



HELP, I FOUND A WILD BABY!

What do I do?

DID YOU KNOW?



NORTH ISLAND WILDLIFE
RECOVERY & DISCOVERY CENTRE



FINDING A FAWN ALONE IS PERFECTLY NORMAL

Leave them where they lie!

Fawns are left alone by Mom to keep them safe from natural predators as they do not carry a scent. They may lie quietly for up to 24 hours before the doe returns.

A fawn needs help if one of the following happens:

- There is evidence the fawn's mother is deceased
- The fawn has a life-threatening injury
- It has become frightened when crossing a road and lies flat out. Gently herd the fawn into the ditch

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for advice.
DO NOT FEED!



RACCOONS ARE GREAT MOMS

PLEASE let them raise their own babies!

Making a pet of a raccoon (imprinting) assures they will not be successfully released into the wild. Raccoons carry diseases and parasites that can be transmitted to you, your family and your pets and can be life threatening.

What to do if the baby needs help:

- If you find "misplaced" baby raccoons, put them in a box overnight along a path that the mom would take so she can find and relocate them
- If raccoons have been born in your attic or crawlspace, call a pest control company but **DO NOT** seal off the entrance because Mom needs to return

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for advice.



IT'S NORMAL TO SEE BABY SEALS ON THE BEACH

Let babies rest on the beach!

Seals spend time every day out of the water. It's not uncommon for Mom to leave baby on the beach for short periods of time while they forage for food.

What to do if the baby needs help:

- Stay Back
- Keep people and pets away
- Do not try to push baby back into the water
- Please don't try to help a marine animal on your own

Call a Marine Rescue Centre for help or advice.

CALL A WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR ADVICE

If you must handle wild animals, please **Be Careful.**
Wear gloves and wash your hands before and after



YOUNG FLEDGLINGS ON THE GROUND ARE LEARNING TO FLY

Please don't rescue me!

Teaching a baby bird to fly takes 1-3 days. The process begins with a jump from the nest to the ground with Mom keeping a close eye on her baby while it learns.

How to tell and what to do if the baby needs help:

- If you see an injury, get help
- If the baby is not injured, stay back and wait to give Mom time to help
- If the baby has been in a cat's mouth - Call a Wildlife Rehabilitator ASAP

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for help or advice.



SQUIRRELS ARE WONDERFUL MOTHERS

Don't worry if you find a baby on the ground!

Squirrels typically have two nests. If one is damaged, Mom can move her babies to the other. The babies' cries will let Mom know where it is.

What to do if the baby needs help:

- If the baby is not injured, stay back to give Mom a chance to retrieve it
- If the baby has been in a cat's mouth - Call a Wildlife Rehabilitator ASAP
- Wait for a few hours to give Mom time to help

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for help or advice.



RAPTOR MOMS KNOW BABY IS ON THE GROUND

Know the difference between Nestlings & Fledglings!

Many young raptors are still being looked after by Mom even when they are on the ground. By understanding the difference between Nestlings and Fledglings, you will know if baby belongs on the ground or in a nest.

What to do if the baby needs help:

- Nestling:** *This white & fuzzy baby belongs in a nest.*
- If you find it on the ground, put it back in the nest
 - If the nest cannot be used, make a new one
- Fledgling:** *Fully feathered with possible little bits of fuzz on the head but most adult feathers are in. Shorter tails than adults.*
- If you find it on the ground, leave it alone as it's learning to fly

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for help or advice.



BABY RABBIT NESTS ARE HIDDEN IN THE GRASS

Oh No! Be careful when you mow!

Wild rabbit nests are very shallow and easily uncovered and disturbed. Mom tries hard not to be seen and will return to feed either at dawn or dusk.

What to do if the baby needs help:

- Unless babies are injured, just re-cover the nest
- Place twigs in an X over the nest and check the next morning
- Do not move the nest

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre for help or advice.

CALL A WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR ADVICE

Rescue situations, and their recommended courses of action, vary dramatically depending on the species concerned