Appendix

Sample List of Supplies to Have on Hand

Reference Materials

• Wildlife formulary.
• Bird identification field guide. (See reference list on page 87 for suggested field guides.)

Emergency Foods

Songbird chicks may be fed:
• A slurry of warm water and Hill’s Prescription Diet a/d canned food.
• Mazuri nestling diet.
• Dry puppy or cat chow that has been soaked in hot water and cut into tiny pieces.

Note: A chick will open its mouth very wide, but will have difficulty swallowing and digesting large pieces of food.

Older songbirds may be fed:
• Canned cat and dog food.
• Soaked chow cut into small pieces.
• Small pieces of fruit.
• A high-quality birdseed.
• Mealworms.

Note: Different species of birds have different dietary preferences.

Squirrels and Chipmunks

• Juveniles and adults may be fed rodent chow, parrot chow with the dried peppers removed, gerbil mix, or a woodpecker mix of birdseed, dried fruits, and nuts. Older squirrels may not recognize rodent chow as a food, but younger ones will eat it if it’s the only thing offered. Rodent chow is nutritionally complete and the best choice to offer if the animal will accept it.
Appendix

Wildlife Care Basics for Veterinary Hospitals: Before the Rehabilitator Arrives

Animal Care Basics

• They will willingly eat corn and sunflower seeds but these foods are not good for them and should be used sparingly. Unsweetened Cheerios are a readily available food that is suitable for short-term use with most rodents.

Raccoons, Skunks, Foxes, and Other Carnivores
• These species will eat canned or dry cat or dog food, and mice.

Woodchucks and Other Herbivores
• These animals may eat rabbit chow, rodent chow, or monkey chow.
• Adult herbivores may not accept rabbit chow and will have to be fed field greens, deep green leafy vegetables such as spinach or dandelion greens, Queen Anne's lace, plantain, chickweed, timothy hay, alfalfa, or an assortment of native grasses.
• Be sure the area from which you are gathering has not been treated with chemicals.

Many juvenile or adult mammals or birds that come to your facility will eat Cheerios (unsweetened whole-grain cereal), and cut grapes and apples. These can be great starter foods to get an animal eating. This is by no means a complete diet and should be used sparingly.

Generic Food List
• Puppy and kitten milk replacers.
• Caged bird hand feeding formula such as Exact or ZuPreem for doves and pigeons.
• Mazuri Waterfowl Starter, duck pellets, non-medicated chick or duck starter.
• Game bird starter crumbles.
• Lafeber's Omnivore Care.
• Dry puppy chow.
• Dry cat chow.
• Canned cat and dog food.
• Hill's Prescription Diet a/d.
• Critical Care liquid diet for compromised animals.
• Rodent chow and monkey chow.
• Frozen mice or beef heart strips for raptors.
• Frozen silversides, krill, smelt, or capelin for water birds. (Note: Fish should be fed whole and not gutted or filleted.)
• Parrot chow.
• Rabbit pellets.
• Cracked corn.
• Mealworms.
• Mazuri raptor gel.
• High-quality birdseed.

Generic Supply List
• Caging appropriate for smaller species.
• Gram scale—digital is easiest to read.
• Heating pad or light bulb set up for heat source.
• Incubator.
• T-shirts or sweatshirts.
• Baby blankets or towels with no loose threads or loops.
• Margarine tubs.
• Disposable gloves.
• Heavy leather gloves.
• Teat infusion cannulas, Catac nipples and syringes for feeding.
• Feeding tubes.
• Cardboard boxes to contain animals or to use as nest boxes.
• Fish net or other nets for recapture.

New England cottontail.
Where to Find Supplies

Items mentioned in the text, manufacturer information, and where the items can be found:

**Animal Stopper Trash Can**—This 32-gallon Animal Stopper Trash Can has a lid defense system making animal break-ins nearly impossible. It is a product of Newell Rubbermaid of Atlanta.

