aviaries
- Follow procedures for individual avian check-ups, ensuring that each bird receives a check-up according to schedule
- Follow procedures for record-keeping for both flocks and individuals
- Alert Site Coordinator or other staff in the event of any evidence of injury or ill health
- Consult with Site Coordinator or other staff to determine treatment plan for any injury or ailment
- Dispense medications or other treatments in accordance with treatment plans
- Drive birds to veterinary appointments
- Share results of veterinary consultations with other staff
- Perform other building or grounds clean-up or maintenance as scheduled or in response to contingency
- Learn the basics of care for all animals at the sanctuary, so as to be able to cover for other staff members as needed
- Other duties as specified by the Site Coordinator or other supervisor

Required Qualifications:

- Sufficient strength and range of motion to perform required duties
- Valid driver's license
- Ability to read and precisely follow written directions
- Ability to understand and precisely follow oral directives
- Attentive to detail: (a) must be actively alert and attentive; (b) must be able to detect low-threshold phenomena such as slightly raspy breathing or minor changes in comb coloration; (c) must measure medications and perform veterinary procedures precisely
- Eager to learn new information, even if it contradicts previously-held beliefs
- Willing to admit and learn from mistakes as well as to accept constructive criticism
- Able to remain calm in high-stress situations
- Willing to work cooperatively as part of a team
- Sincere dedication to animal well-being
- Highly motivated to extend the best care possible

- Vegan or willing to become so upon the initiation of employment
- Previous employment, internship, or volunteer work involving hands-on animal care
- Supports the mission of the organization

Highly Desired Qualifications:

- Previous employment, internship, or volunteer work with a farmed animal sanctuary
- Previous employment, internship, or volunteer work involving bird care
- Veterinary training or experience
- Wild bird rehabilitation training or experience
- College coursework in a related field
- Job experience in a health-care related field
- Especial dedication to birds
- Easygoing personality

Salary will depend upon experience, is commensurate with that offered by other farmed animal sanctuaries, and does represent a living wage for our region.

VINE Sanctuary is located in Springfield, Vermont. In order to be able to fulfill the requirements of this job, applicant will need to live nearby. VINE may be able to offer relocation assistance to the right candidate.

How to Apply:

Send letter of interest, resume, and list of three references (at least one of whom can attest to your past hands-on work with animals) to sanctuary (at) bravebirds.org

Deadline:

Don't delay! We are short-handed and intend to fill this position as quickly as possible.

VINE Sanctuary provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, marital status, amnesty, or status as a covered veteran in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.