



**Native  
Animal  
Rescue**

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Native Animal Rescue  
is the registered trading name for  
Fauna Rehabilitation Foundation

## **VOLUNTEERING AT NATIVE ANIMAL RESCUE**

Thank you for your recent expression of interest in volunteering at Native Animal Rescue (NAR). This letter will provide you with some background information about volunteering at NAR.

### ***Working with wild native animals***

Upfront it needs to be said that working with native animals that are sick or injured is not always a "warm and fuzzy" experience. Firstly you would be working with animals that are injured or sick and can be experiencing pain. Some of these animals require intensive attention to their care, welfare and hygiene. That means a lot of our work with the animals is focussed on:-

- Preparing and providing the right sort of food for each animal, including harvesting native foliage suited to the various species; and
- Cleaning out the areas where they are housed to remove potentially harmful or unpleasant materials.

It also needs to be understood that you will be working with wild animals, particularly as they return to good health, there is the potential that they can inflict injury out of fear, as they seek to protect themselves.

Because they are wild animals, we work as quietly as possible when around the animals. We do not handle them; we work hard to keep them wild. Keeping them unfamiliar to humans is a good way to ensure they survive once they are released back into the wild. Another reason for not unnecessarily handling wildlife is that they can carry Zoonotic diseases. There are educational animals at the centre in which you are able to interact with at certain times with approval from your Supervisor.

**Age Requirement** For insurance purposes, 15 years of age and above.

### ***NAR Membership***

It is a requirement that all volunteers at NAR become NAR members. Current membership fees are available on our website at <https://nativeanimalrescue.org.au/involved/membership/>.

### ***Euthanasia***

NAR is focussed on the health and welfare of the animals. If you volunteer at NAR, you must accept that euthanasia, can sometimes be the only outcome.

**Proudly Supporting Native Animal Rescue**



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Parks and Wildlife



City of Bayswater

## ***Clothing***

Volunteers working at NAR must wear long pants and closed shoes for Occupational Health and Safety policy requirements. We also require volunteers to wear our NAR uniform shirts when working on shift.

## ***Volunteer Shift Hours***

NAR operates every day of the year from 9:00am to 5:00pm. There are two shifts: 9am to 1pm and 1pm to 5pm (4 hour shift on a weekly roster). The work of NAR is totally dependent on having reliable and competent volunteers. We require volunteers to email the Volunteer Manager ([admin@nativeanimalrescue.org.au](mailto:admin@nativeanimalrescue.org.au)) if they cannot attend their rostered shifts and in such case, we ask you to provide us with as much lead time as possible, so that we can make alternative arrangements to cover your absence. If you cannot adhere to the above please do not apply.

You are required to sign on and off at the start and end of your shift. This serves three purposes:-

1. It allows us to confirm who is on site in the case of an emergency;
2. It provides appropriate data and to qualify volunteers for rewards that are offered by Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
3. It ensures we can meet our recording obligations for volunteer accident insurance purposes.

## ***Volunteer progression***

We encourage volunteers to develop their skills and knowledge, we hold several training sessions throughout the year as well as daily training. As your skills develop you will have more opportunity for hands on experience in rehabilitation of our wildlife.

We know, from experience, that NAR provides opportunity for people to grow and develop in their volunteer roles. Many of our past volunteers have gone on to be successful Veterinary nurses or Veterinarians and have found the skills and experience they have developed at NAR has placed them in good stead and made them highly valued in their subsequent professions.

## ***Volunteer Induction***

Before you commence at NAR as a volunteer, regardless of whether you will be working with animals or in another area. We require you to attend one of our volunteer induction sessions. This session will introduce you to the policies and procedures with which you will be required to comply; it will provide you with a background on important occupational safety and health issues and the opportunity to tour the facilities and gain a good appreciation of the culture and environment at NAR.

## ***Next Step***

Having read the above, if you still wish to volunteer at NAR, please contact the Volunteer Manager at [admin@nativeanimalrescue.org.au](mailto:admin@nativeanimalrescue.org.au)

Yours sincerely



Kelli Ellemor (President)