



Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation

Educational Animal Protocols

Our organization may or may not utilize live animals to augment an education program. Our educational animals have been accepted into our program after meeting a strict set of criteria.

At all times, they are to be treated with utmost respect and cannot be handled by anyone except a qualified AIWC handler. Participants may not be allowed to touch them. It is important to understand that our educational animals were born wild; our ultimate wish is that they would have remained that way. They have individual personalities and may be unpredictable. We cannot guarantee any of them will be 'in the mood' for class on any given day. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this.



Gulliver ~ the Striped Skunk

Gulliver's name represents the many trips, tours and adventures he will experience with us here at AIWC and with our many supporters.

Gulliver came to AIWC as a baby from Fish Creek 24hr. Pet Hospital after being found all alone and curled up crying under a tree. From the moment of admission, it was clear to us Gulliver was a special guy. He is friendly, good humored, and very cute! He runs after everyone, up and down the hallway, and loves to socialize.

Gulliver has already been on several educational outings, and has enjoyed each one. Though frightened skunks may stamp and spray, Gulliver is extremely well behaved. He is very well suited to his role as an education ambassador for AIWC.

Griffin ~ the Red-Tailed Hawk

Griffin is a dark phase red-tailed hawk hatched in 2013. As a fledgling he was hit by a car.

His injuries were head trauma and shortly after admission Griffin's right eye turned cloudy. It became obvious he was blind in that eye; therefore unable to be released as he would not be able to hunt for himself effectively.

He was found to be passive, quiet and doesn't stress easily, so in December 2013, AIWC staff began testing for suitability as an education ambassador. In January 2014 staff began working with him on jesses and anklets and Griffin did his first education program January 11th, 2014.



To protect both our volunteers and our educational birds or animals, AIWC reserves the right to postpone an event due to the weather or road conditions. The animal's welfare and overall disposition is a priority. The exhibition of an educational animal will be left to the sole discretion of the presenter.