**Bactrim**—a drug combining sulfamethoxazole and trimethoprim antibiotics. (prescription)

**Baytril**—Enrofloxacin antibiotic sold by the Bayer Company of Germany. (prescription)

**Catac Nipples**—made by Catac Products, in Buckinghamshire, England. (online, pet stores)

**Cheerios**—a whole grain oat cereal from General Mills of Minneapolis. (supermarket)

**Clavamox**—is a combination of amoxicillin and clavulanic acid that act together to treat a broad spectrum of infections. It is from Pfizer Animal Health in Exton, Pa. (prescription)

**Drontal Plus**—is a broad spectrum dewormer from the Bayer HealthCare, Animal Health Division, Shawnee Mission, Kan. (veterinarian)

**Ensure**—This nutritional supplement drink is a product from Abbott Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio. (pharmacies and supermarkets)

**Isocal**—is a therapeutic nutrient offered by the Mead Johnson Nutrition Company of Glenview, Ill. (pharmacy)

**Mazuri Exotic Animal Diets**—PMI Nutrition International of St. Louis. (mazuri.com)

**Mylanta**—is manufactured by the Johnson & Johnson-Merck Consumer Pharmaceuticals Company of Fort Washington, Pa. (pharmacy, supermarket)

**Odors Away**—This one-drop deodorizer is made by the Wrap-On Company in Bedford Park, Ill. (discount stores, hardware stores, or supermarkets)

**Ominvore Care**—manufactured by LaFeber. (pet stores and online)

**Pedialyte**—is a rehydrating solution specifically for the young, produced by Abbott Nutrition Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio. (pharmacies and supermarkets)

**Pepto-Bismol**—is made by Procter & Gamble of Cincinnati. (pharmacy, supermarket)

**ReptiCare and ReptiSun Bulbs**—manufactured by Zoo Med. (pet stores and online)

**SnuggleSafe disks**—are microwave heat pads manufactured by Lenric C21 of West Sussex, England. (pet stores, online)

**ZuPreem**—is the trademark for a line of foods designed to provide proper nutrition for exotic animals and for zoos. It is owned by Premium Nutritional Products of Shawnee, Kan. (pet stores, feed stores, and supermarkets)

Sample Wildlife Contact and Advice List

List the names, telephone number, and other information of nearby rehabilitators who are willing to help you with wild animals. Call them for advice and a quick transfer as soon as a wild animal comes into your care. Call your state wildlife division or search online for a list of wildlife rehabilitators and which species they rehabilitate. When adding names of rehabilitators to your contact list, ask which permits they possess.

**Mammal rehabilitators:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Bird rehabilitators:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Raptor rehabilitators:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Turtle rehabilitators:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Snakes or other special species:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Oil Spill Responders:**

________________________________________________________________________

**Special Permit Rehabilitators (Rabies Vector Species, Deer Permit):**

________________________________________________________________________

**State Wildlife Division:**

Main Number:_________________________

After-Hours Contact:___________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
Sample Transporter List

Wildlife rehabilitators cannot always leave their facilities to pick up animals who need help. Rehabilitators may have trusted contacts who will transport for them. Or you may have technicians, assistants, or clients with wildlife experience who are willing to transport the animal from your facility to a rehabilitator. When arranging for transportation, write out all the important information for the rehabilitator (admission forms, physical examination, and treatment forms) and make other copies for your transporter, and your clinic records. Be sure to include directions, and the expected delivery time, name, address, and telephone number of the rehabilitator.

Transporters should be instructed to keep the noise in the car to a minimum, with no radio or conversation. There should be no smoking and no show-and-tell.

Animals should be transported in a covered carrier. The carrier should be covered with a relatively opaque cloth to dim the light. Ask that they drive carefully so as to keep the animal’s stress to a minimum.

Check to make sure the delivery has occurred as planned.

