

American Heritage Wildlife Foundation Scholarship

Congratulations on wanting to further your education and thank you for your interest in pursuing a career in wildlife conservation. We hope this small scholarship will start you on the path to achieving your goal.

I will provide some background information about American Heritage Wildlife Foundation, Inc. We began in 2001 and are still the only 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization in this region dedicated to the preservation of all local wildlife through the efforts of rehabilitation and community education. Our vision is to create the first Inland Pacific Northwest Nature Center. Our website is **www.ahwf.org**. We are a grass-roots group, which means we operate solely by volunteers and donations.

This scholarship opportunity is open to Clark Fork High School, Lake Pend Oreille High School, and Sandpoint High School seniors. The applicants must be signed up to attend a two or four year school. The focus must be wildlife conservation in some form.

The applicant will complete a three-page double-spaced essay detailing their vision and goals for the future. Additionally, a one-page report will be submitted on the student's wild animal of choice – the scientific name, the natural history, the behaviors, etc. The applicant will also perform at least one of the projects detailed below. Membership to American Heritage Wildlife Foundation is appreciated but has no bearing on the decision.

We want you to help us foster a relationship between AHWF and the community. You get to discover how you can help your local wildlife. We get a greater awareness within the community. The wild animals have a greater chance of survival because of the increase of knowledge in the human population. Tap into your creative side; utilize that wonderful youthful energy and share your knowledge.

Enjoy the Experience. Have Fun. Good Luck.

Kathleen St. Clair – McGee AHWF.ORG founder

"In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught". -B.Dioum

Wildlife and Wilderness Awareness Education Program.

You get the opportunity to share your passion for wildlife with your friends and family and the community! It is your responsibility to arrange with whichever community venue (public or private school, community hall, public library, etc) you prefer. We have contact information for several venues if you are unable. Please complete the task in a timely fashion. We have the demonstration materials for five separate presentations. You may choose your own topic, such as native neighbor cohabitation or expand on our existing programs (Bird Vocalizations, Mammal Identification, What Scares You, & What Makes a Habitat, Human Footprint). You will give this demonstration; you can plan on at least one hour for the actual presentation.

After your volunteer project is finished, it is important to reflect on the experience – to think about what you did, what you learned from it and the impact it had. Here are some suggested activities:

- Tell your family and friends about something you learned and if/how you will continue to help others and AHWF.
- Draw a picture, write a poem or create a jingle about the service activity. (we'd love to hear it ☺)
- Write about your experience on your or the AHWF blog, FaceBook or Twitter.
- Write a letter to the editor to discuss your experience and encourage others to serve.
- You may share with your group:
 - Why you volunteered.
 - What you learned about the wildlife or the environment.
 - What your future plans are.
 - What you hope the group learned.

Once the project has been completed, please fill out and return the short survey for our records.

1. Name & location of the community venue chosen (school, community hall, etc.)

2. Date the presentation was delivered. _____

3. Number of participants listening to the presentation _____

4. Was there any media publicity? _____

(social media (twitter, facebook, blogsite) counts equally to the printed newspapers or television media exposure).

Thank you for supporting the only 501©3 nonprofit organization in this region dedicated to the creation of the first Inland Pacific Northwest Nature Center. We are working to rehabilitate the injured and orphaned native wildlife. www.ahwf.org

Recycling and Refuse Education Program.

Did you know **polar fleece is partially made from recycled plastic bottles?** Perhaps that bit of information will be a fact that you will learn while you prepare for your presentation and demonstration at whichever public venue suits your schedule.

It is your responsibility to arrange with whichever community venue (public or private school, community hall, public library, etc) you prefer. We have contact information for several venues if you are unable. Please complete the task in a timely fashion. You will give this demonstration; you can plan on at least one hour for the actual presentation.

This demonstration will be planned, developed, and given by you. Implementing a community recycling program is encouraged. The demonstration can also be complimented with a wealth of information that is gained from TERRACYCLE.NET. Other helpful sites: <http://environment.about.com/od/earthtalkcolumns/a/recycleplastics.htm> & Recycling bins (can be purchased at sites such as <http://www.nextag.com/plastic-recycling-bin/compare-html>)

We would like to suggest that you to have a section about the impact of improper garbage disposal on the local wildlife. For example: the pop can rings can cause strangulation; to correctly dispose cut every ring. The little bits of paper or plastic wrappers that are carelessly tossed aside that still smell like food – our native neighbors ingest them and the item causes a painful blockage that will result in death. AHWF will provide the story and email photos of an osprey that was caught in fishing line.

After your volunteer project is finished, it is important to reflect on the experience – to think about what you did, what you learned from it and the impact it had. Here are some suggested activities:

- Tell your family and friends about something you learned and if/how you will continue to help others and AHWF.
- Draw a picture, write a poem or create a jingle about the service activity. (we'd love to hear it 😊)
- Write about your experience on your or the AHWF blog, FaceBook or Twitter.
- Write a letter to the editor to discuss your experience and encourage others to serve.
- You may share with your group
 - Why did you volunteer today?
 - What did you learn about recycling, the environment or helping the community?
 - What you hope your group learned from the presentation.

