

WHAT ANIMAL IS IT?

It is illegal in Michigan to rehab skunks and bats.

Small Birds:

616-361-6109 Wildlife Rehab Center (Grand Rapids)

Duck or Goose:

616-361-6109 Wildlife Rehab Center (Grand Rapids)

Owl, Hawk or Raptor:

616-361-6109 Wildlife Rehab Center (Grand Rapids)
269-649-2028 Sharon Butler (Vicksburg-70 miles South)
269-816-2209 Patricia Kloosterman (Mendon-82 miles South)

Raccoon:

616-885-4223 Sjana Gordon (Lowell) - No Adults
616-951-5277 Soulshine Wildlife Center (Sparta)

Deer:

517-284-9453 Michigan DNR Wildlife Customer Service
616-885-4223 Sjana Gordon (Lowell)

Rabbit or Squirrel:

616-361-6109 Wildlife Rehab Center (Grand Rapids)
616-452-3812 Chris Carpenter - Rabbits Only (Grand Rapids)
616-885-4223 Sjana Gordon (Lowell)
616-951-5277 Soulshine Wildlife Center (Sparta)

Turtle:

616-361-6109 Wildlife Rehab Center (Grand Rapids)
616-885-4223 Sjana Gordon (Lowell)
616-886-6964 Scott Yonkers (Jenison)

Bat:

batcon.org Org. for Bat Conserv. (*closed*)
517-284-9453 DNR Customer Service (press 1)
It is illegal in Michigan to rehab bats.

Wildlife Rehab Center Emergency Text Only Number
616-606-5805

WHO DO I CALL?

Wildlife Rehab Center (Peg and Roger Markle) - 616-361-6109

Emergency Text Only Number - 616-606-5805

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Peg and Roger are the main animal rehabbers in Kent County.

They take adult and baby mammals, adult and baby birds, reptiles, ducks and geese, and various birds of prey. No raccoons, no deer.

Chris Carpenter - 616-452-3812

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Sub-permittee of the Wildlife Rehab Center and only accepts rabbits.

Soulshine Wildlife Center - 616-951-5277 (Kent County residents can text this #)
Sparta, MI

Small mammals only. Foxes, squirrels, adult & baby raccoons, opossums, etc .

Lowell Wildlife Center (Sjana Gordon) - 616-885-4223

Lowell, Michigan

Sjana (pronounced Shana) takes in baby raccoons (no adults), deer, squirrels and rabbits. No birds. Will also take in farm animals and parrots.

Sue Strittmatter - 616-754-4658

Greenville, Michigan (36 miles Northeast)

Sue takes in small mammals.

Dawn Koning - 269-945-3994

Hastings, Michigan (44 miles Southeast)

Dawn takes in mammals, birds and reptiles.

Matt and Teresa Tucker - 616-638-0213

Coopersville, Michigan

Bee removal service. Additional resources listed in large binder.

DJ's Wildlife Removal - 616-591-5641

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Professional fee-based removal service. Traps and releases.

All Species Kinship— 877-596-7776

Battle Creek, Michigan

Services Southern/Southwest/Southcentral Michigan counties,
General wildlife resource

I FOUND A BABY...

Raccoon:

- Do not panic. Raccoons love to go out and play when their mom is looking for food! Seeing a baby animal does not necessarily mean that something is wrong with it. Provided it is not in harm's way, allow the baby to explore. Enjoy watching from a distance.
- If you do not know if the baby is orphaned, place it in a Rubbermaid tub or box that it is not able to climb out of, with a hot water bottle or hand warmers underneath a blanket or towel (to prevent burning). You can also add a shallow dish of drinking water. Place the box near where you found the raccoon. If rain is in the forecast, lay a garbage can on its side and put the box in there; this will provide as a great shelter from the rain.
- If the mom is still around, the hunger cries of the baby should attract her; she will relocate it back to the den. It is important to not feed the baby as it needs to cry for the mom to know where to look!
- It could potentially take up to 24+ hours for the mom to move the baby; during this time it is crucial to make sure people and pets stay away from the area! If the baby is still in the box by the next day, please reach out to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator—check the DNR <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/dlr/>. Some who are licensed may not take in wildlife; best to call them directly.

