

▶ Ever Wonder...

- ◆ When are nocturnal animals most active?
- ◆ Do we have marsupials in New Jersey?
- ◆ Are owls really wise?
- ◆ What do hawks eat?
- ◆ How can we help wildlife?
- ◆ Are bats blind?
- ◆ When does wildlife need our help?
- ◆ Do I need to worry about Lyme disease, West Nile Virus, avian flu and rabies?
- ◆ Do opossums “play dead?”
- ◆ Do bats get in your hair?

These are some of the questions we answer during our education programs.



Immature Bald Eagle

▶ About MCWC

The Mercer County Wildlife Center is a state and federally licensed facility that cares for injured, ill, and displaced native wildlife. The Center provides these animals with medical treatment and a temporary refuge before releasing them back into an appropriate wild habitat.

For more information regarding the work we do and the animals who share our environment, including a series of printable brochures that provide tips for coexisting peacefully with those animals, visit us online at <http://nj.gov/counties/mercerc/community/wildlife/>

▶ Mercer County
Wildlife Center
P.O. Box 161
Titusville, NJ 08560

(609) 883-6606



Mercer County Wildlife Center

Wildlife Education Programs



Great-Horned Owl

The Mercer County
Wildlife Center
believes that education is
the key to a peaceful
coexistence among the
varied inhabitants of the
planet.

Brian M. Hughes, County Executive

The Mercer County Wildlife Center is operated and maintained by the Mercer County Park Commission.
Kevin B. Bannon, Executive Director

▶ About Our Programs

While the primary purpose of the Mercer County Wildlife Center is to provide a community resource to handle wildlife questions and concerns, of equal importance are the education opportunities we provide. We believe that education is the key to a peaceful coexistence among the varied inhabitants of our area.

At the Center, we shelter and care for a group of animals with permanent disabilities. Due to their injuries, these animals are not releasable. So, they travel with us to schools, scout meetings, senior centers, and community events throughout the year, acting as ambassadors for their wild counterparts.

Throughout the year, we provide comprehensive education presentations that feature these education animals.

We tailor our education presentations to a specific age group or interest. To that end, some of the topics we cover include:

▶ Topics We Cover

- ◆ Nocturnal vs. diurnal animals
- ◆ Animals that are herbivores, carnivores, or omnivores
- ◆ Natural history of each species
- ◆ How a species is affected by human development

- ◆ When and how to intervene with an animal that may need help
- ◆ Any general subjects that are currently of interest, including chemicals, pollution, diseases, habitat destruction, and conservation

▶ Animals We Bring

The education animals that we introduce at our programs include hawks, falcons, owls, vultures, and various mammals. Our standard 60-minute native wildlife program includes four animals that are selected by the speaker based on the program request, age group, and animals available at that time. We also offer raptor programs, nocturnal animal programs, or themed programs (Halloween animals, owls, etc.). All of those also include four animals.

Our program speakers are educated and trained to work with our education animals so that the safety of the audience, the animal and the speaker are ensured throughout the presentation. We do not allow the audience to touch the animals, and the animals are under the speaker's control at all times.



Red-Tail Hawk

▶ Program Cost

The standard fee for a 60-minute native wildlife program is \$150.00 (additional fees apply in Pennsylvania). In lieu of the program fees, in-kind donations from MCWC's Wish List may be substituted if they total the applicable program fee—for example, \$150 worth of paper towels, bleach, pedialyte, copy paper, etc. You may request a copy of our Wish List or find it online at our website listed on the back of this brochure.

The fees and donations collected from the education programs go directly toward the care of the education animals and the patients at MCWC.

▶ Scheduling a Program

You may schedule a program with the Mercer County Wildlife Center by calling us at 609-883-6606 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Evening and weekend programs are available. Please allow us at least three weeks advance notice of your program request.