

Summary for October 2013 – December 2014

The revised Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council (WRAC) had the first council meeting in October 2013. Within this first year the WRAC accomplished the following tasks:

Bylaws (Appendix A)

Brand new bylaws were developed and approved. The WRAC did not have bylaws prior to the revision into an advisory council. Within the bylaws are establishment of purpose/goals and expanded membership including designating voting and non-voting positions, officers, and committees.

Officers (elected in October 2013)

Chairperson: Yvonne Wallace Blane

Vice Chairperson: Julie Langenberg (until February 2014)

Secretary: Lori Bankson

Committees & Members

Education: Cheryl Diehl, Brooke Lewis, Elise Bauer, Kathy KasaKaitas

Research: Lisa Rowe, Yvonne Bellay, Heather Kaarakka

License and rules: Diane Visty Hebbert, Larry Gohlke, Marge Gibson, Lori Bankson, Susan Theys, Yvonne Wallace Blane, Geri Miller, Rebekah Weiss

Deer Rehabilitation (Appendix B)

As a result of the NRB's approval of deer rehabilitation in CWD counties, the WRAC was asked to develop recommendations for the Department on the statewide deer rehabilitation policy.

Possession of illegally held captive deer (Appendix C)

The NRB asked the WRAC for recommendations on illegally possessed deer situations and potential options there could be to address these situations.

Keep Wildlife Wild (Appendix D) – dichot keys

In 2014 the Department initiated a Keep Wildlife Wild campaign. The WRAC Education Committee assisted with action items including development of dichotomous keys for bird/mammal/fawn and edits to the DNR webpage.

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NR 19 (Appendix E)

The Department asked WRAC for recommendations on proposed changes to NR 19 subchapter II Wildlife Rehabilitation.

Officers (elected in November 2014)

Chairperson: Yvonne Wallace Blane

Vice Chairperson: Rebekah Weiss

Secretary: Lori Bankson

Current Membership	
WRAC Position	Name
Licensed rehabilitator (facility) SOD	Lisa Rowe (Wildlife in Need Center)
Licensed rehabilitator (home-based) SOD	Cheryl Diehl
Licensed rehabilitator (facility) NED	Rebekah Weiss (Aves Wildlife Alliance)
Licensed rehabilitator (home-based) NED	Susan Theys (Wildlife of Wisconsin)
Licensed rehabilitator (facility) NOD	Marge Gibson (Raptor Education Group Inc.)
Licensed rehabilitator (home-based) NOD	VACANT
Licensed rehabilitator (facility) WCD	Yvonne Wallace Blane (special appointment) (Fellow Mortals)
Licensed rehabilitator (home-based) WCD	Elise Bauer (Chippewa Valley Wildlife Rehabilitation)
Rehabilitation facility representative SOD	Brooke Lewis (special appointment) (Four Lakes Wildlife Center)
Rehabilitation facility representative NED	VACANT

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Rehabilitation facility representative NOD	Gerri Miller (Northwoods Wildlife Center)
Rehabilitation facility representative WCD	VACANT
Wisconsin Wildlife Rehabilitation Association	Lori Bankson (Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary)
Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association	VACANT
UW System	VACANT
Conservation Congress Wildlife Health Committee representative	Larry Gohlke
Humane Officer	Kathy KasaKaitas (Coulee Region Humane Society)
Captive cervid industry representative	VACANT
Captive cervid industry representative	VACANT
Captive wildlife industry representative	Diane Visty-Hebbert (Schlitz Audubon Nature Center)
DNR wildlife rehabilitation program manager	Mandy Kamps
DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management	VACANT
DNR Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation	Heather Kaarakka
DNR Bureau of Law Enforcement	Pete Dunn
US Fish and Wildlife Service	Larry Harrison
Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection	Dr. Yvonne Bellay
Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection, captive cervid program	VACANT

Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council Bylaws

I. Overview

These procedural bylaws are intended to guide the operation and organization of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council. They are established for the guidance of individual Council members, for the guidance of Department personnel and for public information. The Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council, as directed in NR 19.82, shall assist the department with recommendations in rehabilitation, wildlife health or captive wildlife matters, which may be used in Department decision making as it pertains to wildlife rehabilitation activities. "Council" means Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council, and "Department" means Department of Natural Resources.

II. Purpose/Goals

1. The Council shall advise the Department on matters pertaining to wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife health, and captive wildlife, as needed.
2. The Council shall help the Department define public outreach and continuing education on wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife health, and captive wildlife topics.
3. The Council shall assist the Department with facility inspections required as part of the wildlife rehabilitation license.

III. Organization

A. Membership

1. The Council consists of voting and non-voting members appointed by the Department Secretary for three-year terms. The number of terms any member can serve is unlimited.
2. The Council shall be comprised of:
Voting position:
 - a. 1-2 licensed rehabilitators from each DNR district (including at least 1 from a home-based facility, and no more than 1 rehabilitator from each facility)
 - b. 1 representative from a rehabilitation facility per DNR district (not a licensed rehabilitator and shall not be from a facility that is already represented)
 - c. 1 member from the Wisconsin Wildlife Rehabilitation Association (shall not be from a facility that is already represented)
 - d. 1 licensed Veterinarian from the Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association
 - e. 1 member from the University of Wisconsin System with experience/knowledge in captive wildlife/rehabilitation
 - f. 1 member from the Conservation Congress Wildlife Health Committee
 - g. 1 humane officer (municipal or state)
 - h. 2 members from the captive cervid industry

Appendix A

- i. 1 member from the captive wildlife industry

Non-voting positions:

- j. DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager
 - k. 1 member from DNR Bureau of Wildlife Management
 - l. 1 member from DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources
 - m. 1 member from DNR Bureau of Law Enforcement
 - n. 1 member from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service permit staff
 - o. 1 member from the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
 - p. 1 member of the Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection captive cervid program
3. A member of the Council may attend the meetings of the Council, vote upon questions that are considered by the Council and serve on and vote in committees established by the Council.
 4. Vacancies in the Council will be filled by appointment by the Secretary of the Department.
 5. No member of the Council other than the Chair of the Council or other Council member appointed, may speak in the name of the council or act in its behalf without the prior authorization of the Council or its officers.

