

Bird Donation Advice

You have, for whatever reason, come to the decision that your bird needs a different lifestyle and have chosen to re-home him or her here at Lincolnshire Wildlife Park incorporating The National Parrot Sanctuary.

The priority for the centre is to know that you have made the correct decision and to answer all those questions you will no doubt have.

We too are very keen for you to understand all the necessary procedures your bird will go through in order to become a happy member within Lincolnshire Wildlife Park so we have therefore produced the following advice sheet to hopefully answer any questions you may have.

Who will own the parrot and what will happen to the parrot once it arrives at the centre?

All birds donated are, (from the date this Bird Donation Form is signed), owned and under the full responsibility of Lincolnshire Wildlife Park incorporating The National Parrot Sanctuary. This is the Charity set up to care for the parrots situated here. We are a registered charity and the registration number is: 1162135.

As we are a registered Wildlife Park we have to follow strict laws for the husbandry (care and welfare) of all the parrots and parrot related birds. These laws are set and governed by DEFRA'S Animal Health Division.

All birds arriving at the centre will spend their initial time in quarantine. The time spent in quarantine is 30 days. While in quarantine we can monitor both the birds mental and physical state and this allows us to offer the bird its optimum living

environment. This period also helps the parrot adjust to our feeding regimes and lets it become aware of other birds which will benefit them on release into the outside aviaries.

Quarantine is split into sections:

- Day 1 Isolation for 24 hours enabling us to obtain weight and faecal samples
- Day 2 – 8 Introduction to other birds and assessed for diet and temperament etc and weighed again
- Day 9 – 30 Microchipped, placed in 'off show' aviary with other birds for continued assessment and accustomization to surroundings. We call this the Environmental Awareness area also known as the Introductory Aviary. This allows them time to settle in while becoming accustomed to the outdoors, sharing an aviary with other birds, be able to fly and also allowing them to still have human contact.

All parrots entering during the winter period (Oct to February) will be held in our secure bird rooms ready for release in the spring or once the weather has warmed up. These areas are controlled by 24 hour CCTV for security reasons and are totally out of bounds to **any** member of the general public.

Once your bird has settled into the centre you are more than welcome to visit, however we can only offer free admission to Sponsapoll members (you will be issued with a Season Ticket), any other visitors will have to pay our regular entrance fees.

You will obviously be interested to know that your bird has settled into the centre, and you are welcome to phone the park during office hours, or email to ask about your parrot's progress whilst he/she is still in quarantine. After they go outside into their main aviary however, due to the number of parrots we now have in our care, I'm afraid we are not able to answer in depth enquiries about individual birds other than to inform you of any incidents.

It is very important that all people who wish to donate a bird to us, are certain they have made the right decision before they bring the bird in, as after they have signed it over it becomes the property of Lincolnshire Wildlife Park and will not, under any circumstances be returned. The reason for this is we simply do not wish to cause him/her any more stress than is necessary, so please understand this before you sign the declaration.

How you can help

We ask all previous owners to support their parrot when taking residence in the centre and to make this easy we have created a scheme called 'Sponsapoll' where you can sponsor your parrot on a monthly basis. Please ask for a Sponsapoll form, alternatively, you are welcome to make a one off or yearly donation. Although not compulsory, we would be very grateful if you could assist in the initial upkeep of your bird by donating through our Sponsapoll scheme, a minimum of £5 per month. By doing this, not only will you be assisting us a great deal, but you will benefit from receiving a free Season Ticket enabling you to come along to see your parrot at any time after their quarantine period, along with updates on what's happening here at Lincolnshire Wildlife Park (please note this Season Ticket is for the person who completed the Sponsapoll form and is **not** transferable).

Conservation & Breeding

Although all common parrots that enter the centre will live at the park for the rest of their life, we do sometimes work with other zoos/wildlife parks where the rarer bird is involved, by either offering a home to a suitable partner here at the park or donate a partner to other zoo's/wildlife parks and bird gardens for conservation purposes. We do not re-home any of the parrots nor do we ever sell them within the public sector.

It is compulsory that we work with other zoos/wildlife parks and bird gardens on much needed conservation projects with the rarer species of parrots in order to preserve the species.

As we are a wildlife park we are obligated to do a certain amount of breeding for educational and conservational purposes. Our breeding facilities are based at a private, secure location and not on the park's premises for security purposes. This area is not open to the public and access is only for Lincolnshire Wildlife Park staff. It is at our discretion if we choose a certain bird for a breeding program. Whether a bird is in the centre or breeding centre, its care and welfare is always our priority.

Quarantine costs

For every bird we place in quarantine, there is a non-refundable donation of £150.00 per parrot, payable on arrival at the centre. This is reduced to £75.00 for a smaller bird and £50.00 for Cockatiels. If you have an Article 10 bird with no yellow certificate then an extra charge of £32.00 is payable as we will have to apply for one before they are able to be on view to the public. This does sometimes get refused from the Animal and Plant Health Agency due to lack of information in which case you must be aware your bird may have to live in an aviary not on show to the public. In this instance you would not be able to see your bird when visiting. Quarantine fees can be paid by cash, debit or credit card, postal order or a cheque. Please make any cheques or postal orders payable to Lincolnshire Wildlife Park.

There is no fee charged for parrots donated by other recognised Parrot Rescues, Animal Rescues, Zoo's, Bird Gardens, RSPCA or the RSPB etc.

Coming to see your parrot

You are very welcome to come and visit the park during normal opening hours to see your parrot; however this service is not allowed during the initial quarantine period. We cannot allow **anyone** except Lincolnshire Wildlife Park staff to enter the quarantine room, bird rooms or private areas.

Once the bird has been introduced into its relevant aviary, he/she will then be viewable to you. Please note that although we can inform you of the aviary that your parrot lives in, Lincolnshire Wildlife Park staff will not enter an aviary to look for a particular parrot as many parrots will choose to spend time in the indoor part of an aviary and sometimes won't venture out into the open until late in the day. Please be prepared that you may visit and not see your parrot.

Photographs

Under **NO** circumstances do we take photographs of birds for their owners after arriving at the centre.

On reading and understanding this, please complete the form and sign.