

Intern Safety



**NASA
INTERNS**

Interns are many of NASA's future employees, and we need to take care of them and help them learn how to be effective and safe employees.

You may find interns in offices, laboratories, machine shops, and other settings around WFF, depending on your projects and facilities.

Interns bring youthful energy and a fresh perspective to WFF, but they also pose some safety challenges.

Remember: Interns don't have all the training and experience of a seasoned employee. In addition, they likely aren't fully aware of the hazards associated with our work nor how to protect themselves. It's everyone's job to help educate them so they, and all of us, stay safe.

It is **important** to review safety plans, signage and Personal Protective Equipment, as well as mishap, close call and emergency procedures, with interns. The more knowledgeable they are, the less chance of a mishap. In addition, mentors should know what safety controls are required for the hazards their interns may encounter, and center safety offices and Summer Intern Program managers may have additional training requirements for specific hazards and operations.



The NASA Safety Center has a variety of resources to help you, including:

- A safety video for interns
- A working with interns video
- A series of intern safety Knowledge Bytes

<https://nsc.nasa.gov/topics/intern-safety>

Summer Time Is Intern Time: Prepare Accordingly!



*** Fall Protection Training Now Available on SATERN ***



Fall Protection Training

Employees who are exposed to fall hazards are required to receive fall protection training every two years. The NASA Safety Center has recently released computer-based training in SATERN for Authorized Users and Competent Persons of Fall Protection. This online course will satisfy the requirement for classroom training. Hands-on training is also required, and can be tailored to meet the needs of the trainees.

Contact Michelle Leimbach, NASA WFF Fall Protection Program Administrator, at 757-824-2156, or your company's Competent Person for Fall Protection if you have any questions.

For more information visit: <https://nsc.nasa.gov/features/detail/fall-protection-training-now-available-online>



Safety & Environmental Newsletter

June 2019 Issue – 87th Edition

The Peregrine Falcons of Wallops Island

On June 21, 2019, Wallops Environmental Office hosted the Center for Conservation Biology (CCB) who arrived at Wallops to band the 2 peregrine falcon fledglings born and raised in Wallops Peregrine Tower. As they approached the tower, the male tested his flying skills and escaped banding; however, the female (right photo), who was much larger and not yet able to fly, was banded. The future travels of this peregrine will be recorded whenever she is identified by birders.

During the banding, both parents were actively protecting the nest, photographed, and later identified. According to Bryan Watts, the Virginia Falcon lead from the CCB, “Both of the adults ... were banded by us in VA. ...The female ...was banded as a nestling on Watts Island over in the Bay on June 5, 2015, (left photo). She was photographed around Tom’s Cove on Chincoteague in the winters of 2016 and 2017 by birders (photo below). She clearly had a winter territory there and was seen many times. I have not had any messages about her there since 2017 and assume that she now spends the winters around the tower but no doubt forages up that way. Based on normal recruitment age she likely took over the territory there at Wallops in 2018 though we do not have any ID to confirm that.”



An aggressive restoration program was initiated in Virginia in 1978 that included the release of 115 captive-reared birds on the Coastal Plain (1978-1985) and 127 birds in the mountains (1985-1993). The first pair of peregrines to become naturally established in Virginia in more than 20 years took up residence in 1981 at the newly erected hawk tower on Wallops Island. Similarly, the first successful nesting occurred in 1982 at Assateague Island. (<https://www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/birds/peregrine-falcon/recovery-efforts-coastal-virginia/>). The current tower was erected around 2001. Two young peregrines born on Wallops Island were fitted with satellite transmitting devices in 2001 by Center for Conservation Biology.



Until this year, peregrine chicks had not successfully hatched since the early 2000’s.

Considered a wanderer, or peregrinator, the aptly named peregrine falcon is found on every continent with the exception of Antarctica. The peregrine suffered dramatic worldwide population declines at the hands of pesticides in the mid-1900’s. Two of the three North American subspecies were nearly decimated and by the early 1960’s all known breeding pairs east of the Mississippi had disappeared. The peregrine was listed as federally endangered in 1970 under the Endangered Species

Conservation Act. Beginning in the 1970’s, a national effort was undertaken to recover breeding populations and to restore the species throughout the historic range. (<https://ccbbirds.org/what-we-do/research/species-of-concern/peregrine-falcon/species-profile/>)

