

WILDCARE AUSTRALIA

Training Program

Version 1 – December 2008



The following information regarding the various training workshops offered by Wildcare Australia Inc is provided to assist you in determining which workshops you should attend.

Orientation Program

Frequency	Held monthly - generally the first weekend of each month.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must be a current financial member of Wildcare Australia Inc.</p> <p>You must have received your Volunteer Manual and completed the Orientation Program Worksheet PRIOR to attending. These are forwarded to you by post upon processing of your membership application.</p>
Who should attend	<p>Any financial member who wishes to become a registered wildlife rehabilitator (ie, rescue and rehabilitate native wildlife).</p> <p>If you do not wish to be actively involved with rescue or rehabilitation of wildlife, you do not need to complete the Orientation Program. You may still attend other training workshops though.</p> <p>This training workshop is not available to non-members of Wildcare Australia Inc.</p>
Program Outline	<p>The Orientation Program covers the basic requirements of wildlife rehabilitation including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The role of the wildlife rehabilitator• History and general operation of Wildcare Australia Inc• Basic Rescue Techniques

Don't forget to register for the workshops that you wish to attend!



Wildlife Habitat and Native Plant Identification

Frequency	Generally held quarterly.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	Not applicable
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of native wildlife (both experienced and inexperienced). This course is compulsory for all Wildcare Australia registered carers.
Program Outline	This course will provide wildlife carers with the knowledge required to correctly identify native food and appropriate release sites for a wide variety of species of wildlife. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecosystems of South East Queensland • Flora and Fauna Associations • Local Wildlife Food Species • Native Plant Identification

Basic Anatomy and Physiology of Native Wildlife

Frequency	Held several times a year.
Venue locations	Australian Wildlife Hospital – Beerwah.
Lecturer	Dr Tania Bishop BVSc (hons) MACVSc (Avian Health). Dr Bishop has 9 years experience as a wildlife veterinarian and has been a wildlife carer for the last 15 years.
Pre-Requisites	It is recommended that only wildlife rehabilitators with at least 6 months experience attend. Cost of workshop is \$45 per person.
Who should attend	Experienced wildlife carers wishing to learn more about the anatomy and physiology of common wildlife species to assist in the care and management of these species in care.
Program Outline	Morning Session consists of theory covering the basic physiology and anatomy of all the major body systems with reference to major species differences. The session will also include conditions you are likely to encounter as a wildlife carer and will cover the relevant physiology behind these to give a greater understanding of the mechanisms behind them – eg pain, shock etc. Afternoon Session consists of a practical component including a post mortem session to reinforce the morning theory session. We will aim to give an understanding of what is normal and also emphasise the difference between post mortem changes and true pathology. The session should give you an idea on how to conduct a basic post mortem and to be able to identify some of the most common causes of death that wildlife carers will be confronted with.

First Aid for Native Wildlife – Basic Course

Frequency	Generally held quarterly.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended the Orientation Program prior to attending this course.
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of native wildlife (both experienced and inexperienced). This course is compulsory for all Wildcare Australia registered carers.
Program Outline	This course covers basic first aid requirements that will assist wildlife carers assess and manage sick and injured wildlife. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment Techniques • Initial Assessment • Thorough physical assessment • Recognition of Pain • Minimising Pain and Discomfort • Vital Signs and Assessment Techniques • Record Keeping • Basic First Aid Kit • Common Injuries, Diseases and Conditions • Hygiene and Quarantine • Medicating wildlife • Drug routes of administration • The Vet Visit • Management of Sick and Injured Wildlife • Deceased Animals

First Aid for Native Wildlife – Advanced Course

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Beerwah
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid for Native Wildlife – Basic Course <p>Note: This course is only open to wildlife rehabilitators with extensive experience with the rescue and rehabilitation of critically injured wildlife.</p>
Who should attend	All experienced wildlife carers involved in the rehabilitation of critically injured native wildlife.
Program Outline	This course covers basic first aid requirements that will assist wildlife carers assess and manage sick and injured wildlife. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain Relief • Advanced Assessment Techniques • Advanced First Aid Kit • Fluid Therapy • Euthanasia • Wound Management

Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals

Frequency	Generally held quarterly.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue of orphaned mammals. All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned mammals (eg joeys).
Program Outline	This course covers the basic requirements of hand-rearing orphaned joeys. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Stress • Preparation for Release • Basic Rescue of Joeys • 24 Hour Care • Management Techniques • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Feeding

Emergency Telephone Service Training

Frequency	Held approximately 6 times a year; February to August.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	You must have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Orientation Program • Read through the Telephone Training Manual (provided prior to the course) <p>Experience with wildlife and/or phone work is beneficial.</p>
Who should attend	Any financial member who wishes to volunteer for the emergency wildlife telephone service Any current or previous emergency wildlife telephone volunteer who wishes to refresh their skills and knowledge
Program Outline	This course provides necessary training for the Wildcare Australia Emergency Telephone Service. Upon completion, it is envisaged that you will be confident to man the emergency telephone service. The course content includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of calls received and response advice • Phone diverting instructions • Responsibilities and requirements • How to triage calls • Overview of Telephone Operator's Phonebook • Common and specialized species • Telephone records form

