Wildlife In Need Emergency Response of Pennsylvania, Inc.
Goes The Distance For The Wildlife

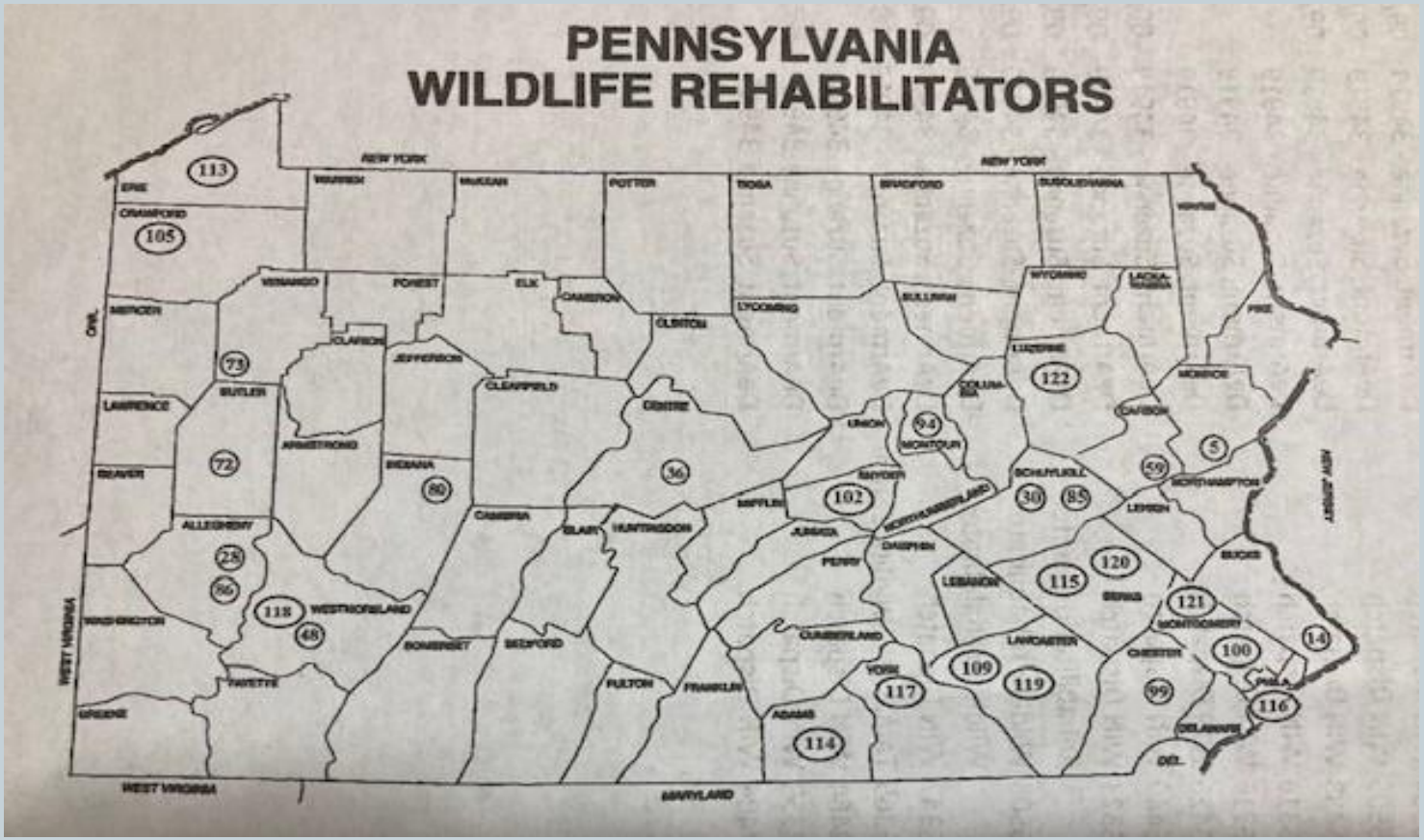







How WIN Came About

- Rehabilitation Centers in PA



Mission

- Mission Statement:
  - Provide a statewide dispatch network for wildlife that are injured, orphaned and sick within the state of Pennsylvania.



Fox kit with mange



Fawn acting normal

Mother returned for it at night



Mallard Ducklings separated
and stranded from the adult
Were re-united with adult mother



Canada Goose with
fishing lure

Primary Goal of WIN

- Goal:
  - To have Capture and Transport (C & T) permittees and Wildlife Couriers (transporters) in each County.
    - Ideal situation would be to have the C & T permittee capture the animal and contain it; and pass it off to a Wildlife Courier to have the animal transported to a Wildlife Rehabilitation center within the state of Pennsylvania.

