



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

May 16, 2014

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Requirements for Displaying Wildlife in the Classroom

Pursuant to [Senate Bill 1277](#) from the 2013 Virginia General Assembly, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) has established standards for the possession and display of wildlife by elementary or secondary teachers for educational purposes. According to this regulation, [4VAC14-290-60](#), elementary and secondary schools must provide the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) with a list of any native or naturalized wildlife species being displayed in the classroom within 48 hours of the animal being placed on display.

For other details concerning this regulation, please consult DGIF's descriptive fact sheet, [Wildlife in the Classroom: What Is Required to Display Wildlife in the Classroom](#). The required information, which is outlined in the fact sheet, is to be reported in hard copy to Suzie Gilley, wildlife education coordinator, at DGIF using the [Elementary & Secondary Wildlife Display Reporting Form](#), also found on the wildlife agency's Web site.

If you have additional questions not addressed in the materials cited above, please contact Suzie Gilley, wildlife education coordinator, DGIF, via e-mail at suzie.gilley@dgif.virginia.gov, or by telephone at (804) 367-0188.

SRS/EMR/rt