



YOU FOUND A FAWN... NOW WHAT?

IF YOU CARE, LEAVE THEM THERE.

Several studies have shown captive-raised fawns have an 85% chance of mortality within three months of being released. We simply can't do the job that mom was intended to do!

Fawns raised by their mom have a significantly higher chance at survival. Rescue and rehabilitation are only appropriate in true emergencies.



Is the fawn critically **INJURED**?

Signs to look for:

- Serious bleeding
- Open wounds
- Broken bones

YES



NO



Carefully place the fawn in a secure pet carrier or box. Put the fawn in a **WARM, DARK, AND QUIET** place away from pets and children.

IMMEDIATELY contact Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be connected with a wildlife biologist or game warden who can provide instructions.

NEVER feed or attempt to rehabilitate a fawn yourself. Only licensed rehabilitators have the training to safely and legally care for injured wildlife.

Is the fawn truly **ORPHANED**?

Signs to look for:

- A large amount of fly eggs and/or ticks (some is normal)
- Weakness, lying on its side with legs splayed, unable to lift head
- Calling non-stop for hours
- Found in close proximity to a deceased doe

NO



YES



This fawn does **NOT** need help.

Does leave their fawns unattended most of the time, only returning 2-3 times per day to nurse. Fawns rely on camouflage to stay safe until they are strong enough to keep up.

The mother **WILL** return if you give her space.

Keep your distance, make sure children do the same, and bring pets indoors.

BEFORE taking action, **IMMEDIATELY** contact Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to be connected with a wildlife biologist or game warden who can confirm the need for rescue and provide instructions.

NEVER feed or attempt to rehabilitate a fawn yourself. Orphaned wildlife can only be legally and safely cared for by licensed wildlife rehabilitators.