B. DNR Communication

1. DNR staff shall maintain minutes of all Council meetings, maintain records of attendance at all meetings, safeguard all documents, and maintain reports as directed by the Council.
2. The DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager will be the primary point of contact for providing messages, requests, or information, to the Council from the DNR Secretary and vice versa.

C. Officers

1. The Council shall have a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary elected by the Council to serve for a period of one year.
2. Non-voting members shall not hold officer positions.
3. Elections shall occur in the month of October, or the annual meeting closest to this month.

Appendix A

4. The Chair and the Vice-Chair shall:
 - a. Set the agenda for each meeting of the Council. Additional agenda items may be submitted by any Council member.
 - b. Assign duties to ad hoc and standing committees with approval of the Council.
 - c. Supervise preparation of reports containing Council advice on wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife health, and captive wildlife matters, subject to approval by the Council.
 - d. Other responsibilities as authorized or requested by a vote of the Council.
5. The Secretary shall document and organize meeting minutes, which will be given to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager and made available to the Council.

D. Compensation of Members

1. All members of the Council and its committees shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties and, if such reimbursement is made, such reimbursement in the case of an officer or employee of this state who represents an agency as a member of the Council shall be paid by the agency which pays the officer's or employee's salary.
2. Expense reimbursements are limited to meals and travel mileage.
3. Expense reimbursements are limited to those authorized for State employees.
4. Expense reimbursements are applicable to all Council and committee meetings.

E. Committees

1. Council applicants will indicate on the Council application form which committee(s) they want to apply for. The chairperson will add the request(s) to the agenda for the next meeting to obtain votes from Council members.
2. Council members will indicate in writing to the chairperson which committee(s) they want to apply for. The chairperson will add the request(s) to the agenda for the next meeting to obtain votes from Council members.
3. Committee appointments shall be finalized by the majority vote of the voting quorum.
4. Committee of the Whole
 - a. Shall review items of concern and significance that require review of the Council as they may affect policy, rule, and related matters.
 - b. The chairperson of the Committee of the Whole shall be the duly elected chairperson and its membership shall consist of all Council members.

Appendix A

5. Education

- a. The Education Committee shall assist with education on wildlife rehabilitation, wildlife health, and captive wildlife topics. The committee shall also assist with developing future editions of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Study Guide and exams, and shall assist with creating training and continuing education opportunities.

6. Research

- a. The Research Committee shall assist in the development of research projects including, but not limited to post releases, infectious and/or non-infectious diseases, human related causes for wildlife admissions to rehab centers, or advancements in wildlife rehabilitation techniques.

7. Licenses and Rules

- a. The Licenses and Rules Committee shall assist with developing recommendations on rule and policy revisions, which shall be brought to the Committee of the Whole for final recommendations. The committee shall assist the Department with license applications where the experience or qualification of the applicant requires further consideration.

8. Other committees will be created on an as needed basis (ad hoc).

9. Interim committee work will be conducted by the assigned committees of the Council between regular Council meetings, and reported at the next Council meeting. All acts of individual members and committees of the Council between meetings are unofficial and without authority, except as specifically authorized by the Council.

IV. Meetings

1. Meeting arrangements shall be the responsibility of the chairperson.

2. Time and Place

- a. The Council shall meet at least bi-annually or at the request of the chairperson.
- b. Locations and exact dates of the meetings will be determined by the Council.
- c. Fifty-one percent (51%) of the voting members of the Council shall represent a quorum.
- d. Upon determination that a quorum of the Council is not available for a meeting, the chairperson may cancel or adjourn the meeting.

3. Special meetings may be called by the chairperson and shall be called upon the request of three or more members of the Council. A call for a special meeting shall be directed to the chairperson of the Council and contain a statement of matters to be acted upon with pertinent data. The chairperson of the Council shall then order such meeting to be held. A special meeting may be held by means of conference telephone when called by the chairperson or the vice chairperson of the Council.

Appendix A

4. Council members unable to attend a regular meeting of the Council may send a non-voting delegate to attend in their place.
5. A member of the Council who cannot attend a meeting may, after receiving the agenda of matters, submit to the chairperson their comments on matters from the agenda. The chairperson shall include these comments in relevant discussions during the meeting, but the absent member is not included in the quorum and does not vote.
6. A member of the Council may bring up additional matters not submitted by the committees of the Council at any regular meeting.
7. The agenda of matters to be considered by the Council shall be compiled and prepared by the Council Secretary in consultation with the chairperson and vice-chairperson and delivered to the DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager for distribution to the members of the Council with supporting papers at least 5 working days before the next regularly scheduled meeting, except for emergencies. A public comment section shall be included in every agenda.
8. All Council and committee meetings shall be open to the public, unless designated as a closed meeting in accordance to sec. 19.85(1), Wis. Stats.
9. Department staff shall be in charge of public meeting notices 24 hours prior.