How WIN WORKS

Answering Service:

Answers calls: (814-414-4224)

- regarding capturing animals

-requesting assistance from the Pennsylvania Game Commission, DCNR, Capture & Transport Permittee and Law Enforcement Agencies



How WIN Works

Wildlife In Need Dispatcher



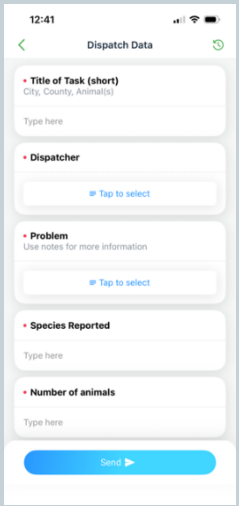


How WIN Works

WIN Dispatcher will gather the necessary information to be entered into the Connecteam App., and assign the information to the area the animal is located.

Any WIN volunteer who is on WIN's Connecteam app. will be notified.

If the WIN volunteer is able to respond they will Mark the task as done



How WIN Works

- Area Coordinator
  - oversees the assignments that have not been claimed, and phones the finder for a status
  - contacts volunteers in other areas to see if they can respond
  - refer the call to the other organizations if WIN volunteers are not available
- C & T volunteer or Area Coordinator
  - Contacts the concerned person and evaluates the situation
    - Is the animal acting normally (educational opportunity)
    - Can the animal be re-united (given instructions)
    - Is the animal contained (Wildlife Courier called out if needed)
    - Responds to the assignment where the animal needs captured

What You Need To Know

- Wildlife Courier Responsibilities:
  - Know the regulations regarding wildlife
  - Know how to:
    - respond when you are needed
    - herd/block an animal
    - prepare a container to have the animal contained
    - check to ensure the animal is contained properly
    - safely transport an animal
    - complete Connecteam app.
    - prepare a wildlife rescue kit
    - help recruit volunteers

Regulations

- Governing authorities:
  - Pennsylvania Game Commission (State)
    - Regulates or requires permits for possession of mammals, birds of prey, songbirds and waterfowl
  - PA Boat and Fish Commission (State)
    - Regulates or requires permits for possession of reptile and amphibians
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Federal)
    - Regulates or requires permits for possession of all migratory birds
      - Birds of prey, waterfowl and songbirds

Regulations

- Pennsylvania Game Commission:
  - Anyone that finds an injured wild animal in PA, captures it and is making arrangements to transport it immediately to a PA licensed wildlife rehabilitator is covered by the
    - Good Samaritan Law.

REGULATIONS

- Pennsylvania Game Commission:
  - Anyone that is called out by an answering service or dispatch system must be permitted in Capture and Transport.

Wildlife Courier Responsibility-1

- What Part of the Mission is the Responsibility of a Wildlife Courier:
  - The majority volunteers that are not already permitted Capture and Transport (C & T) Permittees begin as Wildlife Couriers.



