



Since its founding in 1971, the Southeastern Raptor Center has treated and released thousands of birds of prey back into the wild.

Safety

Volunteers should abide by the following guidelines:

- Wear appropriate gloves when handling raptors. Only use designated gloves to avoid cross-contamination
- Wash hands frequently and decontaminate feet with disinfectant solution when directed
- Do not enter the educational building or participate in same-day educational programs if you have been to rehabilitation
- Wear closed-toed shoes, jeans, and refrain from wearing excessive and/or dangling jewelry

*See handling panel for safe raptor handling techniques

Orphan Care

Orphan birds (either newly hatched or juveniles) should be handled with care to avoid imprinting and stress. When handling please follow the necessary precautions.

Feeding: Depending on the species, orphans will need to be fed anywhere from every ten minutes to every two to three hours. On your shifts, check with the staff to see when feeding is necessary. Always wear provided camo-gear when hand-feeding orphans.

Handling: Do not pick up the orphans unless instructed. Do not take pictures or talk in areas where orphans are present.



SRC Goals

Rehabilitation

The SRC rehabilitates between 250 and 300 injured, ill, or orphaned raptors annually.

Education

The SRC holds public releases and events focusing on how humans impact local raptor populations.

Conservation

The SRC aims to protect natural resources, including animal and plant species. SRC event attendees are taught about human impact reduction to aid in future habitat protection.

Handling

• You are working with WILD birds of prey; proper restraining techniques are important for your own safety as well as the birds' safety.

• When handling a bird, be sure to have a partner present and be respectful of the animal's well-being.

• If the bird seems stressed or aggressive, do not handle it without permission. ALWAYS wear gloves when feeding. Smaller birds may call for gardenening or rubber gloves.

• Always read the cards by the cages and follow any restrictions on them! • Proper raptor restraint calls for facing your palm toward the bird. This allows for complete control over the bird's talons to decrease risk of injury.

Volunteer Benefits

- You play a key role in rehabilitating birds of prey back to health
- You get to participate in releases



- You can receive letters of recommendation for your service
- You receive a rewarding experience working with birds of prey
- You learn

• Be sure to support the bird's neck and bring in their wings once they are restrained.

• With your palm facing down, place your index finger between the bird's leg using your thumb and third finger to secure around the outside.

• Take your other hand and reach behind the bird's head to securely support the bird's head and wings.



Volunteers Should...

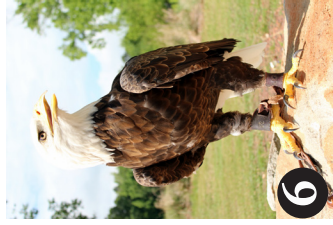
- Conduct themselves in a professional manner and be respectful of others
- Follow the proper chain of command when reporting issues
- Abide by all SRC policies, for example, the dress code & photo policies, as well as any other instruction given by SRC staff members
- Complete their assigned tasks and not assign those tasks to anyone else (with the exception of shift leaders)
- Maintain a professional decorum in interactions with other volunteers, the public, SRC staff members, and guests
- Obtain permission from a supervisor before bringing guests to the SRC
- In case of emergency, call Eva Mathews at (334) 321-7589 or Liz Crandell at (334) 321-7760



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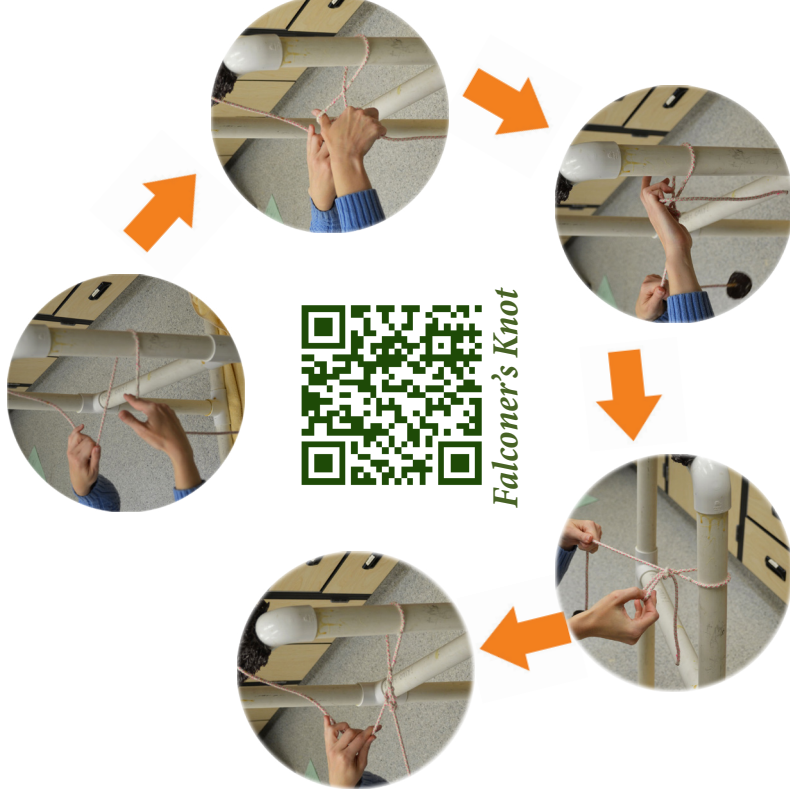
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1. Black Vulture: BLVU (*Coragyps atratus*) One of the largest raptors you will see at the center, and possibly the most misunderstood. Their defining traits are their black color and bare-black head.
2. American Kestrel: AMKE (*Falco sparverius*) The smallest falcon and one of the smallest raptors at center. Their defining traits are small size, black vertical lines on the sides of the face, and rusty-brown top color. Males have slate-blue wings while females have reddish-brown wings.
3. Red-Shouldered Hawk: RSHA (*Buteo lineatus*) A medium-sized hawk. Their defining traits are a reddish breast with dark brown-and-white checkered wings.
4. Red-Tailed Hawk: RTHA (*Buteo jamaicensis*) One of the largest hawks at the center. Their defining trait is a cinnamon-red tail. Immature hawks have brown-banded tails until they reach two years of age.
5. Broad-Winged Hawk: BWHH (*Buteo platyterus*) One of the smallest hawks at the center. Their defining traits are a short, stocky shape with a black-and-white banded tail. Immature hawks are lighter in color.
6. American Bald Eagle: BAEA (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) The largest species of raptor you will see at the center. Their defining trait is a white crest and tail. Immature bald eagles have dark heads and tails, which turn white when they reach five years of age.
7. Great Horned Owl: GHOW (*Bubo virginianus*) The largest species of owl you will see at the center. Their defining traits are long, ear-like tufts on the tops of their heads and bright, yellow eyes.
8. Barred Owl: BDOW (*Strix varia*) A medium-sized owl. Their defining traits are light-brown-and-white speckled color, stocky frame, and rounded tail. Their call is known to sound like, "Who cooks for you?"
9. Barn Owl: BNOW (*Tyto alba*) A medium-sized owl. Their defining traits are a white heart-shaped face, pale color, and dark eyes.
10. Eastern Screech Owl: EASO (*Otus asio*) The smallest species of owl you will see at the center. Their defining traits are a short, stocky frame, large head, and small ear-like tufts. Their colors range from a gray to a deep cinnamon red.
11. Turkey Vulture: TUVU (*Cathartes aura*) Similar to BLVU, this is one of the largest raptors you will see at the center. Their defining traits are a large wing span and bare red head.