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Sample Wildlife Admission Form

Date of Admission: ____________________________

Finder Contact Information

Name ____________________________

Address ____________________________

Telephone ____________________________ Cell ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Animal Information

Species (if known): ____________________________ Number of animals: ____________________________

Age (estimate): ____________________________ Date animal(s) was found: ____________________________

Location animal(s) was found: ____________________________

Circumstances in which animal(s) was found: ____________________________

Condition of animal(s)—any known injuries? ____________________________

What happened since the animal(s) was found? ____________________________

Was the animal(s) fed? Given water? (please specify what and how much) ____________________________

Who handled the animal(s)? ____________________________

Was the animal(s) handled with bare hands? ____________________________

Was the animal(s) cat or dog caught? ____________________________

Are there free-ranging cats in the area? ____________________________

Any additional information about this animal(s) you can provide: ____________________________
I Found a Baby Mammal. Now What?

FROM HEALERS OF THE WILD: PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR INJURED AND ORPHANED WILDLIFE BY SHANNON K. JACOBS.

If you find baby bunnies:
If their nest has been damaged, it can be repaired. Look for a shallow depression lined with grass/fur. Place babies in nest with light layers of grass to hide them. Place an “X” of yarn or string over them to test if the mother returns. Check back in 12 hours. If the “X” is still perfectly in place, they are probably orphaned.
If you find healthy bunnies that are 4–5 inches long, able to hop, with eyes open and ears up, they do not need help. They are able to survive on their own. Questions? Call a wildlife rehabilitator.

If you find a fawn:
Mothers normally leave their babies hidden. If baby looks cold, hungry, diseased, or confused, or if dogs, other animals, or people threaten its safety, call a wildlife rehabilitator. Otherwise, leave the baby alone and leave the area. The mother will not return if people or pets are present.

How to Rescue Baby Birds

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM HEALERS OF THE WILD BY SHANNON K. JACOBS

(Before rescuing birds, seek guidance from a wildlife rehabilitator.)

1. Prepare a container. Place a clean, soft cloth with no strings or loops on the bottom of a cardboard box or cat or dog carrier with a lid. Soft paper towels may also be used and easily changed when soiled and replaced and have no strings to worry about. If it doesn’t have air holes, make some. For smaller birds, you can use a paper bag with air holes. Cloth bags work well and can also be used, but should be turned inside out to ensure loose threads are not inside the bag. They are opaque to calm the bird, cooler, and have excellent ventilation as compared with a paper bag or box.

2. Protect yourself. Wear gloves, if possible. Some birds may stab with their beaks, slice with their talons (claws) and slap with their wings to protect themselves, and if sick, birds commonly have parasites (fleas, lice, ticks) and carry diseases.

3. Cover the bird with a light sheet or towel, unless already in an opaque cloth bag.

4. Gently pick up the bird and put it in the prepared container.

5. Warm the animal if it’s cold out or if the animal is chilled. Signs of hypothermia in birds include inactivity, closed eyes, somnolence (sleepiness), and anoxia. It is important to note that unlike adult mammals, birds seldom shiver when cold. Put one end of the animal’s container on a heating pad set on low. Extreme care must be taken with any heat pad or lamp as many animals have received thermal injury if they are unable or unwilling to move away from the heat. Hypothermic animals are the most prone to thermal injury. They often remain in excessive heat as they warm and exceed normal core body temperature. You may fill a zip-top plastic bag, plastic soft drink container with a screw lid, or a rubber glove with hot water; wrap the warm container with cloth, and put it next to the animal. Make sure the container doesn’t leak, or the animal will get wet and chilled. A microwave can be used to reheat the container intermittently so long as room for expansion is available or the top is open. A container with an absorbent such as a wet cloth or paper towels (ex: zipper-seal plastic bag with wet washcloth) is easy to repeatedly warm in a microwave and is far less likely to leak than a container of water alone.