V. Publications

1. The Council shall issue a report to the Department Secretary after the fall meeting, for the previous year's activities.
2. The Council may issue documents that are consistent with the purpose and goals of the Council.

VI. Revision

Changes to Council bylaws may be made if such changes are presented in written form at a regular meeting of the Council and approved by two-thirds majority vote or the members present at the next regular Council meeting.

VII. Rules of Order

The rules contained in the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all Council and Committee meetings.

VIII. Adoption and Amendments

These Bylaws shall be deemed adopted when approved by a majority of the voting members of the Wisconsin Wildlife Rehabilitation Council either in attendance at the meeting upon which a vote on these Bylaws is requested or by mail ballot.

Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council
December 2013 Recommendations to DNR Secretary Stepp

DEER REHABILITATION POLICY
(including deer rehabilitation in CWD affected areas)

Orphaned, sick, or injured deer are recovered every year by the public and Department staff and placed with wildlife rehabilitators. To maximize the well-being and wildness of these deer and to minimize risk from Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) identified in some populations of Wisconsin deer, guidance is required for deer placement and rehabilitation. Deer rehabilitation policy, with specific geographic guidance will be communicated annually by the Department directly to all licensed rehabilitators in the state. Additionally, current information will be available through the Department Wildlife Rehabilitation website and the Wisconsin Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.

The rehabilitation of deer is PROHIBITED for deer originating from an entire county if requested by the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and either:

1. A bovine tuberculosis (TB) positive domestic, or wild animal has been confirmed in the county, or
2. The county or portion of the county is within a 10-mile radius of a domestic or wild animal that has been tested and confirmed to be positive for bovine TB.

Where the rehabilitation of deer is PERMITTED, the following conditions must be followed:

1. When possible, deer in rehabilitation should be in contact only with deer from the same county, or preferably even smaller area of a county. Whenever possible, deer in rehabilitation should be released back to the county, and preferably the specific area, where found. Deer cannot be released on Department lands without permission from the Department.
2. Deer from identified CWD affected areas can only be rehabilitated at a facility in a CWD area and can only be co-mingled with deer also from CWD areas. CWD areas will be defined by the Department; updates on the geographic scope of these areas will be provided annually to rehabilitators in the spring. Deer originating from areas of the state where CWD has not been identified cannot be placed in rehabilitation facilities located in CWD areas.
3. Decisions about release location for deer from identified CWD affected areas shall be made through consultation between the licensed rehabilitator and the DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager, and whenever possible releases should occur in the core, not the periphery, of a CWD affected area.
4. Released deer shall be identified with a metal ear tag issued by the Department whenever possible. Ear tags shall be labeled by the Department to distinguish them from ear tags used for other purposes. Released deer shall not be identified with any other type of ear tag, such as those visible from a distance commonly used on farmed deer or livestock.
5. All deer chemically immobilized or treated with drugs near the time of release shall be identified with an additional ear tag as required by the Department's Animal Care and Use Committee and Chemical Immobilization Policy.
6. Deer under a rehabilitator's care will be reported quarterly, using the standard Department wildlife rehabilitation quarterly reporting form.
7. When a licensed rehabilitator receives a deer exhibiting clinical signs compatible with CWD (for example poor condition, neurologic signs, excessive thirst or salivation, difficulty swallowing), CWD testing and management for the case should be discussed with the DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager. Approval is needed from the DNR Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Manager before release of these cases.
8. Transportation and disposal of deer carcasses shall follow Department regulations; carcasses shall be incinerated, digested, buried or disposed of in a participating landfill.

The placement of wild deer in deer farms is PROHIBITED.

Wisconsin Administrative Code states, "No person keeping a herd of farm-raised deer may do any of the following ... take or accept into the herd, on a temporary or permanent basis, any cervid from a free-ranging herd" (s. ATCP

Appendix B

10.46(11)(b)).” Placement of deer that were free-ranging into a captive herd is a violation of these rules and the farm will be placed under quarantine by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

**Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council Recommendations to WDNR Secretary Stepp
Regarding Illegally Held Deer
February 27, 2014**

Definitions—

“Tame”—reduced from a state of wildness, to lose fear of humans

“Habituate”—make or become accustomed or used to something

Background—

Under current law, when the WDNR is made aware of a live deer being held illegally by a member of the public, its agents must act to remove the deer from the illegal situation. Animals originating or held in the counties which have been closed to deer rehabilitation under the WDNR’s Deer Rehabilitation Policy which cannot be immediately returned to the wild due to tameness or habituation, or are otherwise compromised or are too young to survive on their own, have been seized and euthanized by the WDNR. Incidents addressed in this manner have resulted in negative response toward the WDNR and its agents. Such situations have fostered distrust of the WDNR and its policies and have not benefitted the deer being removed.

Considerations –

The Natural Resources Board resolution of 9/25/13 opposes any legislation that would allow a private citizen to retain an unlawfully taken live wild deer. The Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council voted unanimously on 12/18/13 to advise against members of the public keeping deer which had been illegally obtained from the wild.

