Thank you for your efforts in contacting a wildlife rehabilitator to aid in this situation. Please know that if you cannot get a hold of someone, it is most likely because the rehabilitator is extremely busy. Wildlife rehabilitators often volunteer their time, typically do not receive government funding, and are sometimes caring for hundreds of individuals. While being with an injured animal can feel very stressful, the best thing you can do is relax and not rush what to do next. Please use this decision chart to help you in your next steps.

Have you captured the injured animal?

**YES**

As safely as you can, place the animal in a dark, warm, quiet place to reduce stress. Do NOT attempt to give it food or water. Leave it undisturbed until you can reach a permitted wildlife rehabilitator.

If you have not done so yet, contact another wildlife rehabilitator, wildlife center, or wildlife rehabilitation professional association in the region.

If you are not hearing back, it is not because you are being ignored. Wildlife rehabilitators are often busy caring for hundreds of patients a day. Please wait a few hours and try contacting these individuals or groups again.

**NO**

Do NOT attempt to capture the animal without guidance from a permitted wildlife rehabilitator. If you are able to stay, observe the animal from a distance until you are in contact with a rehabilitator.

If you repeatedly do not hear back, call your state or province's Department of Natural Resources or Wildlife Department to learn your region's laws on wildlife. Each state or province has different laws and regulations pertaining to wildlife rehabilitation.