Possums - Basic Course

Frequency	Generally held quarterly.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned and adult possums.</p> <p>All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned possums.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of rehabilitating some of the possum species of South East Queensland, including the Common Brushtail Possum and Short-eared (Mountain) Brushtail Possum.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Feeding

Possums - Advanced Course

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Brisbane
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals • Basic Possum course <p>Note: This course is only open to wildlife rehabilitators with previous experience with the rehabilitation of possums.</p>
Who should attend	All experienced wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned and adult possums.
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the advanced rehabilitation techniques associated with possums.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Release requirements • Equipment • Feeding

Gliders

Frequency	Generally held twice a year
Venue locations	Various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned and adult gliders.</p> <p>All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned gliders.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of rehabilitating glider species of South East Queensland, including the Sugar Glider, Squirrel Glider, Greater Glider and Feathertail Glider.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Feeding

Flying Foxes – Orphans



Frequency	Held annually (just prior to baby-bat season).
Venue locations	Generally offered at Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue of orphaned flying foxes.</p> <p>All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned flying foxes.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of hand-rearing common flying fox species of South East Queensland, ie Grey Headed Flying Fox and Black Flying Fox.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Stress • Equipment • Feeding • Injuries • Housing • Handling

Flying Foxes – Adult and Sub-Adult

Frequency	Held annually (generally at the beginning of the year).
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Orphaned Flying Fox course
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of adult flying foxes. All wildlife carers wishing to rehabilitate adult flying foxes.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of rehabilitating common mega-bat species of South East Queensland.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Equipment • Feeding • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Handling

Flying Foxes – Advanced

Frequency	Offered annually or bi-annually.
Venue locations	Gold Coast
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Orphaned Flying Fox course • Adult and Sub-Adult Flying Fox course <p>Note: This course is only open to wildlife rehabilitators with previous experience with the rehabilitation of flying foxes.</p>
Who should attend	Experienced wildlife carers actively involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of flying foxes.
Program Outline	<p>This course covers advanced rehabilitation techniques regarding flying foxes.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wound Management • Fluid Therapy • Advanced rescue techniques

Macropods – Orphans (Basic Course)

(Kangaroos, Wallabies, Pademelons)

Frequency	Generally held twice yearly.
Venue locations	Held at various venues including Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals • First Aid for Native Wildlife
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned macropods. All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned macropods.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of hand-rearing and rehabilitating macropod species of South East Queensland.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification • Stress • Equipment • Feeding • Injuries and Disease • Housing • Handling

Macropods – Orphans (Advanced Course)

(Kangaroos, Wallabies, Pademelons)

Frequency	Course held annually.
Venue locations	Gold Coast or Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Basic Macropod course <p>Note: Advanced Macropod course is only open to wildlife rehabilitators with previous experience with the rehabilitation of macropods.</p>
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned macropods. All wildlife carers wishing to hand-rear orphaned macropods.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the advanced techniques in the hand-rearing of orphaned macropods.</p>

Macropods – Adults

(Kangaroos, Wallabies, Pademelons)

Frequency	Generally held bi-annually.
Venue locations	Gold Coast or Sunshine Coast
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife <p>Note: Adult Macropod course is only open to wildlife rehabilitators with experience in the rehabilitation of macropods.</p>
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue of adult macropods. Pre-requisite for those wildlife rehabilitators wishing to become a Trauma Carer.
Program Outline	This course covers the requirements of rescuing adult macropods.

Reptiles (Snakes, Lizards and Turtles)

Frequency	Generally held three times a year.
Venue locations	Various locations – generally Gold Coast, Brisbane or Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick and injured reptiles.
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of rehabilitating sick and injured reptiles, including non-venomous snakes, skinks, dragons and fresh-water turtles).</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Feeding • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Specialised hand-rearing
Restrictions	<p>This course does not include the:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • rescue and handling of venomous snakes; and • translocation of snakes (as required by a Damage Mitigation Permit)

Koalas – Adults

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Beerwah
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of adult koalas.</p> <p>All wildlife carers wishing to obtain a koala rehabilitation permit.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of rescuing and rehabilitating koalas.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries • Disease • Rescue Equipment • Rescue Techniques • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Feeding

Koalas – Orphans

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Beerwah
Pre-Requisites	<p>You must have attended:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals • Koalas - Adult
Who should attend	<p>All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of orphaned koalas.</p> <p>All wildlife carers wishing to obtain a koala rehabilitation permit for orphaned koalas.</p>
Program Outline	<p>This course covers the requirements of hand-rearing orphaned koalas.</p> <p>The course content includes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries • Feeding • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Specialised hand-rearing