- Private citizens often cannot meet standards of care, nutrition, health management, and public safety for wild origin deer.
- Wild deer raised as pets will habituate to humans or become tame, which can lead to problems if release into the wild is later attempted, including failure to cope and thrive in the wild and risks to public safety. Therefore, only a subset of illegally taken deer will be suited for placement with a rehabilitation facility for eventual release.
- There are currently very few good alternatives for placement of non-releasable (i.e. too tame or originated from a CWD-affected area) illegally taken live wild deer.

Goals—

- To create a blueprint for peaceful, satisfactory resolution of situations where WDNR agents are required to remove illegally held deer
- To create an acceptable outcome for the individual animal(s)
- To create an acceptable outcome for the people involved in the situation (members of the public, WDNR agents and as an entity, any individual or entity assisting WDNR with illegally-held deer)
- To create an understanding by the people involved and the general public as to why the deer was removed from the illegal situation
- To use the situation as an opportunity to educate members of the general public in order to prevent future similar situations involving illegally-held deer
- To devise solution(s) that protect the health of other wildlife, people and domestic animals which share the landscape
- To protect and enhance the reputation of and public trust in WDNR

WRAC Recommendations—

- Re-evaluate and revise the WDNR's methods of enforcing laws relating to illegally-held deer in order to better represent WDNR's intent and purpose for keeping deer wild, while addressing the situation in a thoughtful and respectful manner.

- Establish a sanctuary for non-releasable deer for which there is no alternative captive placement. If the public truly wants placements for all deer illegally taken from the wild, then decision makers should be willing to use public funds to support a sanctuary.
- Explore the option of having people who obtained deer illegally contribute to the cost of necessary care.
- Follow WDNR animal transportation guidelines when removing deer from an illegal situation http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlife_habitat/documents/transport.pdf
- Assess the health of the deer as soon as possible after removal, including use of appropriate specific live-tests for tuberculosis (TB) and CWD. Humanely euthanize any deer that tests positive for TB or CWD.
- Assess the level of tameness or habituation as soon as possible after removal
- For deer that will not immediately be turned over to licensed wildlife rehabilitators, create a holding area (quarantine area) to which deer are taken after removal for evaluation and testing
- Identify and enlist the help of veterinarians experienced with the species or similar species to assist with developing guidelines for health assessments
- Identify and enlist the help of wildlife rehabilitators, animal behaviorists or others experienced with normal deer behavior to assist with designing standards for behavior assessments
- Establish protocols for reversing various levels of tameness or habituation
- For deer originating in CWD-affected areas, reassess the health of the deer prior to release or placement, including live-screening for CWD if appropriate given the age of the deer. No deer with test evidence of CWD infection or other significant, irreversible health issues should be released
- Any deer removed from an illegally-held situation in a CWD-affected area or originating in a CWD-affected area which is eligible for release should be released into a CWD-affected area.

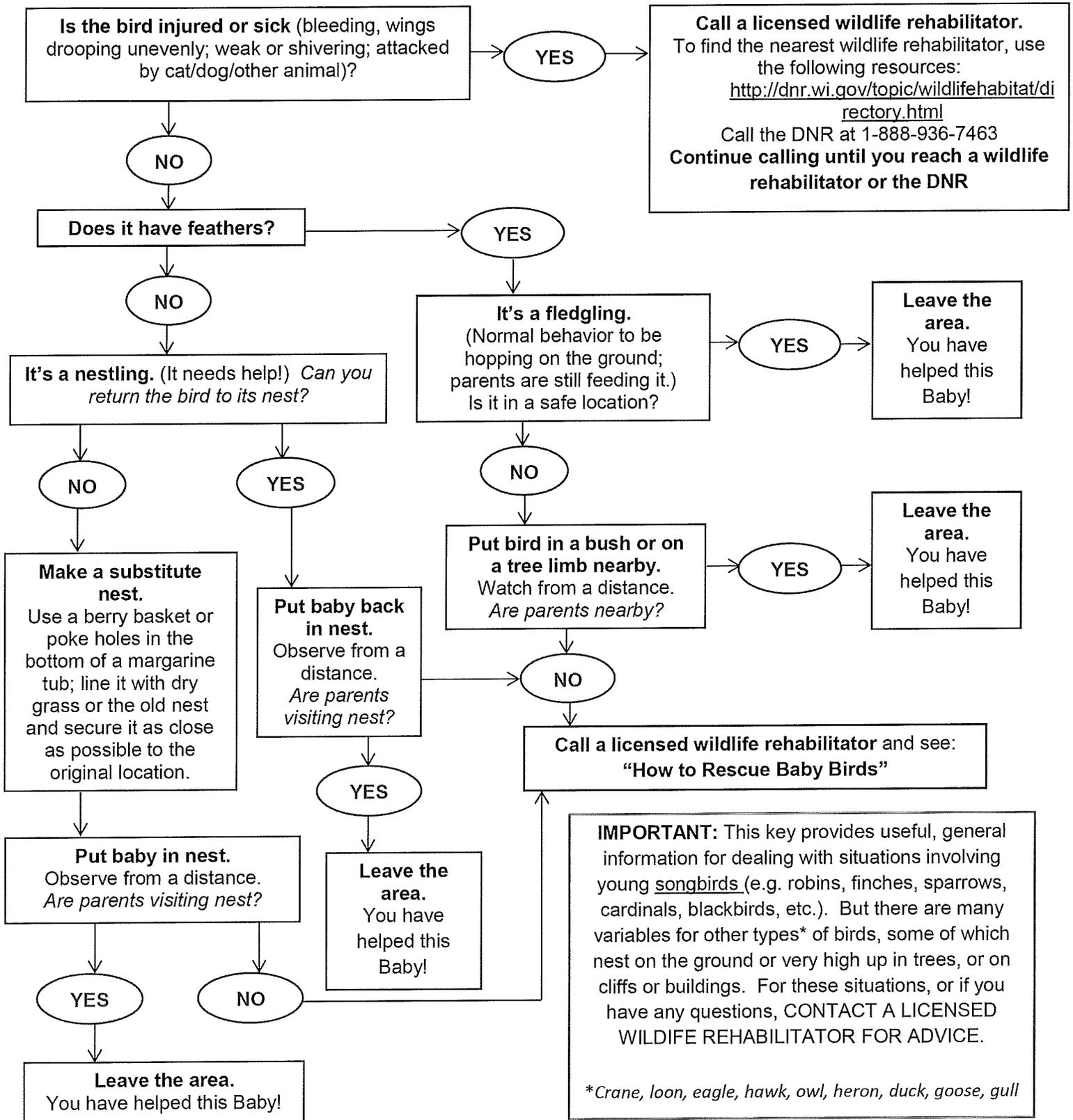
The Council will provide further detail, references, and provide specific directions for implementing these Recommendations if the Secretary so directs.

