



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.