



www.dewildliferescue.com

What to Do Should You Encounter a Wild Animal in Need

If it is young, try to locate the nest and see if it is safe or possible to place the baby or babies back. It is always best for the mother to raise her own young. The mother will continue to care for her young, even after you've touched them. Careful when approaching an injured animal; when in pain, they can be dangerous. If you cannot locate the nest, the animal(s) are in bad condition, or the mother is dead, **CONTACT A LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR!**

If you find a nest of rabbits, do not immediately assume that they are abandoned. The mother feeds her young once or maybe twice during the evening hours. A mother rabbit will leave her young and forage for food for the largest part of the day. If you should find a nest, keep all pets away and watch from a discrete distance. If the mother does not return to the nest, **CONTACT A LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR!**

If you determine the need to intervene and handle the animal, there are some dos and don'ts...

DON'T

1. Allow children to handle or cuddle them.
2. Let pets or other animals near them.
3. Attempt to feed them unless you first speak to a REHABILITATOR and receive proper guidance.
4. Give the animal any medication.
5. Try to raise them yourself, they require special formulas, may be diseased and/or carry parasites.

DO

1. Pick the animal up, using gloves and/or a towel.
2. Take a bottle with a tight fitting lid, fill to the top with warm water, replace the lid, wrap with a cloth, and place it in a box with the animals to provide warmth. **DO NOT USE A HEATING PAD!**
3. Keep the animal in a dark, quiet place and **CONTACT A LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR!**

REMEMBER; what you do in the hour could determine if the orphaned animal will survive or not.

Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators by County:

New Castle

Hilary Taylor 302-834-4604

Kent

Catherine Martin 302-270-9256

Sussex

Tonyea Mead 302-228-1063

Deer:

302-739-9912

Bats:

302-735-8670

Birds:

Tri-State Bird Rescue 302-737-9543

Water Turtles/Terrapins:

Vickie Henderson 302-632-0304

Exotic Animals:

Department of Agriculture; Poultry and Animal Health 302-698-4565

Enforcement Section; 302-242-4054

Stranded Marine Mammals:

MERR Institute 302-228-5029

Dead Animals on Roadways:

New Castle 302-577-3010

Kent 302-729-4525

Sussex 302-855-2980

Rabies 24-hour Hotline:

888-295-5156

Office of Animal Welfare:

302-255-4630/4646

wildlifehelp.org:

Access to obtain a list of current Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators

Operation Game Theft (Poaching):

1-800-292-3030

Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife:

Wildlife Section 302-739-9912

Enforcement Section 302-739-9913

24-hour Hotline 1-800-523-3336