## **Volunteering for Raptor Care at Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center**

### Background:

Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Education Center (NCEEC) is part of the Charles County Public School System. Located at 5300 Turkey Tayac Place on Nanjemoy Creek, the 10-acre campus has been used by the school system since 1987 through a land-lease agreement with the Posey family. NCEEC hosts a multitude of programs including: 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trips to study watershed ecology; summer camps for middle-school aged students; teacher workshops; the Maryland Master Naturalist Program; and Raptor Education and Outreach.

#### Raptors in Residence:

As of January 2021, NCEEC cares for six raptors. Due to injuries or pre-existing conditions, all are unable to survive in the wild. They include an Eastern Screech Owl, two Barred Owls, a Red-Tailed Hawk, a Barn Owl, and a Bald Eagle. These raptors serve as ambassadors at educational demonstrations.

## Raptor Care and the Need for Volunteers:

Staff care for the raptors during the week. Volunteers help on weekends and during school holidays to feed the raptors and clean enclosures. The following is a summary of volunteer requirements.

- Volunteers must abide by Charles County Public School rules
- An adult must accompany student volunteers
- Volunteers must attend an on-site training session
- Volunteers are required to fill out and submit an application (parents must also sign applications for youth under 18 years of age)
- Ideally, volunteers will commit to help for a minimum of one year
- Typically, a family volunteers once a month or once every other month

#### Contact:

If you are interested in volunteering or have any questions, please contact **Mr. Mike Callahan**, Raptor Care Supervisor, at NCEEC to obtain an application and to set up a training appointment. Due to COVID-19, only one family at a time can attend training.

Email: mcallahan@ccboe.com

• Phone: 301-743-3526

For more information about the Nanjemoy Creek Environmental Center, please visit the school website at: <a href="https://www.ccboe.com/schools/Nanjemoycreek/">https://www.ccboe.com/schools/Nanjemoycreek/</a>

To take a virtual tour of NCEEC, click on the following link: <a href="https://youtu.be/itrYO3-Y4P4">https://youtu.be/itrYO3-Y4P4</a>



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