



Wildlife Rehabilitators' Association of Massachusetts

Wildlife Resource list for ACO's

Wildlife Support, WRAM website: www.wraminc.org

Important resources/contacts:

- Directory- Find a Wildlife Rehabilitator, MA Dept of Fisheries and Wildlife: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/find-a-wildlife-rehabilitator>
- Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife, 508-389-6300
- MA Animal Control Officers, Town Listings: <http://masslostpet.net/ACO.html>
- MA Environmental Police, 800-632-8075
- Animal Rescue League of Boston, 657-777-2752
- New England Wildlife Center's Barnstable Branch(AKA, Cape Wildlife Center), Barnstable MA <http://capewildlifecenter.com/>, 508-362-0111
- New England Wildlife Center, Weymouth, MA <https://www.newwildlife.org/>, 781-682-4878
- Tufts Wildlife Clinic, North Grafton, MA <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/>, 508-839-7918
- WildCare Inc., Eastham, MA <https://www.wildcarecapecod.org/>, 508-240-2255

Other Important Information:

1. **Coyotes and white-tailed deer** may only be captured and possessed with the express permission of MassWildlife, which will be granted on a case-by-case basis. MA Fish and Wildlife must be contacted. Please reach out during business hours to the **deer biologist David Stainbrook Office-(508) 389-6320** for approval to intervene with deer inquiries and **Fur Bearing Biologist Dave Wattles Office-(508) 389-6359** for coyote inquiries.
2. **Coyote, Bobcat, Fisher, and River Otter:** As stated on the Massachusetts wildlife rehabilitation permit, any coyote, bobcat, fisher, or river otter received by a wildlife rehabilitator from an ACO, it must be reported by the next business day to a biologist at MassWildlife's Field Headquarters in Westborough for further instructions. **Prior authorization is required** for the rehabilitation of these four species, which went into effect on May 1, 2017. **Contact Fur Bearing Biologist Dave Wattles Office-(508) 389-6359 for inquiries and approval.**
3. **Mothers of deer fawns** leave their young alone for several hours at a time, often only returning to feed them at dawn and dusk when people are not likely to be present. Most of the time, deer fawns should be left alone. If a fawn is in a very problematic location, like in a garage or a busy parking lot, it may be best to move it a short distance to a nearby wooded area (not more than

¼ mile). Only if it is absolutely necessary and only if you have been given permission by MassWildlife should you move a **fawn**. Do not take possession of a deer fawn for any purpose unless you have been given authorization by **MassWildlife's deer biologist David Stainbrook Office-(508) 389-6320 for approval.**

4. **Injured or sick adult deer:** ACO's and/or Environmental Police at (800) 632-8075 may euthanize with appropriate measures. They cannot be taken in for rehabilitation.
5. **Mange:** It is illegal for anyone (including wildlife rehabilitators, Animal Control Officers, or any other members of the general public) to attempt to trap free-ranging wildlife for the purpose of treatment without permission from MassWildlife. No food, bait, or other lure should be given to any wild animal in an attempt to capture it.

It is important to note that sarcoptic mange is a naturally occurring disease and is neither a public safety threat nor a threat to wildlife populations. Mange is spread through direct contact between infected and healthy individuals or at areas of concentrated use such as den sites or feeding locations. Often, mange outbreaks are the result of intentional feeding by the public. Feeding wildlife for any reason, particularly animals with mange, can be very harmful to wildlife and wildlife populations. Not feeding wildlife is the primary technique to help prevent mange and its spread. Feeding also leads to habituation of wildlife and leads to human-wildlife conflict. The distribution of any form of medication to free-ranging wildlife for any reason is illegal.

It is illegal for anyone (including wildlife rehabilitators, Animal Control Officers, veterinarians, or any other members of the general public) to feed Ivermectin-laced food to wild animals or place any medication intended for wildlife consumption in the environment. Additionally, the distribution of medication has the potential to poison animals. For example, Ivermectin is toxic to some species of dogs and is toxic to other groups of animals.

6. If you find:

- a. **A sick or injured carnivorous, large or dangerous animal** (bobcat, fisher, coyote, fox, snapping turtle, etc.) call Tufts Wildlife Clinic or one of the New England Wildlife Centers for guidance if needed
- b. **An Injured Bird of Prey:** <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/found-wildlife/sick-injured-bird/birds-of-prey/>
- c. **Endangered Species** (peregrine falcons, bald eagles, some types of turtles, etc.) <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/found-wildlife/endangered-species/>
- d. **Rabies Vector Species** (raccoon, bats, skunks, woodchucks) <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/what-kind-of-animal-is-it/mammal/rabies-vector/what-to-do-when-you-have-found-sick-or-injured-rabies-vector-wildlife/>
- e. **Special Considerations (Deer)** <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/special-considerations/>
- f. **How To Tell If an Animal is likely Orphaned** <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/how-to-tell-if-an-animal-is-likely-orphaned/>

- g. Rabies-vector Species, Found Sick or Injured <https://wildlife.tufts.edu/what-kind-of-animal-is-it/mammal/rabies-vector/what-to-do-when-you-have-found-sick-or-injured-rabies-vector-wildlife/>

Other References/Resources:

Wild Mammal Babies, the first 48 hours and beyond

Irene Ruth and Deb Gode, Third Edition

All About Birds, The Cornell Lab

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/>

Baby Birds, a site to help you with identification

<https://sites.tufts.edu/babybirds/>

Seabirds

<https://www.nativeanimalrescue.org/found-an-animal/seabirds/>

Common Bird Species in Massachusetts

<https://www.massaudubon.org/learn/nature-wildlife/birds>

Eastern coyote/coywolf life cycle in southeastern Massachusetts and some commonly asked

questions. Way, J.G. 2012. Eastern Coyote Research Publications 4: 1–5.

<http://easterncoyoteresearch.com/downloads/EasternCoyoteLifeCycle.pdf>

Hawkwatch International

<https://hawkwatch.org/learn/why-raptors>