I Found a Baby Bird: Now What?

Always Remember:

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

So before touching, "S.O.A.R.": Stop, Observe, Ask a Rehabilitator



How to Rescue Baby Birds

Only adults should rescue baby birds. Children should be taught that if they find a baby bird, they should NOT touch it, but should immediately tell an adult.

For your own safety, before rescuing adult birds, seek guidance from a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or the DNR.

1. **Contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.**

2. **Prepare a container.** Place a clean, soft cloth without loose strings or loops on the bottom of a cardboard box or pet carrier with a lid. A shoe-box is about the right size for most baby songbirds, but if you're rescuing a larger bird, a larger box or a pet-carrier might be needed. If the container you've chosen doesn't have air holes, poke several small holes in each side and the top using the sharp end of a pencil or pen. For smaller birds, you can use a paper bag with air holes poked in the sides.

3. **Protect yourself.** Wear gloves. Most baby birds are harmless, but some birds, like herons, may jab with their beaks; young hawks or owls may try to grab you with their sharp talons (claws) or slap you with their wings to protect themselves. And birds commonly have parasites (mites, lice, ticks) and may carry diseases transmissible to people.

4. **Gently pick up the bird and put it in the prepared container.**

5. **Warm the bird if it feels cool to the touch.** Put one half of the container on a heating pad set on "low". This will let the baby crawl (if it is old enough and strong enough) to the unheated end of the container if it gets too warm. After a few minutes, carefully feel under the bird with your hand to see if the heat is getting through to the bird, and if so, that it is not too warm. Or fill a zip-top plastic bag, plastic soft drink container with a screw lid, or a rubber glove with hot water; wrap the warming container with a cloth without loose strings and put it under or next to the bird. Make sure the container doesn't leak, or the bird will get wet and even more chilled. If using a heating pad, check periodically to make sure the bird doesn't get too warm and that the heating pad has not turned off automatically.

6. **Close the top of the box and tape it shut,** or if using a bag, roll the top of the paper bag closed.

7. **Note the exact location where you found the bird.** This will be very important if you or the rehabilitator is going to try to put the bird back in its nest.

8. **Keep the bird in a warm, dark, quiet place.**

Don't give it food or water unless you are directed to do so by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

Leave the bird alone; don't needlessly handle or bother it.

Keep children and pets away! Don't let them touch or handle the bird.

Keep the bird in a container; don't let it loose in your house or car.

9. **Wash your hands after contact with the bird or its body fluids or feces. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water is not available.** After transferring to a wildlife rehabilitator, wash and disinfect* or discard anything the bird was in contact with — towel, jacket, blanket, pet carrier — to prevent the spread of diseases and/or parasites to you or your pets.

10. **Get the bird to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.** Read Recommendations for Transporting Wildlife: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/documents/transport.pdf>

It's against the law to keep wild birds if you don't have proper licenses or permits, even if you plan to release them! (Note: by law you have up to 24 hours in which to get the bird to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator and for the sake of the bird, do so without delay.)

For more information go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/orphan.html>