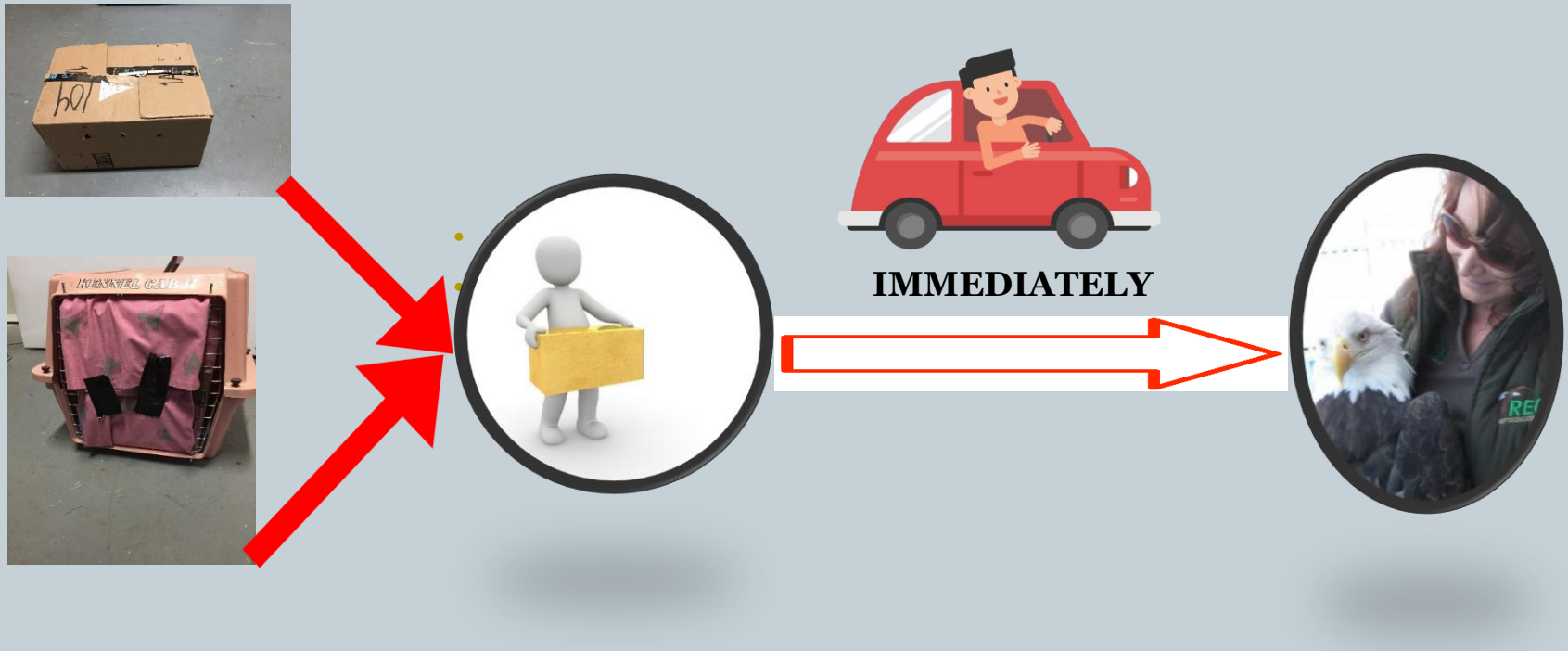
Wildlife Courier Responsibility-2

- Wildlife Courier



Wildlife Courier Responsibilities-3

- Transport <u>Immediately</u>:



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Wild animals do not know that we are trying to help.
  - They fear for their lives because they are not used to being rescued
    - They try to escape



    - They fight for their lives



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Mammals:
  - Squirrels:



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Mammals:
  - Squirrels:
    - Claws
    - Teeth



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Mammals
- Cottontail Rabbits:
  - Kick and claws



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Mammals
  - Opossums:
    - Teeth and jaw strength



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Birds of Prey:
  - Talons:



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Birds of Prey:
  - Beaks:



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Waterfowl:
  - Beaks:



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Waterfowl:
  - What moves on us the most, that a great blue heron would attack?

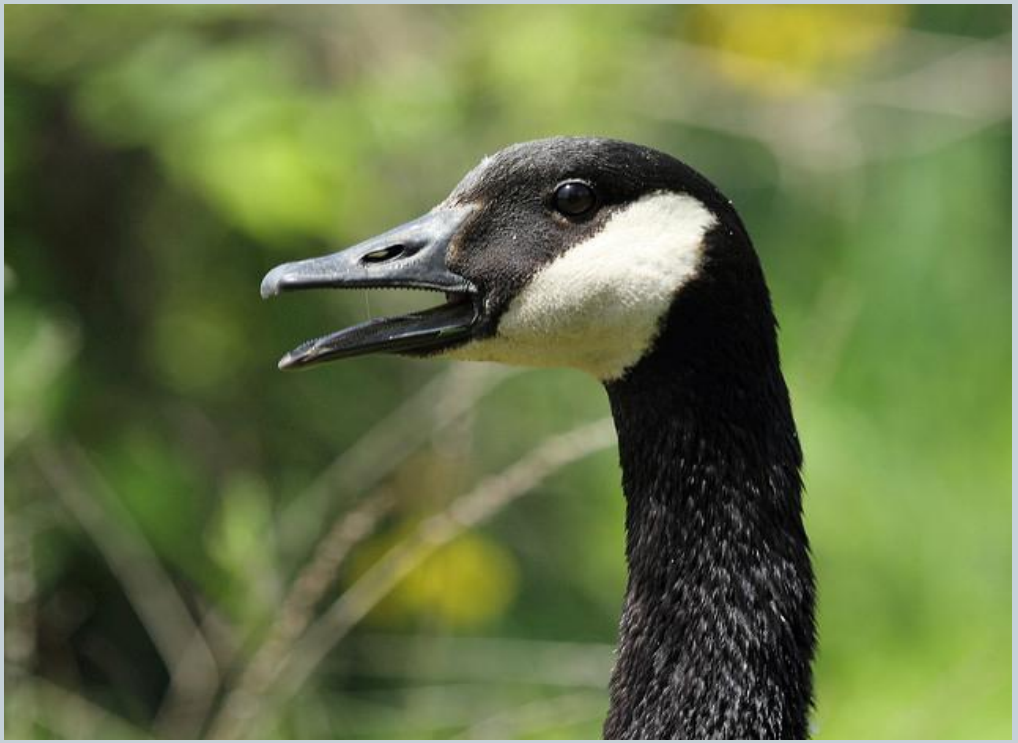
Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

