

# Webster Animal Control

What to do if you...

## Found a baby bird?

### Is the bird visibly injured?

Look for bleeding, gasping, weakness, shivering, or uneven / broken / non-fluttering wings.

YES

NO

### Does the bird have feathers?

Fledglings are 14+ days old, and have short wings & tail. Hopping on the ground is normal behavior.

NO

YES

### Is it in immediate danger?

Watch for threats from cats, cars, and people.

NO

YES

### Move it to a safe spot.

Carefully put the bird in nearby bushes or on a branch. Keep pets away.



### Leave it alone.

It is normal for fledglings to spend a couple days on the ground while they learn to fly.

### Are parents nearby, visiting or feeding?

Watch for 1-2 hours from a distance for adult birds. Parents won't abandon babies because of human scent.

YES

### Leave the area.

Congratulations for making a difference! Learn more ways to help wild birds at [chirpforbirds.com](http://chirpforbirds.com).



### Can you find the nest?

Hatchlings are <4 days old, and have closed eyes. Nestlings are 3 to 14 days old with open eyes and developing feathers in tube-like sheaths.

NO

YES

### Carefully return the bird to its nest.

### Contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

Or try a state wildlife agency or veterinarian.



### Use a warm dark box.

If you can't let nature take its course and must intervene, place the bird in a dark box using gloves or clean hands. Keep it in a warm quiet place, don't feed or water it, and get it to a rehabilitator ASAP.

For more info:  
[chirpforbirds.com](http://chirpforbirds.com)



Find a NYS Wildlife Rehabilitator:  
[dec.ny.gov/animals/83977.html](http://dec.ny.gov/animals/83977.html)



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