

## How YOU Can Help

Play a significant role in this important conservation effort by adopting today.



All adoptions receive an official certificate, magnet and annual newsletter.

- \$50** • Engage a young conservationist.  
*Children 12 and under* • Small gift included.

- \$100** • Support ongoing vulture nest monitoring.

- \$500** • Support a week of nest searching in Pennsylvania or New England.

- \$1000** • Support a trapping team in the field and project supplies.  
• Donor visit to Pennsylvania nest.

- \$5000** • Support a research team and transmitter purchase.  
• Name a vulture fitted with a transmitter.  
• Private program and nest visit for donor and up to five guests in July.



## Adopt a Vulture

Scan and email, or mail to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary

### I/we would like to adopt a Vulture:

\$50  \$100  \$500  \$1,000  \$5,000

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### I/we would like to adopt a Vulture as a gift for:

\$50  \$100  \$500  \$1,000  \$5,000

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to recipient \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Occasion \_\_\_\_\_

Additional gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed

Send adoption package to:  Me  gift recipient

### Payment by:

Check (made payable to Hawk Mountain Sanctuary)

Mastercard  Visa  Discover

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association

1700 Hawk Mountain Road • Kempton, PA 19529-9379

Office: 610-756-6961

[www.hawkmountain.org](http://www.hawkmountain.org)

[jandrasitz@hawkmountain.org](mailto:jandrasitz@hawkmountain.org)



# Adopt a Vulture

Hawk Mountain aims to set the standard on monitoring New World vultures. Our work is helping us to understand more about these essential species and their seasonal movements, and at the same time provide the conservation community with an early warning system to avert population declines.



## Why study scavengers?

Because scavenging birds eat dead and dying animals, they are particularly prone to endangerment. The carcasses they feed on may have pesticides and toxins. As a result, vultures are twice as likely to be globally threatened as are raptors in general.

### Goals of the study:

- \* Monitor vulture populations through tracking abundance, nesting success, dispersal, and survival.
- \* Use black and turkey vultures as environmental sentinels of ecological change and environmental contamination, including climate change and heavy-metal contamination.
- \* Determine how short- and long- distance movements can influence population dynamics and human-vulture conflicts.



## Turkey Vulture

Turkey vultures boast the largest distribution of any new world vulture species. There are six recognized subspecies that range from migratory to partially migratory to non-migratory. All turkey vultures share a dark brown body, distinctive red head, dihedral flight silhouette, keen eyesight, and strong sense of smell, allowing them to locate hidden food items. They rely on communal roosts for socializing and information sharing, but often forage alone. To date, Hawk Mountain has tracked 82 individual turkey vultures from across their distribution uncovering the large variability in movements among regions and giving unique insight into these understudied new world vultures.



Photo by David McNicholas

## Black Vulture

The black vulture is a common scavenger throughout most of its range, which extends from New England to central Argentina. While black vultures are considered non-migratory throughout most of their range, many individuals withdraw from the extreme northern portions of their range during the winter. Because black vultures lack a highly developed sense of smell and cannot find carrion by scent alone, they rely on curiosity to find food sources or follow turkey vultures to a hidden carcass. Despite their abundance they remain understudied and little is known about their movements and life history, such as mortality and nesting success.



**Learn more about this research by taking a photo of the QR code**