



I FOUND A BABY BIRD... *NOW WHAT?*

IS THE BIRD HURT OR SICK?

(unable to flutter wings; bleeding; wings drooping unevenly; weak or shivering; attacked by cat/dog)

yes

Call an LDWF licensed wildlife rehabilitator* (contact info on back) or licensed wildlife veterinarian **PRIOR** to intervening.

no

IS IT FEATHERED?

no

IT'S A NESTLING

CAN YOU FIND THE NEST? IS IT INTACT?

Nestlings need help!
(BE AWARE: some birds nest on the ground and may already be in their nest)



yes

IT'S A FLEDGLING

IS THE BIRD SAFE FROM CATS, DOGS, AND PEOPLE?

Normal behavior to be hopping on ground; parents are still feeding it.



no

yes

yes

no

MAKE A SUBSTITUTE NEST

Poke holes in bottom of shallow berry basket/margarine tub; line with dry grass, the old nest, or pine needles; hang from original or nearby tree.
www.helpbabybirds.ca/s/do/fallenNest.html

PUT BABY BACK IN NEST. ARE PARENTS VISITING?

Observe from a distance

no

yes

PUT BIRD IN NEARBY BUSHES OR ON A TREE LIMB. ARE PARENTS NEARBY?

Observe from a distance

yes

LEAVE THE AREA

Baby is OK

LEAVE THE AREA

Baby is OK

PUT BABY IN NEST. ARE PARENTS VISITING?

Observe from a distance

yes

no

Call an LDWF licensed wildlife rehabilitator* (contact info on back) or licensed wildlife veterinarian.

IF YOU CARE, LEAVE IT THERE

A baby's best chance for survival is with its MOTHER!

NOTE

In Louisiana, it is against the law to possess injured/orphaned birds without LDWF & USFWS Migratory Bird Rehabilitation permits, even if you plan to release them. It is also against the law to possess/import/export wildlife as pets or for the pet trade in Louisiana.

FIND AN LDWF LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATOR* IN YOUR AREA

VISIT WWW.WLF.LOUISIANA.GOV/REHAB

Contact a LDWF Regional Wildlife Office:

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Minden | 318-371-3049 |
| Monroe | 318-343-2417 |
| Pineville | 318-487-5634 |
| Lafayette | 337-262-2080 |
| Lake Charles | 337-491-2580 |
| Thibodaux | 985-447-0821 |
| Baton Rouge | 225-765-2800 |
| New Orleans | 504-284-2023 |



Photo by Steevie, Wikimedia Commons

**LDWF Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitators are NOT employees of the state or the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and are not on call 24 hours/day. Most licensed individuals work separate jobs and volunteer their time and efforts. Please be respectful of the licensed rehabbers capabilities, as rehabbers often specialize in certain species or establish limits on the quantity they can accept and properly care for.*



Photo by Rocky Grimes, Shutterstock.com

TO REPORT INJURED/ORPHANED BALD OR GOLDEN EAGLES

contact a LDWF Regional Office:

www.wlf.louisiana.gov/regional

1-800-442-2511



Photo by Victorias101, Wikimedia Commons

Additional resources can be found at
WWW.BIRDSLEUTH.ORG/BABYBIRD

flow chart adapted from
Healers of the Wild: People Who Care for
Injured and Orphaned Wildlife
By Shannon K. Jacobs
©1998 Coyote Moon Press



Photo courtesy of Shutterstock.com