

# COUNTY OF MERCER

McDADE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
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BRIAN M. HUGHES  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DATE: March 4, 2010

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## MERCER COUNTY WILDLIFE CENTER SEEKS VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

**TRENTON**—Mercer County Wildlife Center, which accepted and treated 2,144 birds, mammals and reptiles in 2009, is seeking individuals who would like to volunteer their time to care for animals brought to the Hopewell Township facility.

The Center's staff and volunteers care for native wildlife that are injured, ill, or displaced, and provide medical treatment and a temporary refuge to prepare the animals for release into an appropriate, wild habitat. The Center is staffed 365 days a year by one full-time licensed wildlife rehabilitator and two full-time assistants and receives more than 11,000 phone calls annually.

“Without our dedicated volunteers, including three veterinarians, the Wildlife Center could not exist, and that is why I am asking animal lovers who are willing to give their time to assist us,” said Mercer County Executive Brian M. Hughes.

The Mercer County Wildlife Center, a facility of the Mercer County Park Commission, has scheduled its **2010 volunteer orientation from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 20 and 10 a.m. to noon, Sunday, March 21, 2010 at the center. Those who are interested are required to attend only one of the two sessions.**

To work directly with the animals, volunteers must be at least 18 years of age, have had a current tetanus vaccine, and are required to attend one orientation session. No other sessions will be offered this year. The Center requires that volunteers that work with animals make a commitment to a regular, once-a-week, four-hour shift from April through October. This commitment is necessary because of the feeding schedule requirements and housing demands of the animals.

The Mercer County Wildlife Center is located on Route 29, approximately 3 miles south of Lambertville and 12 miles north of Trenton. Anyone interested in registering for either orientation session or needing more information can call Volunteer Coordinator Jane Rakos-Yates at (609) 883-6606 x103.

*Visit Mercer County on the web at [www.mercercounty.org](http://www.mercercounty.org)*