Raptor Care Specialist

Position Type: Full-time, Non-exempt
Salary: Starting at $13.00/hour, DOE
Benefits: Health, life & long-term disability insurance, paid time off (vacation, sick, holidays), membership privileges, and 403(b)

The Raptor Care Specialist manages and maintains Fontenelle Forest’s Raptor Recovery captive education and display raptors, including care, management and record-keeping. Work schedule includes some weekends and evenings. This position has an on-site residency requirement. On-site residency is provided and required to provide a reasonable deterrence against threats, damage, or destruction to the Raptor Woodland Refuge and its inhabitants, and to ensure basic animal care is provided at the Nature Center.

Primary Duties:
• For captive education and display raptors per established protocols. (55%)
  o Obtain food; prepare food, and feed.
  o Medicate and perform minor treatment; contact director for other needs.
  o Clean/disinfect raptor living quarters.
• Train other raptor staff members and volunteers to perform feeding and cleaning tasks; evaluate their work. (15%)
• Assist staff and volunteers as needed to prepare raptors for educational programs (10%)
• Maintain pertinent data based information using Raptor Med program. (5%)
• Document care/feeding, conditioning, and handling of display raptors as required by established protocols. (2.5%)
• Revise raptor display protocols as needed. (2.5%)

Additional Duties (10%):
• Conduct educational programs with captive raptors both on and off-site
• Obtain and maintain supplies for Raptor care and handling and Raptor Woodland Refuge mews
• When needed, assist with raptor rehabilitation duties at the rehabilitation center near Elmwood, NE. Duties may include, but are not limited to, cleaning, preparing raptor food, transporting raptors, and record keeping.
• Occasional travel to obtain supplies, transport raptors, and conduct education programs
• Maintain the Raptor Woodland Refuge and mews in a manner to ensure safety for both the raptors and guests.
• Attend organizational and department staff meetings.
• Complete projects and other duties assigned by the Director of Raptor Recovery. This description reflects management’s assignment of essential functions. It does not proscribe or restrict the tasks that may be assigned.
Additional duties related to the on-site residency, including securing the Nature Center and timely response to facility emergencies and security concerns outside of normal business hours, are detailed in the housing agreement.

**Skills and Qualifications:**
- Proven ability to handle raptors safely and respectfully
- Attention to detail
- Familiarity with, and understanding of, federal and state migratory bird permit requirements
- High competency with computer processes
- Must have and be able to use a phone with texting and email capability
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously
- Valid driver's license
- Ability to successfully pass a background check
- This position has an on-site residency requirement

**Education and Experience:**
- Bachelors of Science degree in Biology, Environmental Science, Veterinary Science or related field (required)
- Minimum of two (2) years of experience in handling and caring for raptors, three (3) years preferred
- Minimum of two (2) years of experience in handling raptors in an educational setting, three (3) years preferred
- Preferred: experience working with native Nebraska raptors
- Preferred: experience working with Eagles

**Physical Demands:**
- Position requires moderate physical labor, such as carrying raptor care supplies and equipment. Person in this position must be able to lift up to 50 pounds to a height of 3-5 feet.
- Position requires frequent bending, reaching, kneeling, walking, standing, and climbing. Position also requires some repetitive movements related to seasonal outdoor work including, but not limited to, sweeping, raking and snow shoveling.
- Position requires regular exposure to disinfectant solutions, animal odors, allergens, and animal waste. Person in this position must be able to perform required work in these conditions while adhering to standard safety precautions.
- Constantly works in outdoor weather conditions.
- Ability to climb stairs (to enter on-site residence).

**To Apply:** Send cover letter, resume and at least three (3) references to info@fontenelleforest.org with “ATTN: Director of Raptor Recovery” in subject line by October 15th.