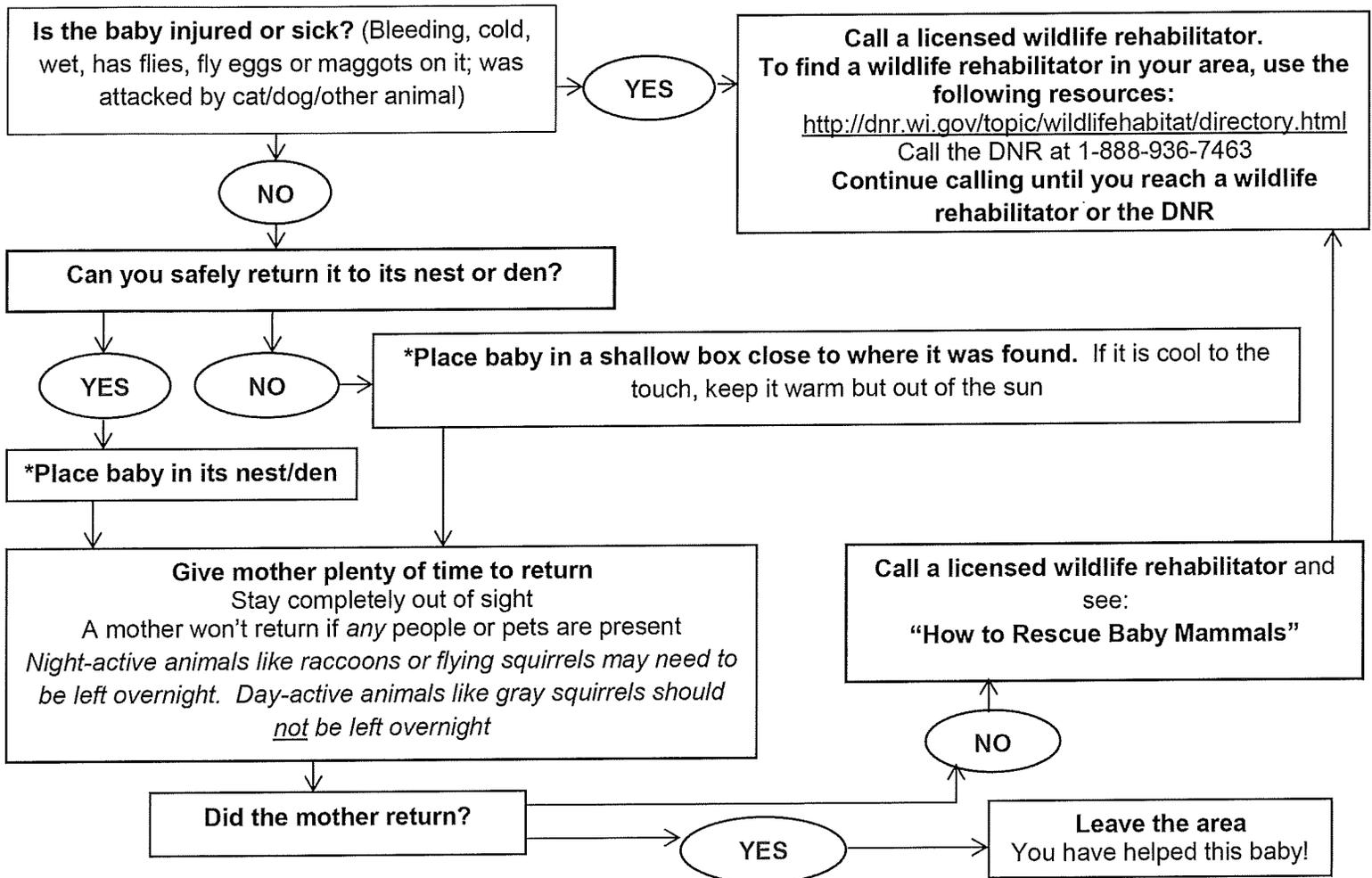
*General guidelines for soiled laundry: wipe or rinse away as much soiling as possible. Then, using hottest water practical and laundry detergent wash soiled item(s) separate from other clothing or items. Rinse with plain water and then soak item(s) in a solution of 1 part household bleach to 10 parts plain water for 20 minutes. Then rinse with plain water and let dry.

*General guidelines for soiled pet carriers: wipe or rinse away as much soiling as possible. Then either wash with a disinfecting cleaner in hot water, or with dishwashing liquid in water, followed by a fresh water rinse. After rinsing, if you haven't used a disinfecting cleaner, apply or soak the carrier in a solution of 1 part household bleach to 10 parts plain water for 20 minutes. Then rinse and let air dry.

I Found a Baby Mammal: Now What?

Always Remember:

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



If you find a baby rabbit:

- If the nest has been damaged, it can be repaired. Look for a shallow depression lined with dried grass/fur. Place babies in nest with a light layer of dry grass over them to hide them. Leave the area, or the mother won't return. (Mothers usually return only at dawn and dusk to feed their babies). Place several twigs or strings in a "checkerboard" pattern over the nest. If they have been moved overnight, the mother has returned.
- If you find healthy bunnies that are 4-5 inches long, able to hop, with eyes open and ears up, they likely do not need help unless they are in trouble such as they have fallen into a window-well. They are able to survive on their own. Leave them alone. Questions? Call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or the DNR.

If you find a baby squirrel or chipmunk: Place baby in a shallow box close to where it was found only during daylight hours. Leave the area. Check back before nightfall to see if the mother returned, if not, call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator and see "How to Rescue Baby Mammals."

***CAUTION:** Though they may be cute and look harmless, young wild animals don't know that you are trying to help them and they may instinctually try to bite or scratch you to protect themselves when handled! It is very important that you protect yourself by not handling wild animals needlessly, wearing leather gloves, and not handling the animal directly; for example, using a cardboard box to scoop up the animal rather than picking it up by hand. Even if you wear gloves be sure to wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water or sanitizing hand-cleaner after handling wildlife.

If you find a baby animal of a type not mentioned specifically here, please call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator for special advice.

For more general information, and more specific information about cottontails, squirrels, deer and raccoons go to: dnr.wi.gov Keyword "Orphan?" <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/orphan.html>

How to Rescue Baby Mammals

Only adults should rescue baby mammals. Children should be taught that if they find an animal, they should NOT touch it, but should immediately tell an adult.

For your own safety, before rescuing adult mammals, seek guidance from a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or the DNR.

