

# Injured or Abandoned Wildlife May Only Be Handled By A Licensed Professional

- ⇒ Injured or abandoned wildlife may only be rehabilitated by those who obtain a Federal Permit.
- ⇒ Warner Park does not have such a permit and therefore is not a wildlife rehabilitation center.
- ⇒ Staff members may only assist with providing the appropriate referral for assistance with injured or abandoned wildlife.

## The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's Captive Wildlife Laws:

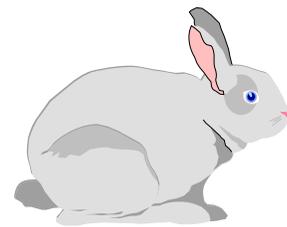
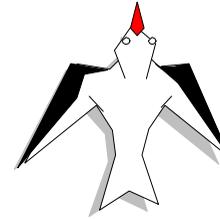
It is unlawful for any person to possess, transport, import, export, buy, sell, barter, propagate or transfer any wildlife, whether indigenous to this state or not. (Tenn. Code Ann. 70-4-401)

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency shall issue permits for possessing live wildlife. (Tenn. Code Ann. 70-4-404)

# The Truth About Wildlife

Some animal babies may appear to be abandoned, but the animal parents may actually be close by, staying out of sight to avoid attracting attention to their young. Animal parents may also be out gathering food for the young and will return soon.

A nestling (a baby bird that is featherless or incompletely feathered), if fallen from a nest, may be returned to the nest. Birds have a poor sense of smell. If humans touch a baby bird or nest it does not cause the parents to abandon the birds.



After a fledgling (a fully feathered young bird) leaves the nest it may live on the ground for up to two weeks. During this time the parents still provide food and protection.

# How to Assist Injured or Abandoned Wildlife

1. Watch the animal for a long period of time—three to five hours. It may still be under the watchful care of its parents.
2. If the animal still appears to be in trouble and there is no sign of the parents, contact a wildlife rehabilitator specialist and explain the situation over the phone .
3. If intervention is recommended, follow the specific instructions of the specialist.
4. Remember, less intervention is usually the preferable choice.
5. Protect yourself. Wildlife can carry diseases. The less you intervene, the safer it will be for your own health.

# Call A Licensed Professional For Assistance!

## Wildlife Rehabilitators and Assistance:

**Critter Ridder** 847-8448

Relocation only

**Deborah Dorsey** 865-2941

Hummingbirds and bats

### **Harmony Wildlife**

Carol Burgess 799-8712

Raccoon, fawns, hawks, owls

**Jennifer Varden** 799-5418

misc. wildlife/adult songbirds

**Lisa Butler** 790-7809

small mammals/no birds

### **TN Wildlife Resource Agency**

Dispatch 781-6500

**Walden's Puddle** 299-9938

**Wildlife Rescue** 758-5231

## Help Keep Wildlife Safe

Take Responsibility  
for your pets.

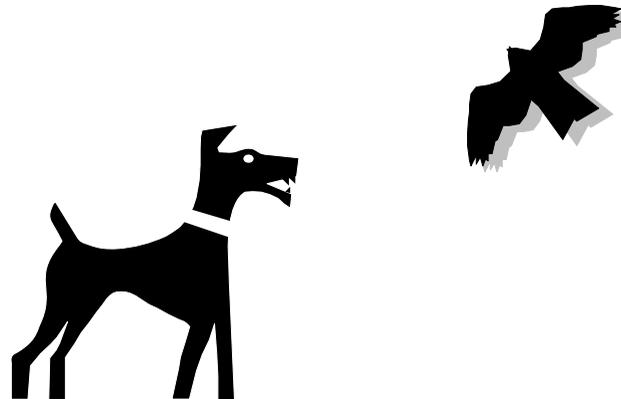
Domestic cats are not natural predators for wild birds. To help prevent your cat from hunting birds:

⇒ Keep your cat indoors, especially during nesting season (June & July).

⇒ Allow your cat out only after dark.

⇒ Place a bell on your cat's collar.

Dogs may also harm wildlife. Please keep your dog on a leash at all times.



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Warner Park Nature Center

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e-mail: [WPNC@metro.nashville.org](mailto:WPNC@metro.nashville.org)

website: [www.Nashville.org/parks/WPNC](http://www.Nashville.org/parks/WPNC)

# Injured or Abandoned Wildlife



*How to Help  
and  
Not Harm*