

### **Stray, orphaned, abandoned and injured wildlife**

We are not licensed by the state of Michigan to rescue wild animals. It is illegal to keep or medically treat most species of wildlife without state and/or federal permits.

Wildlife can be unpredictable, dangerous and are known to harbor diseases and parasites that are transmissible to both humans and domestic pets. Adult animals should NEVER be handled.

Many wild animal species leave their young alone for long periods of times for their own safety. This does not mean that they have been abandoned. Please leave these nests or dens alone.

Never relocate a nest or den of babies, as the mother will either not be able to find them, or she will reject them when she returns.

Most birds have a poor sense of smell, so replacing an infant bird back into the nest is the best help you can offer. Fledgling birds (feathered birds with short stubby feathers) leave the nest before they are flying. Parent birds will tend to the young on the ground.

Wild babies may need help if it is known that the parent is dead, or they appear to be injured.

The Friends of Wildlife ([www.friendsofwildlife.net](http://www.friendsofwildlife.net)) and the Howell Nature Center ([www.howellnaturecenter.org](http://www.howellnaturecenter.org)) can provide the names of license rehabilitators for orphaned or injured wildlife.

We can perform humane euthanasia on those animals too injured to survive. There may be a charge for this service.