1. **Contact a licensed wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.**
2. **Prepare a container.** Place a soft cloth without loose strings on the bottom of a cardboard box or pet carrier with a lid/door. If the container doesn't have air holes, poke several holes in each side and the top using the sharp end of a pencil or pen.
3. **Protect yourself from being bitten or scratched!** - Wear leather gloves. **Some animals may bite or scratch to protect themselves**, and wild animals often have parasites (fleas, lice, ticks) and may carry diseases that could make you sick.
4. **Gently scoop up the baby using a cardboard box or a flat piece of cardboard and place it in a box or other clean, dry container.**
5. **Place one half of the container on a heating pad set on "low"**. This will let the baby crawl to the unheated end of the container if it gets too warm. Or fill a zip-top plastic bag, plastic soft drink container with a screw lid, or a rubber glove with hot water; wrap the warming container with a cloth without loose strings and put it under or next to the baby. Make sure the container doesn't leak, or the baby will get wet and even more chilled. If using a heating pad, check periodically to make sure the container doesn't get too warm and that the heating pad has not turned off automatically.
6. **Close the top of the box and tape it shut, or make sure the pet carrier is securely closed.**
7. **Note exactly where you found the baby.** This will be very important if the baby can be returned to its mother.
8. **Keep the baby in a warm, dark, quiet place.**
Don't give it food or water unless you are directed to do so by a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.
Leave it alone; don't needlessly handle or bother it.
Keep children and pets away! Don't let them touch or handle the baby.
Keep the baby in a container; don't let it loose in your house or car.
9. **Wash your hands after contact with the baby or its body fluids or feces. Use soap and water, or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water is not available.** After transferring to a wildlife rehabilitator, wash and disinfect* or discard anything the baby was in contact with — towel, jacket, blanket, pet carrier — to prevent the spread of diseases and/or parasites to you or your pets.
10. **Get the baby to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator as soon as possible.** Read Recommendations for Transporting Wildlife: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/documents/transport.pdf>

It's against the law to keep wild animals if you don't have proper licenses or permits, even if you plan to release them! (Note: by law you have up to 24 hours in which to get the mammal to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator and for the sake of the mammal, do so without delay.)

For more information go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/orphan.html>

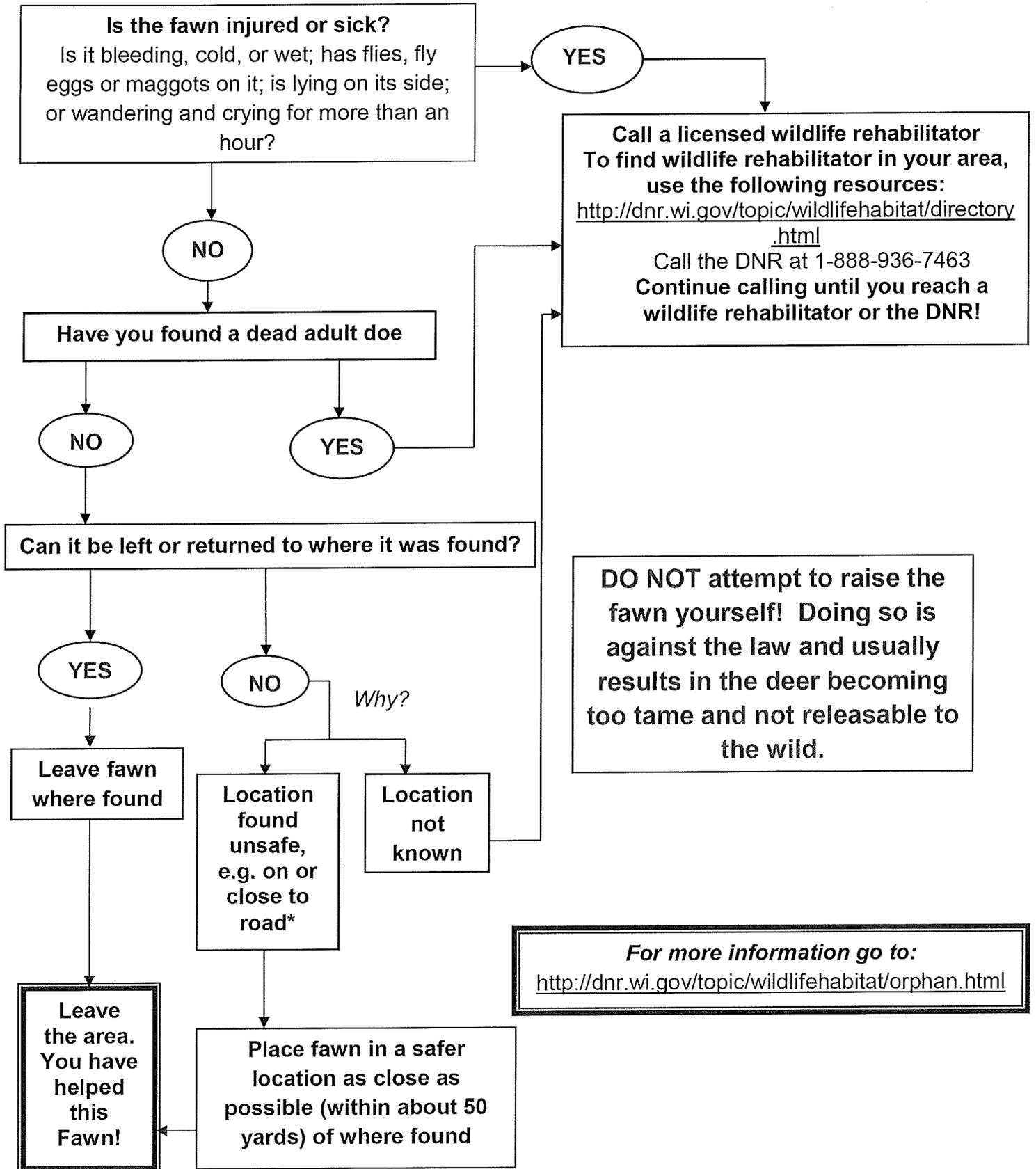
**General guidelines for soiled laundry: wipe or rinse away as much soiling as possible. Then, using hottest water practical and laundry detergent wash soiled item(s) separate from other clothing or items. Rinse with plain water and then soak item(s) in a solution of 1 part household bleach to 10 parts plain water for 20 minutes. Then rinse with plain water and let dry.*

