

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley
Rehabilitation & Release | Education & Outreach
*Providing the highest quality care to sick, injured &
orphaned local wildlife.*

What animals are accepted?

The Center takes in sick, injured, or orphaned local wildlife, such as squirrels, raccoons, opossums, ducks, birds, coyotes, foxes, bobcats, snakes, and more. If you are unsure of the condition or type of animal you have found please call **(408) 929-9453**. There is also great information on our website, www.wcsv.org, regarding animal issues and the service we provide.

What animals are NOT accepted?

The Center does not accept healthy animals that can fend for themselves -- only wild animals that are in need of hospital care. The Center also does not accept domestic animals: cats, dogs or other pets. We do not accept untamed, former pet species like Red-eared Sliders and African Collared Doves.

What area do you service?

We service the South Bay Area.

Do you pick up animals?

No. The Center is a hospital and does not have transport services. Most wildlife may be contained in a dark, well-ventilated container (like a shoebox with holes in it) and brought to the Center for care. If the animal may be a danger to you, like a bat, bobcat, coyote, fox, hawk, owl, or raccoon, contact your local animal control agency for assistance in transporting the animal to the Center for care.

Do you trap and relocate animals?

No. It is illegal to trap wildlife without a permit. It is also illegal to relocate wildlife in the state of California. We are a rehabilitation facility licensed for the care of wildlife.

When can I bring an animal to the Wildlife Center?

We accept animals between the hours of 9am and 5pm, seven days a week (even on weekends).

What should I feed the animal?

Do NOT offer any food or water. It is best to get the animal into care at the Center as quickly as possible, ideally within the first 24 hours of finding it. Each type of animal has a different diet that varies depending on its age and condition. **If the animal is sick or injured, offering it food or water can make its condition worse.**

What happens when I bring an animal in?

The animal is immediately taken from the reception area to an examination room so it can be assessed as quickly as possible by our hospital staff. The container you bring the animal in must remain closed in the reception area. You will be asked to remain in the lobby to complete documentation about where and when the animal was found and any prior care given. These details help us help the animal.

Can I visit the animal after I've dropped it off?

No. Our goal is to provide animals with the best possible chance to be released back into their natural habitats. Maintaining a natural fear of larger animals, including humans, is critical to survival in the wild. In order to ensure that wild animals do not become tame or friendly in our care, we must make sure there are no visitors and that contact with humans is kept to a minimum. In fact, we often pair together members of the same species, so that animals socialize with one another during rehabilitation and stay wild. You will be provided with a medical record number that you can use to call and check up on the animal after it has been at the Center for at least 24 hours.

Can I care for the animal myself at home?

No. It is illegal for the public to care for wild animals or to keep them as pets. It is also best for sick or injured animals to receive proper medical care, nutrition and to be able to socialize with other members of their species while recovering – something that they can only do at a licensed rehabilitation facility. WCSV is licensed to care for wildlife through the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services.

Do you ever euthanize animals?

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, we are not able to save every animal. Some animals are sick with untreatable illnesses or are so badly injured that recovery and release is not possible. These animals are humanely euthanized. However, your rescue efforts will have allowed the animal to have a quick and painless end rather than prolonged suffering.

How can I help?

Donations and volunteers keep our efforts going! Your tax-deductible donation will allow us to do the important work of giving animals a second chance. There is more than one way to give. Visit wcsv.org/donate for a complete list of giving opportunities and wcsv.org/volunteer for a complete list of volunteer opportunities, including animal care, gardening, data entry, community outreach and more.