(Info via Soulshine Wildlife Center)

Bunny:

- If you come across a nest of **wild bunnies**, and the mother is nowhere to be seen, please **DO NOT disturb them**. This is normal behavior. By removing them from the nest, you are greatly reducing their chances of survival. The mom will only return at night, and not if you are watching.
- *If the rabbit is smaller than your fist (or a can of pop)*
If the baby rabbit is smaller than your fist and does not try to run away from you, it is too young to be out of the nest. Look around to see if you can find the nest. The nest will be very well camouflaged and hard to find. If you find the nest and there are other healthy babies of the same size in it, you can tuck the baby you found in with the others.
- *If the rabbit is bigger than your fist (or a can of pop)*
What does the rabbit do when you approach it? If it runs away or tries to hide or is hard to catch, it might be just fine. Cottontail rabbits are independent at about 3-4 weeks old. If the rabbit doesn't hop or try to get away from you, there may be something wrong. Contact a wildlife rehabber — check the DNR <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/dlr/>
- While you are waiting to hear back from a wildlife rehabilitator, keep the baby rabbit contained in a dark, quiet place. Make sure it has a heat source. Don't give it any food or water until you have spoken to a rehabilitator.

(Info via Toronto Wildlife Center)

I FOUND A BABY...

Bird:

- *Nestlings*
Nestlings have few or no feathers, and if found on the ground, they need your help. These baby birds are too young to leave the nest and are unable to fly. If you've found an uninjured baby bird:
 1. Try to Locate the Nest. If you come across a fallen nestling who isn't injured, shaking, or weak and you can locate the nest, use clean or gloved hands to place the bird back into the nest quickly. If you're able to place the baby back into his or her nest, skip to step 3. If you can't find or reach the nest, move on to step 2.
 2. Create a Surrogate Nest. If you can't see or reach the original nest, make one out of a small basket, kitchen strainer, or small plastic container with holes punched in the bottom. Ideally the "nest" should be cereal-bowl shaped, well padded with tissue paper, and of a non-slippery material, otherwise the bird's legs could spread out sideways and become deformed. Fasten the nest in a sheltered area of the tree closest to the bird's original location but out of range of any cats or dogs. Parents of nestlings will continue to feed them as long as they remain within 10 yards, they're responsive, and no people or companion animals are lingering nearby.
 3. Monitor the bird. Watch quietly for a few hours to make sure that a parent comes back to feed the nestling. If the parent doesn't return, follow the steps below for saving an orphaned or injured baby bird.
- *Fledglings*
Fledglings are juvenile birds who have a mix of fuzzy down and adult feathers and are learning to fly. You may come across them hopping along on the ground, perching on low-hanging branches, or hiding under bushes, but as long as they're healthy, just let them be.
- Is the fledgling healthy? Healthy fledglings can stand upright and will tuck their wings tightly against their bodies. If you find a fledgling on the ground and it appears sick or injured, follow the steps for saving an orphaned or injured bird.

Saving an orphaned or injured bird:

1. Secure the Bird. Use clean or gloved hands to place the bird inside a cardboard box lined with paper towels.
2. Keep the Bird Warm. While you're working to get help for the animal, keep him or her warm and quiet by placing a heating pad on the lowest setting under half of the box or placing a small hot water bottle inside the box. Then put the box in a closet or another warm, dark, quiet, and safe place away from people and animals.
3. Get Help. Contact a wildlife rehabilitator and arrange to transport the bird to a licensed facility immediately— check the DNR <https://www2.dnr.state.mi.us/dlr/>

(Info via PETA)