Echidnas

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Various locations – generally Gold Coast, Brisbane or Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick and injured echidnas. All wildlife carers wishing to obtain an echidna rehabilitation permit for echidnas.
Program Outline	This course covers the requirements of hand-rearing orphaned echidnas and the rehabilitation of adult echidnas. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Feeding • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Specialised hand-rearing

Bandicoots and Other Small Mammals

(Small Carnivorous Marsupials and Native Rodents)

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Various locations – generally Gold Coast, Brisbane or Sunshine Coast.
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Introduction to Caring for Orphaned Mammals
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick and injured bandicoots and small mammals.
Program Outline	This course covers the requirements of hand-rearing orphaned bandicoots and small mammals and the rehabilitation of adult bandicoots and small mammals. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Feeding • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Hand-rearing

Native Birds – Basic Course

Frequency	Generally two to three times a year
Venue locations	Gold Coast, Brisbane and Sunshine Coast
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned birds.
Program Outline	This course covers the basic requirements of rescuing and rehabilitating native birds. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Feeding • Housing • Handling • Equipment • Hand-rearing

Native Birds – Advanced Course

(Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary)

Frequency	Annually
Venue locations	Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast
Pre-Requisites	You must have attended:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation Program • First Aid for Native Wildlife • Native Birds – Basic Course
Who should attend	All wildlife carers involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of sick, injured and orphaned birds. This course is only available to registered wildlife carers currently involved in the rescue and rehabilitation of birds who have a minimum of 6 months experience with bird rehabilitation.
Program Outline	This course covers advanced rehabilitation techniques for native birds. The course content includes:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Injuries and Disease • Fluid therapy • Specialised feeding

Important Notes about Wildcare Training

REGISTRATIONS

You **must** register for all workshops that you wish to attend. You can do this by:-

- Emailing to education@wildcare.org.au (preferred method)
- Telephoning the Wildcare Office on 07 5527 2444

It is ESSENTIAL to register as only those registered will be contacted in the event of a change of venue or time.

Registration Process

1. Please register for workshops AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS prior to the scheduled date. If there are insufficient registrations for a course, a decision may be made at this time as to whether the workshop will proceed.
2. When registering, please include your full name, your mobile contact number and your preferred email address (please ensure that your email address is one that is checked regularly).
3. Once your registration has been received, you will receive an email within 12-48 hours confirming receipt of your registration.
4. At approximately 3 to 5 days prior to the scheduled workshop date you will receive a confirmation email outlining details of the training course including venue address, time, trainer details, what to bring and any other requirements specific to that course.
5. If you do not receive this confirmation, then you are not registered for the course.
6. If you do not have an email contact, you will receive confirmation by way of SMS (text message) to your mobile number.

If you have registered for a workshop and cannot attend, PLEASE pay us the courtesy of de-registering by either of the above methods (ie phone or email).

LUNCH FACILITIES AND REFRESHMENTS

There are no lunch facilities at most of the workshop venues so please bring your own lunch. Tea, coffee and biscuits are generally provided for morning/afternoon tea.

VENUE FACILITIES

The venues where courses are held are generally provided to Wildcare Australia Inc at no charge. Therefore, please be considerate when attending courses. We aim to leave the facilities in the same state that we find them. Your assistance in this regard is appreciated.

COST

Current financial members of Wildcare Australia can attend as many workshops as they wish at **no charge** (with the exception of specialised workshops that may incur a fee).

Current volunteers and staff of the Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary, RSPCA and Australian Wildlife Hospital are welcome to attend workshops at **no charge**. You will be asked to pay a nominal fee of \$2 to cover the cost of the training material.

Non-Members are welcome to attend workshops at a cost of \$15 per person.

Please note that any “Special Presentation” workshops may involve a small charge.

WORKSHOP TRAINING MATERIAL

Training notes are provided only to those attendees who complete the entire workshop.

Most notes are provided on CD-Rom.

Training material provided at workshops should be considered copyright to Wildcare Australia Inc and/or the author of the material. Reproduction and/or distribution of the training material to others who have not attended the course is not permitted without the express consent of Wildcare Australia Inc and/or the author.

AGE RESTRICTIONS

Due to the nature of the training workshops, please note the following in relation to children who wish to attend the training courses:-

- Children under the age of 10 are not permitted to attend training workshops
- Children between the ages of 10 and 18 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian
- Children between 10 and 18 are welcome to attend the training courses however, we ask that careful consideration is given by the accompanying adult to the suitability of the workshop content for children attending given that:-
 - Many workshop presentations include graphic photos of deceased animals and necropsy procedures
 - Many workshops include the use of cadavers that have sustained trauma related injuries
 - There may be hazardous procedures performed at workshops including necropsies.

ENQUIRIES

If you have any queries regarding the training workshops or requirements please:-

- Email the Education Coordinator at education@wildcare.org.au
- Telephoning the Education Coordinator Karen Scott on 0400 165462.

