

Found a Baby Wild Animal?



College of
Veterinary Medicine

⚠️ Safety first: Keep pets and children away. Do not feed or give water. Keep handling to a minimum.

Contact and Hours

Wildlife Medical Clinic

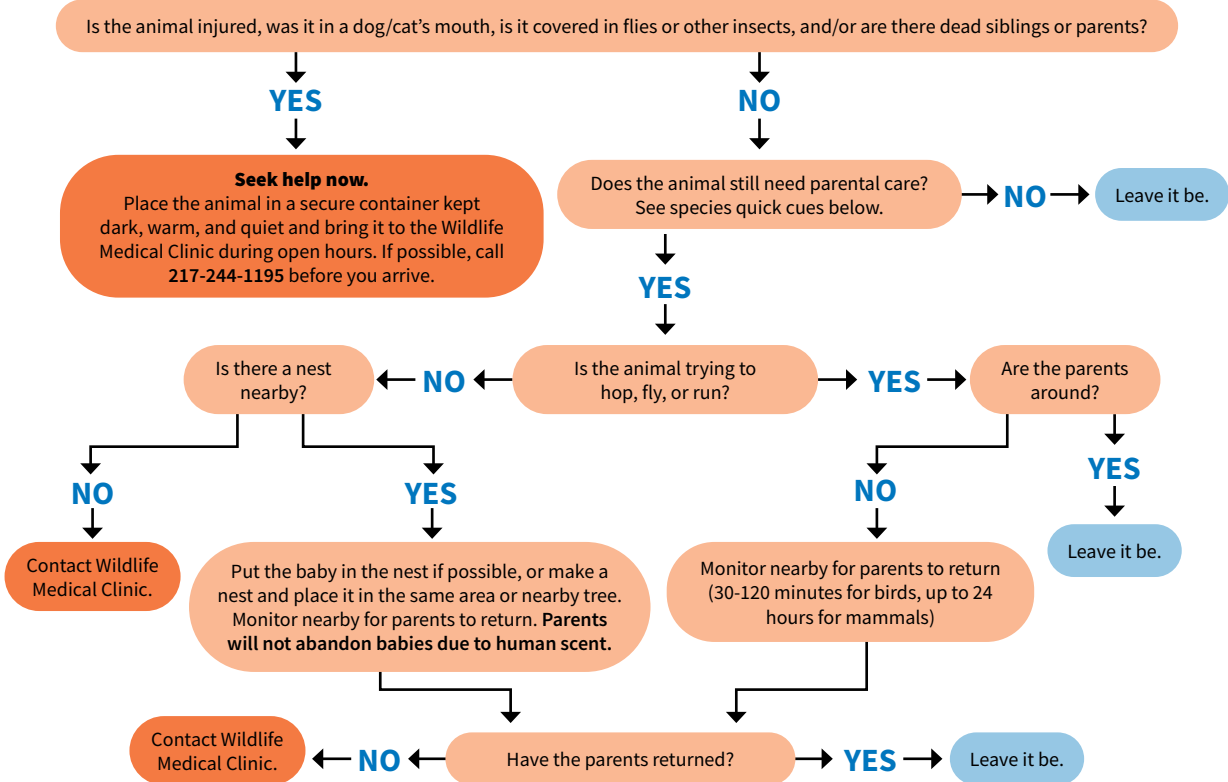
Email:
WMCCChair@vetmed.illinois.edu

Phone:
217-244-1195

Address:
2100 S Goodwin Ave, Urbana,
IL 61802

Hours:
Mon–Fri 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
(Wildlife Medical Clinic)
Sat–Sun 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
(Small Animal Clinic)

For more information, scan
the QR code below or visit
vetmed.illinois.edu/wildlife.



Species Quick Cues



Healthy fawn



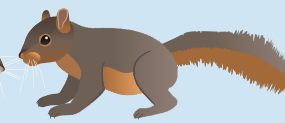
Distressed fawn



Nestling - needs parental care



Eastern Gray Squirrel



Eastern Fox Squirrel



Nestling - needs parental care



Independent juvenile rabbit

Fawn

Healthy: Quiet, curled, left alone; mother's absence is normal. **Distressed:** Standing, calling, lying flat on their side, legs splayed out, and/or curled ear tips. If moved for safety, return to original spot and monitor for 24 hours. If distressed, seek help.

Squirrel

Independent: Body length is 6" or longer excluding the tail for gray squirrels, 9-10" or longer for fox squirrels. **Nestling:** If smaller, place in a makeshift nest with gentle warmth (no direct contact) ≥ 3 ft up a tree. Monitor for 24 hours. Distressed baby calls help attract the mother.

Cottontail Rabbit

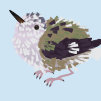
Independent: Tennis ball-sized with upright ears. **Nestling:** Mom only nurses 1-2x daily. To check for return, place yarn, twigs, or flour in a pattern over the nest and leave. If the pattern is untouched after 12-24 hours, or if babies are cold, lethargic, or injured, contact a wildlife rehabilitator.



Fledgling robin



Adult male



Baby

Songbird/Fledgling

Fledglings: Often spend 3-5 days on the ground; observe for 30-120 minutes for parental return. **Hatchlings/Nestlings:** Return to nest or secure a replacement nest nearby.

Hummingbird

Hummingbirds should not spend time on the ground at any life stage. **Adult:** If found on ground, take to wildlife rehabilitator. **Baby:** Return to nest if available. If not, bring to wildlife rehabilitator.



Raccoon kit

Raccoon

Independent: Raccoon is cat-sized. **Dependent:** If parental presence is unclear, place the kit in a box with a towel near location it was found, accessible to adult raccoons. Leave undisturbed to monitor for 12-24 hours. If no changes occur, or if it is crying continuously, take to a wildlife rehabilitator.



Canada gosling

Gosling

Goslings cannot survive alone and must remain with a flock. Reunite immediately with a similar-age wild family group and observe from a distance for parental acceptance. If it is rejected by the flock, or appears lethargic or injured, seek help.