OUR EYES!!!



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Waterfowl:
  - Beaks
    - Gulls, ducks, geese and swans:



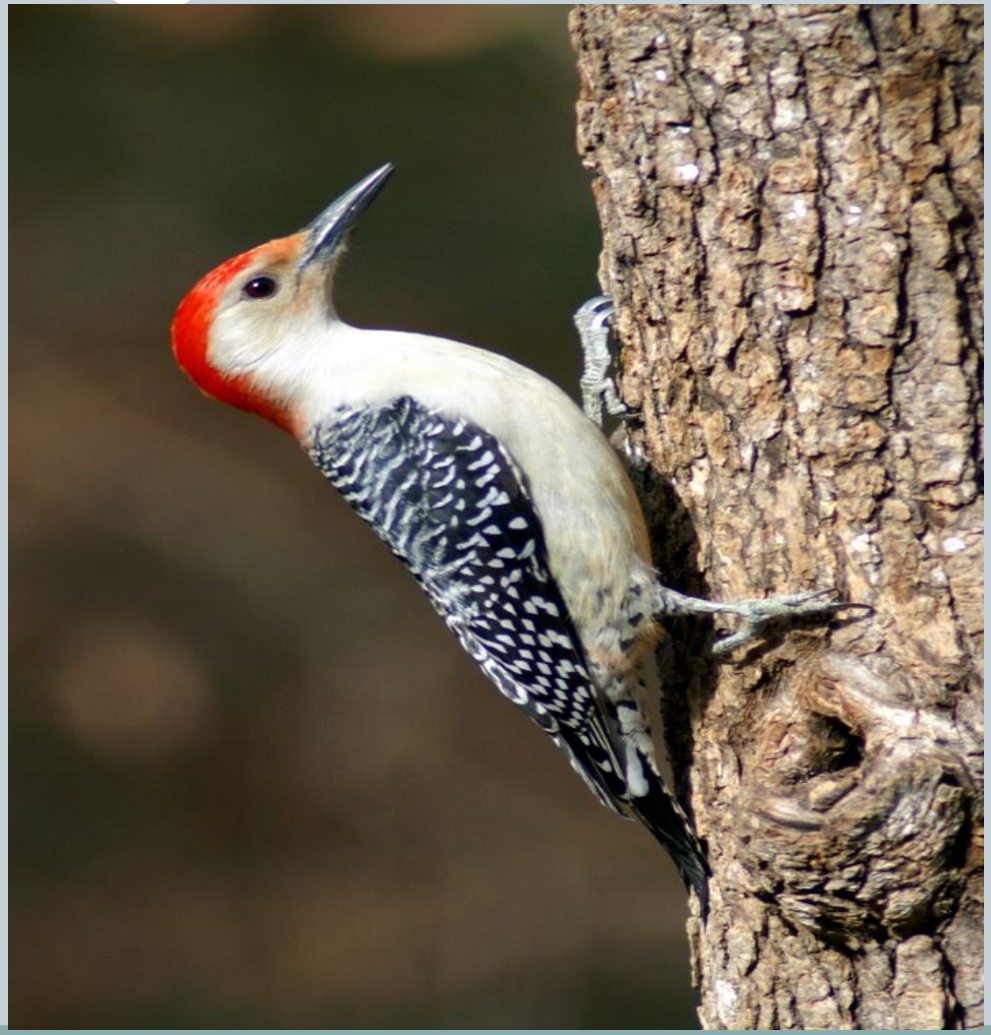
Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Waterfowl:
  - Wings



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Songbirds:
  - Beaks:
    - Woodpeckers will stab

