



Carer's Code of Conduct

In being a member of ACT Wildlife you must:

Comply with the Constitution and Code of Ethics of ACT Wildlife

Act in accordance with current license agreements and laws that relate to the rehabilitation of wildlife.

Act and behave with courtesy and respect, enhancing the reputation of ACT Wildlife when dealing with the public.

Treat fellow members with respect, without harassment and with proper regard for their rights and obligations as a volunteer.

Be mindful of your own individual and others care and safety.

Avoid any attempt to gain individual benefit or advantage to the detriment of ACT Wildlife.

Only provide public statements on behalf of ACT Wildlife with prior approval from the ACT Wildlife Committee.

Return all equipment loaned by ACT Wildlife in good and operable condition.

Understand that by not adhering to ACT Wildlife Constitution, rules and policies could result in membership being revoked.

Above all, respect the animals in your care by providing the best possible husbandry and care, including euthanasia, to achieve the best possible welfare outcomes. This includes relinquishing an animal to another carer if that animal's rehabilitation was improved by social contact with the same species.

Only members who have completed the basic training are able to care for wildlife. Carers are expected to complete ongoing advanced training, as required, relevant to the species they care for.

This document will be reviewed six monthly.



CODE OF ETHICS

A wildlife rehabilitator should

- ✓ strive to achieve high standards of care for native fauna through knowledge and an understanding of the field. Continuing efforts must be made to keep informed of current rehabilitation information, methods, and regulations.
- ✓ be responsible, conscientious, and dedicated, and should continuously work toward improving the quality of care given to native fauna undergoing rehabilitation.
- ✓ [must] abide by local, state, and federal laws concerning wildlife, wildlife rehabilitation and associated activities.
- ✓ establish and maintain safe working habits and conditions.
- ✓ acknowledge their own limitations and enlist the assistance of a veterinarian or other trained professional when appropriate.
- ✓ respect other rehabilitators and persons in related fields, sharing skills and knowledge in the spirit of cooperation for the welfare of native fauna.
- ✓ strive to provide professional and humane care in all phases of wildlife rehabilitation, respecting the wildness and maintain the dignity of each animal in life and in death. Releasable native fauna should be maintained in a wild condition and released as soon as appropriate. Non-viable and non-releasable native animals must be euthanased under licence obligations issued by the ACT Government.
- ✓ encourage community support and involvement through volunteer training a public education. The common goal should be to promote a responsible concern for living beings and the welfare of the environment.
- ✓ work on the basis of sound ecological principles, incorporating appropriate conservation ethics and an attitude of stewardship. In particular, there must be a focus on the preservation of habitat for native fauna.
- ✓ conduct all business and activities in a professional manner, with honesty, integrity, compassion, and commitment, realising that an individual's conduct reflects on the entire field of wildlife rehabilitation.