

## HOW TO HELP A BABY OR INJURED ANIMAL

Call **FRIENDS OF TEXAS WILDLIFE (281.259.0039)** as soon as possible so the animal can be given to a permitted rehabilitator.

Nearly all mammals are protected by State and/or Federal laws.

**IT IS AGAINST THE LAW to have in your possession the mammal or its nest without special permits.**

1. **ONLY ADULTS** should rescue an orphaned, sick or injured animal. Call **FRIENDS OF TEXAS WILDLIFE BEFORE** trying to rescue an adult animal. Adult mammals have sharp teeth and most have sharp claws that **they will use** to protect themselves even when injured.
2. **PREPARE A CONTAINER.** Place a soft cloth or paper towels on the bottom of a cardboard box with a lid or a kennel carrier. If it doesn't have air holes, make some.
3. **PROTECT YOURSELF.** Wear thick gloves if possible but remember a scared animal can easily bite through a leather glove.
4. **COVER THE ANIMAL** with a light sheet or towel.
5. **GENTLY** pick the animal up, if it is small, and place it in the prepared container. Larger animals or adults can be scooted into the container with a broom.
6. **WARM THE ANIMAL** if it is cold or if it is a baby animal. Put one end of the container on a heating pad set on low or heat a damp washcloth in an unsealed zip lock bag in the microwave for 30-40 seconds. Seal the bag and place it under the container.
7. **KEEP THE ANIMAL IN A WARM, DARK, and QUIET PLACE.** Leave it alone, don't handle it. Keep children and pets away.
8. **PLEASE...DON'T GIVE THE ANIMAL ANY FOOD OR WATER!!** Water can easily go "down the wrong way" into the lungs and kill it. Feeding mammals, especially babies, is the wrong thing to do and can injure or kill the animal.
9. **RACCOONS, BATS, AND SKUNKS** are considered **HIGH RISK FOR RABIES.** Call **FRIENDS OF TEXAS WILDLIFE (281.259.0039) FOR MORE HELP.**
10. **WASH YOUR HANDS** after contact with the animal. **Wash everything that the animal came in contact with – towels, gloves, pet carrier.** Wild animals are capable of carrying disease or parasites that could be transmitted to you or your pets.
11. **GET THE ANIMAL TO WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

VISIT OUR WEB SITE @[www.friendsoftexaswildlife.org](http://www.friendsoftexaswildlife.org)

# I FOUND A BABY ANIMAL! WHAT DO I DO NOW?