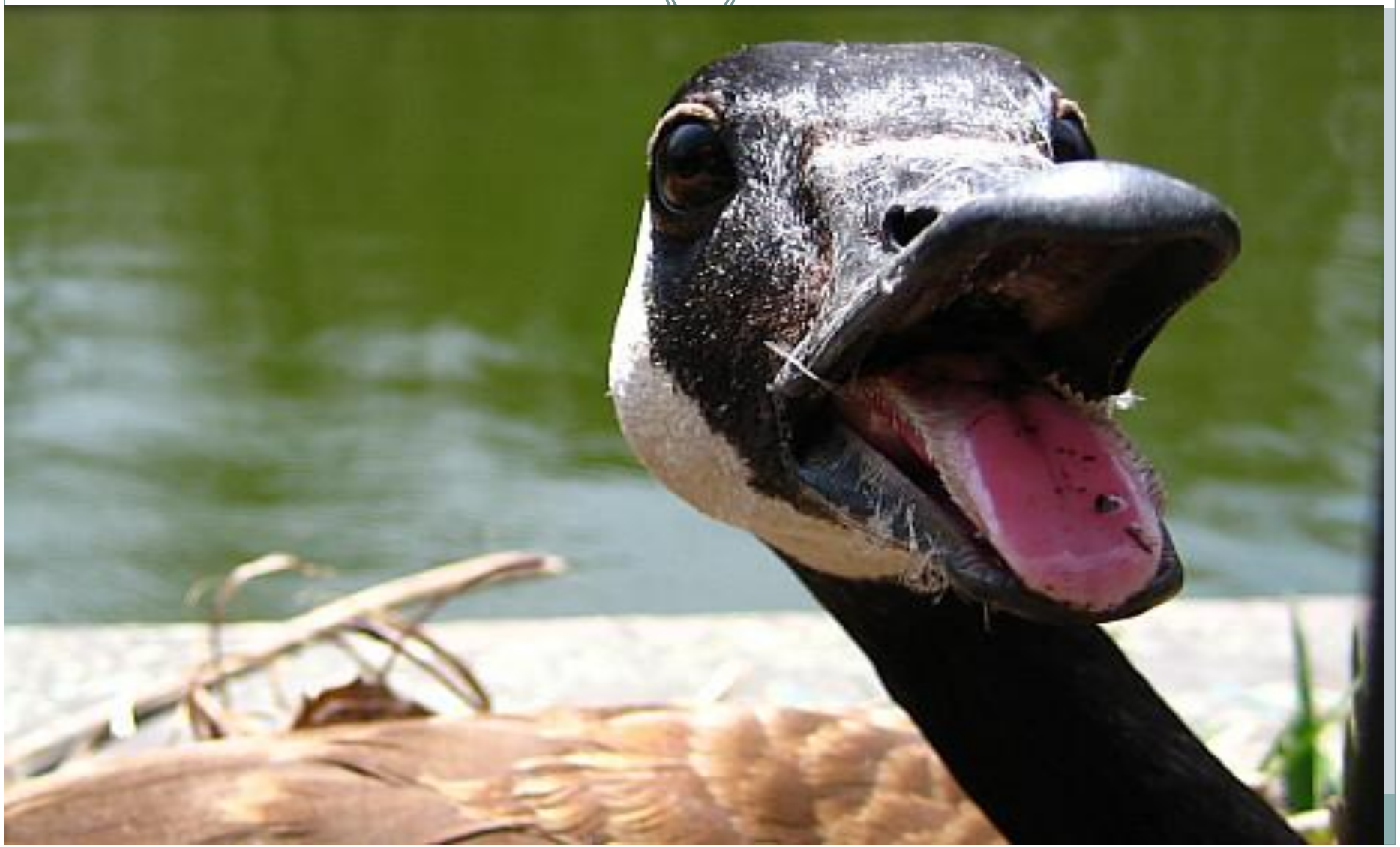


Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife

- Songbirds:
  - Beaks:
    - Cardinals and Grosbeaks will bite



Be Aware of Dangers To You and Wildlife



Preparing for a Rescue

- Suggested supplies for Kit:
  - **Flat bed sheets, blanket, pillowcase, t-shirt, sweat shirt, moving blanket or light canvas cover.**
  - **Boxes or carriers.**
  - **Strong tape, such as duct tape**
  - **Gloves: Disposable and leather**
  - **Safety Glasses with side lens/shields**
  - **Flashlight, and extra batteries, headlamp.**
  - **Hand sanitizer**
  - **Change of clothes.**
  - **Pen and paper.**
  - **Heat source**
  - **Zip Ties**