Once the project has been completed, please fill out and return the short survey for our records.

1. Name & location of the community venue chosen (school, community hall, etc.)

2. Date the presentation was delivered. _____

3. Number of participants listening to the presentation _____

4. Was there any media publicity? _____

(social media (twitter, facebook, blogsite) counts equal to printed newspapers or television media exposure).

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Spring Clean Up project

It is your responsibility to sign up for and report on time to complete the scheduled task. The task requires a minimum of 3 hours commitment.

This program allows you to enjoy the fresh air of the Inland Pacific Northwest while performing the important community service of helping to prepare the only 501 C3 nonprofit organization in this region its year of service. You will get to see first hand what 'animal husbandry' means first hand. We clean up the animal infirmary, and prepare for a new year. This project includes raking, scrubbing, and sweeping. If we have animals in at the time of volunteering there is a possibility of assisting with that as well.

You are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Gloves are recommended. Please make sure you are properly hydrated.

After your volunteer project is finished, it is important to reflect on the experience – to think about what you did, what you learned from it and the impact it had. Here are some suggested activities:

- Tell your family and friends about something you learned and if/how you will continue to help others and AHWF.
- Draw a picture, write a poem or create a jingle about the service activity. (we'd love to hear it 😊)
- Write about your experience on your or the AHWF blog, FaceBook or Twitter.
- Write a letter to the editor to discuss your experience and encourage others to serve.
- Lead a group discussion with your peers and ask questions such as:

Why did you volunteer today? How the individuals within the group can help AHWF?

What you learned while at the facility.

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Highway Clean Up project

It is your responsibility to sign up for and report on time to complete the scheduled task. This is a minimum of 3 hours commitment.

This program allows you (and your family or friends) to enjoy the fresh air of the Inland Pacific Northwest while performing the important community service of cleaning along a three- mile stretch of scenic Highway 200.

American Heritage Wildlife Foundation will provide a safety meeting prior to beginning. Safety vests and Trash bags will be provided by Idaho Transportation Department. In addition to signing the AHWF waiver, there is an additional ITD waiver. If you are under 18 you must have your parent or guardian sign a waiver as well. You are encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Gloves and hats are recommended. Please make sure you are properly hydrated.

After your volunteer project is finished, it is important to reflect on the experience – to think about what you did, what you learned from it and the impact it had. Here are some suggested activities:

- Tell your family and friends about something you learned and if/how you will continue to help others and AHWF.
- Draw a picture, write a poem or create a jingle about the service activity. (we'd love to hear it ☺)
- Write about your experience on your or the AHWF blog, FaceBook or Twitter.
- Write a letter to the editor to discuss your experience and encourage others to serve.
- Lead a group discussion with your peers asking questions such as:

Why did you volunteer today? What animal species did you encounter (sight or sound)?

How is littering detrimental to wildlife? What are some methods being implemented to decrease the wild animal injuries & fatalities on the highways.

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Independent Wildlife Project

You have the opportunity to jump-start your field experience by creating, implementing, documenting and reporting your findings on whichever wildlife project you may be interested. It is your responsibility to design and organize the project & more importantly - remain safe. We may be able to guide you or suggest a topic initially however you are responsible for 'taking the ball and running with it'. Please complete the task in a timely fashion.

After your volunteer project is finished, it is important to reflect on the experience – to think about what you did, what you learned from it and the impact it had. Please submit for review:

- The journal notes will be submitted as proof of research (they will be returned).
- The purpose of the study and the findings will be documented in a well-organized report.
- Pictures, graphs, charts, and/or audio / video material may be included to enhance the report.
- The report shall include the location site, the dates of observation, & the number of volunteers used (if someone other than you is part of the observation team).

Keep in mind you may be asked to attend an AHWF board of director meeting and present your findings. Additionally, please be able to verbally tell us 'Why you volunteered, What you learned about the wildlife or the environment, What you hope to accomplish'.

If you enjoyed the process and want others to experience it:

Write about your experience on your social media or the AHWF blog, FaceBook or Twitter.
Write a letter to the editor to discuss your experience and encourage others to serve.

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American Heritage Wildlife Foundation Inc.

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Began in 2001

Incorporated with Idaho State as a non-profit in 2001

Received Federal IRS 501C3 status in 2002

Issued U.S. Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Rehabilitation Permit & Idaho State Fish and Game Department Wildlife Rehabilitation Permit for non-game species and birds @ 2003.

Requested Idaho State Rehabilitation Permits for Large Game Species and Long Term Bird of Prey Care 2010.

AHWF is currently providing rehabilitation for all species of injured and orphaned wildlife; we also are able to offer the community a variety of educational demonstrations.

Our Vision:

To create the first Nature Center of the Inland Pacific Northwest.

Our Motto:

“In the end, we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught”. – B.Dioum