**General guidelines for soiled pet carriers: wipe or rinse away as much soiling as possible. Then either wash with a disinfecting cleaner in hot water, or with dishwashing liquid in water, followed by a fresh water rinse. After rinsing, if you haven't used a disinfecting cleaner, apply or soak the carrier in a solution of 1 part household bleach to 10 parts plain water for 20 minutes. Then rinse and let air dry.*

I Found a Fawn: Now What?

Always Remember:

A fawn's best chance for survival is with its mother!



White-Tailed Deer Fawns – For about the first two to three weeks after they're born, fawns lack the strength and speed to escape from danger. So during this time they move very little and rely on their spotted, camouflage coat and lack of scent to protect them. The mother further protects her fawn from predators by staying some distance away except when it is time for the fawn to nurse.

If you find a fawn lying alone, unless the fawn is sick or injured, leave the baby alone, leave the area and do not go near the spot again. The mother will not return if people or dogs are present. Do not touch the fawn or bring children, dogs or friends to look at it. Doing so could endanger the fawn by giving away its location to a predator, and its mother won't return to nurse the fawn while people or dogs are nearby.

*If a fawn is in obvious danger, such as next to a road or in a parking lot, **BEING MINDFUL OF YOUR OWN SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS**, you can use clean gloves to pick up the fawn and move it to a safer location, as close as possible to the location it was originally found, or slowly, quietly, and gently try to guide the fawn away from hazards and to a seemingly safer location. The mother doe will find the fawn. Although you should avoid touching the fawn unless absolutely necessary, it is a myth that the mother will reject the baby if it has human scent on it.

**Wildlife Rehabilitation Advisory Council
Recommendations to WDNR Secretary Stepp Regarding Proposed Changes to NR 19
December 9, 2014**

WRAC Recommendations on Specific Items brought to vote—

In opposition—Unanimous Vote 11/7/14

19.72(1) The Council voted unanimously in opposition to the addition of the second sentence to this section, and recommends that NR 19.72(1) stands without change.

19.78(1) The Council voted unanimously in opposition to the change of 'licensee' to 'department' in the first sentence, and recommends that the NR 19.78(1) stands without change.

In support—Vote 11/7/14

19.73(3)(d)8. The Council voted 8:1 in support of requiring subpermittees to be located "...no more than 60 miles from the main facility of the advanced licensee."

As alternative language—Unanimous Vote 11/24/14

19.79(1) If a licensee knows or reasonably suspects that a rabies-vector species mammal in their care may have or has been exposed to rabies, or that a human or domestic animal has been bitten or scratched by a possible rabies-vector species in the licensee's possession, the licensee shall make reports required under s. 19.79, quarantine the animal, and handle the animal as directed by their local or county public health department or the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene, which may include submitting the animal for rabies testing by the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.

General Recommendations:

1. "Secretary" be clarified as "DNR Secretary"
2. "patient" change to "animal"
3. "direct supervision" be defined to mean "in actual presence of licensee or consulting veterinarian"
4. WRAC recommends the Department develop policy for intervention and remediation in situations involving violations of NR19 in lieu of the proposed broad language changes to NR 19.72 and NR 19.78, which are unanimously opposed by Council as documented by vote.

"The Department will create a policy, with the assistance of WRAC, to address situations with licensees or subpermittees where violations of NR 19 have occurred or may have occurred."

5. "Subpermittee" and "Volunteer" language be consistent for both licenses and activities and responsibilities are clearly defined for each.
6. Subpermittee should not have more privileges than Basic Licensee
7. WRAC will provide additional recommended changes to NR 19 in a separate document.

Specific Recommendations by Section:

1. 19.73(1)(d) Authorization by Species Recommend use of species categories
 - a. WRAC can assist in developing species categories and specific recommendations
2. 19.73(1)(e) Adding Species Clearly define process of adding species, with specific requirements for certain difficult or sensitive species.

3. 19.73(2)(e) & 19.73(3)(e) Volunteer rules be consistent for both licenses
4. 19.73(3)(e)2. Volunteer Change Change notice from "10 days" to "quarterly"
5. 19.74(1)(e) Zoning Add language to sentence: "Written assurance **from the applicant** that the facility is in compliance with local ordinances and zoning regulations."
6. 19.74(3) Continuing Education WRAC can assist in developing continuing education recommendations which are of minimal cost to licensee
7. 19.78(11) Consulting Veterinarian Language change: "If a licensee's consulting veterinarian is no longer willing or able to maintain the relationship established under s. 19.74(1)(a), **the licensee will have 30 days in which to obtain a new consulting veterinarian. The department may grant extensions to this 30-day period on a case-by-case basis.**"