Volunteer Job Description

**Position Title:** Animal Care Volunteer

**Position Concept:** Volunteers in this position will assist Earthplace staff in the care and handling of the live animals in the Animal Hall and Connecticut Birds of Prey Exhibit. While engaged in these duties volunteers may also provide the visiting public with interpretive information on animal care and handling.

**Reports to:** Animal Care Manager and Director of Nature Programs

**Work Schedule**
- At least one two-hour shift per week for a minimum commitment of two months.
- Shifts are available seven days a week during business hours

**Position Qualifications and Requirements**
At least 18 years old
In good physical condition and able to lift 25lb
Willingness to submit to a criminal background check. This is necessary as our facility serves children.
Signature of the Earthplace Animal Care Volunteer Agreement and Release
We seek individuals who are dedicated to animal care, hard-working, and able to work as part of a team

**Duties and Responsibilities**
Cleaning indoor and outdoor animal cages
Food preparation and feeding
Conducting enrichment activities
Assisting with training and handling
Assisting with cage and grounds maintenance
Providing information to the visiting public on the care and ecology of the animal residents

**Training**
Initial two-hour orientation
Two weeks spent shadowing staff and experienced volunteers
Additional training may be provided in other areas based on the volunteer’s interests
Evaluation
After the two week shadowing period the volunteer will meet with staff to discuss progress and determine if volunteering will continue. There will be monthly check-in meetings between volunteers and staff to discuss performance, questions, and (when possible) with which animals the volunteer would like to focus their attention on.

Benefits
The opportunity to interact with and learn about many different species of animals from native CT wildlife to domestic animals to exotics. After 25 hours volunteer receives an Earthplace T-shirt. After 75 hours volunteer receives two tickets to either the annual Toast for the Trees (only for volunteers over age 21) or Fall Festival.