



Before transporting any wild animal, call ahead. Not all organizations accept all species. Intake policies, hours, and capacity change. A phone call takes two minutes and can save an animal's life. This guide lists major licensed wildlife rehabilitation organizations, conservation organizations, and government agencies serving New York City and surrounding areas.

■ NYC Wildlife Rehabilitation Organizations

Wild Bird Fund (WBF)

Service Area: Manhattan (all boroughs transport accepted)

NYC's premier wild bird rehabilitation center. Accepts virtually all wild bird species, including raptors, waterfowl, pigeons, songbirds. Also accepts turtles.

Website: wildbirdfund.org | **Phone:** (212) 331-9495

NYC Urban Park Rangers (NYC Parks)

Service Area: All five boroughs

First point of contact for wildlife emergencies in NYC parks. Rangers can assess situations and coordinate with wildlife professionals.

Website: nyc.gov/parks | **Phone:** 311

Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Service Area: Bronx, Queens (Bronx Zoo, New York Aquarium)

Global conservation organization headquartered at Bronx Zoo. Accepts certain wildlife through park partnerships. WCS Urban Wildlife program conducts research and monitoring.

Website: wcs.org | **Phone:** 718-220-5100

Star Foundation (Wildlife Rehab of NY)

Service Area: Long Island (Nassau/Suffolk)

Licensed wildlife rehabilitator accepting a wide variety of species including raptors, songbirds, small mammals, reptiles.

Website: Contact through NYSDEC | **Phone:** 516-676-2862

Volunteers for Wildlife

Service Area: Nassau County, Long Island

Rehabilitates wide variety of native wildlife. Accepts most small and medium-sized native species found in Nassau County.

Website: volunteersforwildlife.org | **Phone:** 516-674-0982



Atlantic Marine Conservation Society (AMSEAS)

Service Area: NY/NJ coast, Long Island

Licensed marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation. Responds to stranded seals, dolphins, porpoises, and large whales.

Website: atlanticmarineconsociety.org | **Phone:** 631-369-9829

NY Wildlife Rescue Center (NYWRC)

Service Area: Rockland County (serves metro NY)

Accepts a variety of native wildlife species.

Website: nywildliferescue.org | **Phone:** Verify current contact on website

NOAA Fisheries Marine Mammal Program

Service Area: Northeastern US

Federal agency managing large whale response, dolphin strandings, and marine mammal law enforcement.

Website: fisheries.noaa.gov | **Phone:** 1-866-755-6622

Government Agencies

NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC)

Service Area: All of New York State

Regulates wildlife rehabilitation, enforces wildlife laws, operates 24-hour wildlife emergency hotline.

Website: dec.ny.gov | **Phone:** Emergency: 1-800-847-7332 | Regional office: 718-482-4900

NYC Dept. of Health and Mental Hygiene

Service Area: New York City

Responsible for rabies surveillance and response. Contact for any bat exposure, or animal bite from a wild mammal.

Website: nyc.gov/health | **Phone:** 311

US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Service Area: National (Northeast Region)

Federal wildlife law enforcement. Report illegal wildlife trade, raptor nest disturbance, or migratory bird violations.

Website: fws.gov | **Phone:** Law enforcement tips: 1-844-397-8477

What Rehabilitators Need From You

- **Location:** Exact address or cross-streets where the animal was found
- **Species:** Your best description (bird/mammal/reptile; color, size, any markings)
- **Condition:** What led you to think it needed help; any visible injuries; how long you've observed it



- **Your contact information:** So they can follow up if needed

■ While You Wait for Guidance

- Place the animal in a cardboard box with a lid (with air holes) or a cloth-covered basket
- Line the box with a clean cloth, towel, or paper towels — not terry cloth (claws get caught)
- Keep warm: a heating pad on the LOWEST setting under HALF the box
- Keep it dark and quiet — minimize handling and human voices
- **Do not offer food or water** unless specifically instructed by a rehabilitator
- Keep children and pets away

📌 **Quick Reference — Most Common Wildlife Emergencies:** Injured bird (any) → Wild Bird Fund (212) 331-9495 | Bat with possible human contact → 311 | Marine mammal → AMSEAS (631) 369-9829 | Any wildlife emergency in NYC → NYS DEC 1-800-847-7332 | Illegal wildlife → USFWS 1-844-397-8477

■ Final Summary

New York City's wildlife rehabilitation network is a remarkable community of dedicated professionals and volunteers. Supporting these organizations — through donations, volunteering, and responsible reporting — directly saves the lives of the wild animals we share this city with.

■ Related XVC Guides:

- [WLD_19: Baby Wildlife Guide](#)
- [WLD_20: Injured Wildlife Response](#)
- [WLD_22: Global Conservation Organizations](#)



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