Preparing for a Rescue

- Container For Supplies



Preparing for a Rescue

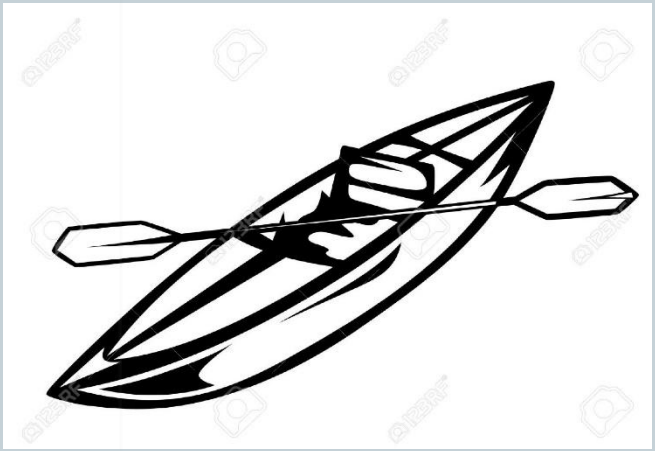
- Supplies











Safe Practices and Common Sense

- You and those helping with the rescue must be safe
  - Use safe practices
    - Dress appropriately/change of clothes



Safe Practices and Common Sense

Disposable or leather gloves





Safe Practices and Common Sense

- **<u>Goggles or safety glasses</u>**



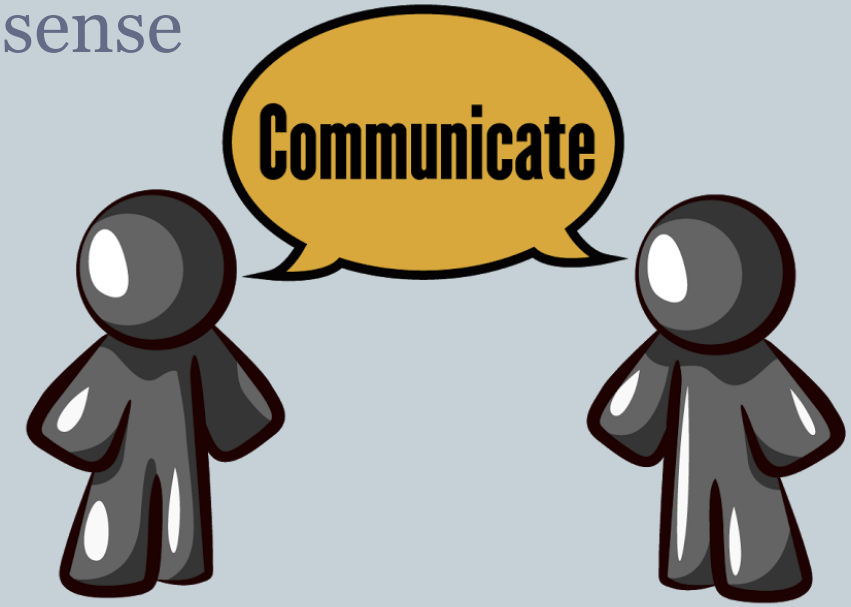
Safe Practices and Common Sense



- Be aware of your surroundings or area
- Do not walk in front of traffic

Safe Practices and Common Sense

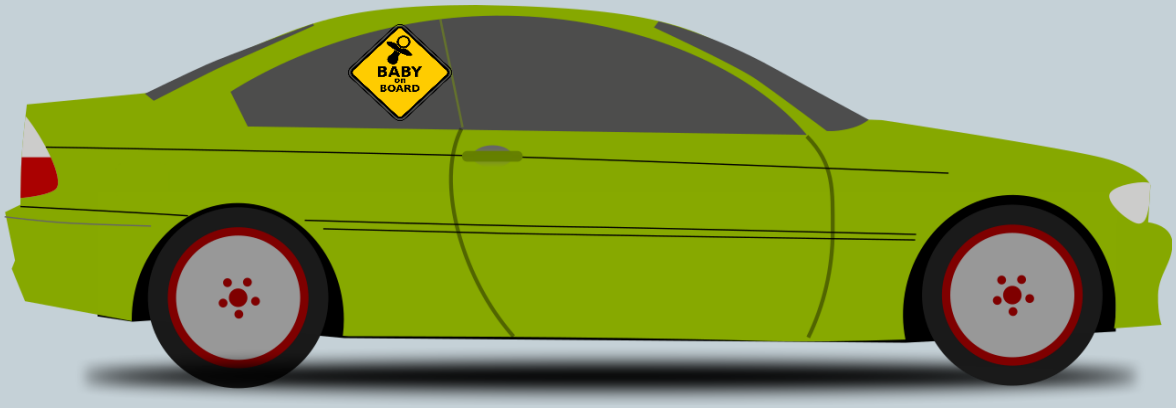
- Use common sense



Once the animal is captured, and handed off to you, call a responsible person to let them know you are leaving and where you are taking the animal.

Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Use Common Sense

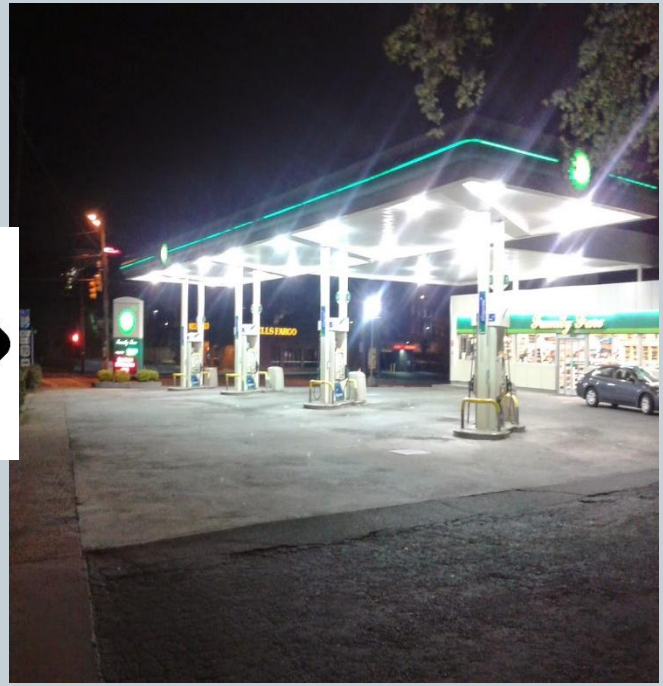




Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Use Common Sense





Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Winter, cold, ice or snow conditions



Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Winter, cold, ice or snow conditions



Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Winter, cold, ice or snow conditions



Safe Practices and Common Sense

- Winter, cold, ice or snow conditions



Safe Practices and Common Sense

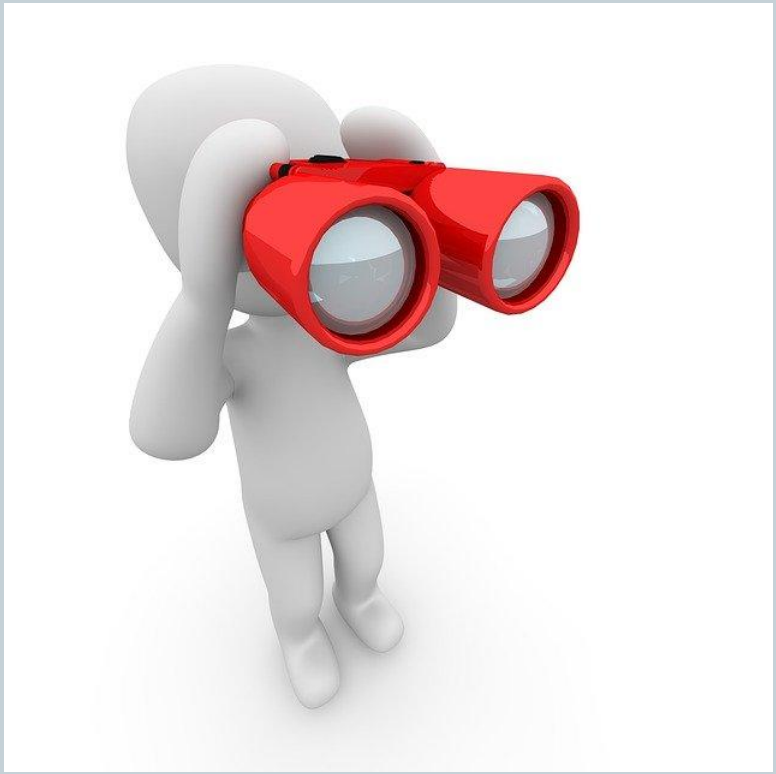
You and the rescuer must keep in mind that you are setting an example for other volunteers , WIN and the public.

