I Found a Fawn: *Now What?*

**Always Remember:**
A fawn’s best chance for survival is with its mother!

**Is the fawn injured or sick?**
Is it bleeding, cold, or wet; has flies, fly eggs or maggots on it; is lying on its side; or wandering and crying for more than an hour?

- **YES**
  - Call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator
  - To find wildlife rehabilitator in your area, use the following resources:
  - [http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/directory.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/directory.html)
  - Call the DNR at 1-888-936-7463
  - Continue calling until you reach a wildlife rehabilitator or the DNR!

- **NO**

**Have you found a dead adult doe?**

- **NO**

**Can it be left or returned to where it was found?**

- **YES**
  - Leave the area. You have helped this Fawn!

- **NO**
  - Why?
  - Location found unsafe, e.g. on or close to road*

**Location not known**

**Place fawn in a safer location as close as possible (within about 50 yards) of where found**

For more information go to:

*DO NOT attempt to raise the fawn yourself! Doing so is against the law and usually results in the deer becoming too tame and not releasable to the wild.*
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.