6. Hyperthermia can be more lethal than hypothermia. Far more animals are born or hatch in summer than winter. In hot weather be sure to protect the container from direct sun and never leave it in a closed vehicle in the sun as well. The ideal solution is to include a thermometer in the container and aim for about 85 to 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

7. Tape the box shut or roll the top of the paper bag closed, or tie the cloth bag so it may be easily untied upon arrival.
8. Note exactly where you found the bird. This will be very important for release, or if the animal may be returned after the initial exam.

9. Keep the bird in a warm, dark, quiet place.
   - Don’t give the bird food or water.
   - Leave the bird alone; don’t handle or bother it.
   - Keep children and pets away.

10. Contact a wildlife rehabilitator, state wildlife agency, or wildlife veterinarian as soon as possible. Don’t keep the bird at your home longer than necessary. Keep the bird in a container; don’t let it loose in your house or car.

11. Wash your hands after contact with the bird. Wash anything the bird was in contact with—to prevent the spread of diseases and/or parasites to you or your pets.

12. Get the bird to a wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.
   It’s against the law in most states to keep wild animals if you don’t have permits, even if you plan to release them.

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I Found a Baby Bird. Now What?

FROM HEALERS OF THE WILD: PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR INJURED AND ORPHANED WILDLIFE BY SHANNON K. JACOBS.

**Is bird hurt or sick?** (unable to flutter wings; bleeding, wings drooping unevenly; weak or shivering; attacked by cat/dog?)

- Yes: Call a wildlife rehabilitator.
- No: Proceed to next step.

**It’s a nestling.** (needs help!)

- Can you find the nest? Is it intact?
  - Yes: Make a substitute nest. Use a wicker or small basket and secure it to the original tree.
  - No: Proceed to next step.

**It’s a fledgling.** (Normal behavior to be hopping on ground; parents are still feeding it.) Is bird safe from cats, dogs and people?

- Yes: Call a wildlife rehabilitator.
- No: Proceed to next step.

**Put bird in bushes or on a tree limb nearby.** Watch from a distance. Are parents nearby?

- Yes: Put baby in nest. Observe from a distance. Are parents visiting nest?
  - Yes: Put baby back in nest. Observe from a distance. Are parents visiting nest?
    - Yes: Leave the area. Baby is OK.
    - No: Leave the area. Call a wildlife rehabilitator.
  - No: Leave the area. Baby is OK.

**Put baby in nest.** Observe from a distance. Are parents visiting nest?

- Yes: Leave the area. Baby is OK.
- No: Leave the area. Call a wildlife rehabilitator.

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A baby’s best chance for survival is its mother.

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If you find a baby duck, goose, quail, or killdeer:

If you know the mother is dead, or if baby is injured, call a wildlife rehabilitator right away. If baby is separated from the mother and you know where she is, place baby close by so she can hear it. Watch from a distance. If the mother is not found or does not claim the baby within an hour, call a wildlife rehabilitator. If you cannot reach one, rescue the baby (see instructions on pages 83–84).
Wildlife Rehabilitation Organizations

Many states have a state wildlife rehabilitator's organization. Membership can provide a resource for information, networking with like-minded people and moral support should you need it. Most state organizations will provide you with a list of licensed wildlife rehabilitators.

National Wildlife Rehabilitation Association
NWRA
2625 Clearwater Rd, Suite 110
St. Cloud, MN 56301
1-320-230-9920
fax: 320-230-3077
nwra@nwrawildlife.org
nwrawildlife.org

Annual rehabilitators meeting, training workshops, newsletter, subscription to the periodical Wildlife Rehabilitation Bulletin, numerous other publications and manuals. Discounts on symposium registration and literature orders.

International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council
PO Box 3197
Eugene, OR 97403
Phone/Fax 1-866-871-1869 or 1-408-876-6153
info@iwrc-online.org
iwrc-online.org

Biennial meeting, training workshops, newsletter, technical rehabilitation information, subscription to the periodical Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation. Discounts on symposium and training course registration and literature orders.

Federal Permitting Agencies

National Marine Fisheries Service
nmfs.noaa.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
fws.gov

References