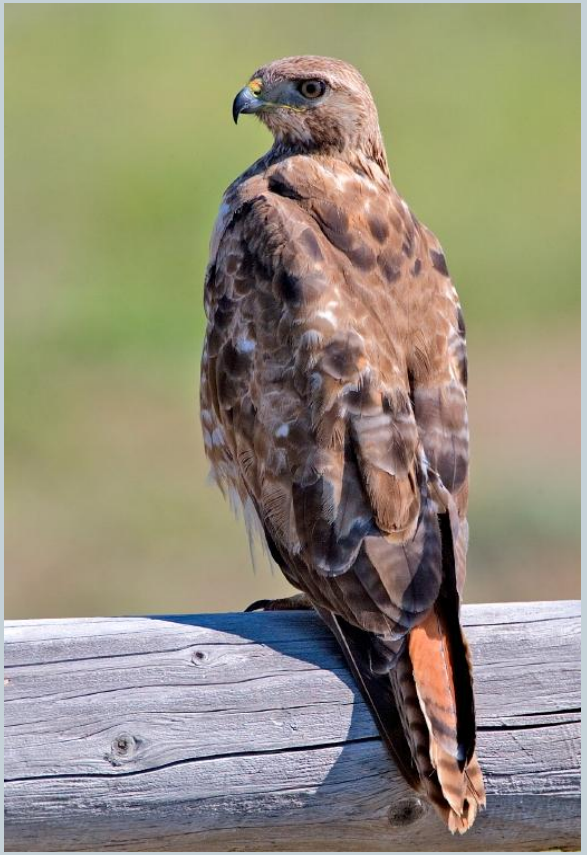
Safe Practices and Common Sense

If it were not for you and the rescuer, the animals may not have a second chance.

How to Assist the C & T Permittee

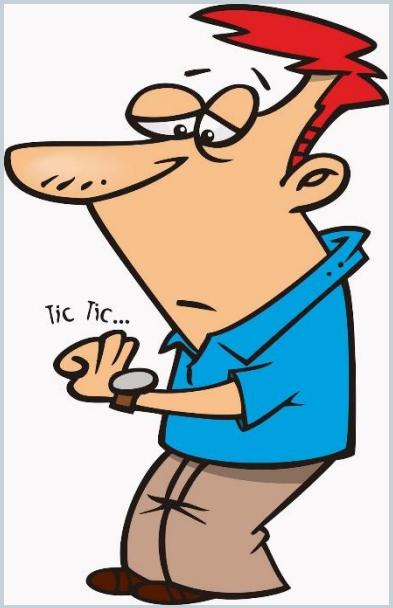
- Other Duties May Include:
  - Going to location to find the animal

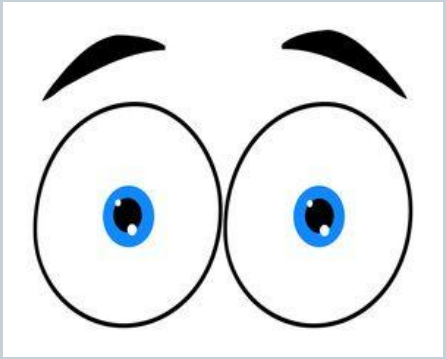




How to Assist the C & T Permittee

- The C & T permittee may contact you and ask you to;
  - Meet the finder;









How to Assist the C & T Permittee

Accompanying a C & T permittee to the location



How to Assist The C & T Permittee

- May need help in keeping an eye on the animal







How to Assist the C & T Permittee

- Help herd animal as directed





How to Assist the C & T Permittee

Help to prepare the box or container for the C & T permittee





Containing an Animal



Containing an Animal



Containing an Animal

- Carrier:



Containing an Animal

- Carrier:



Containing an Animal

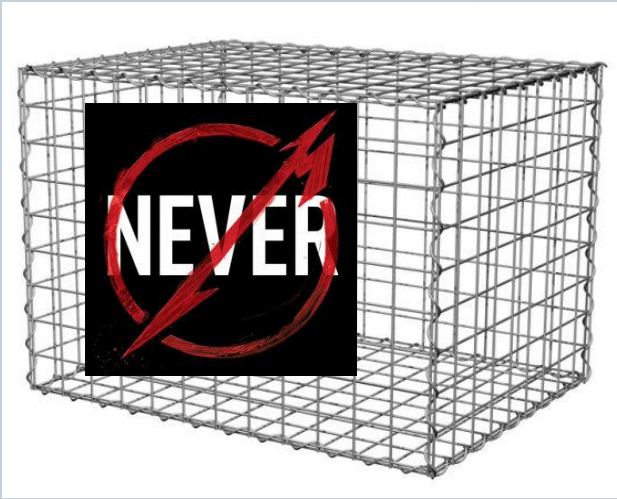
- Plastic Tub:



Containing an Animal

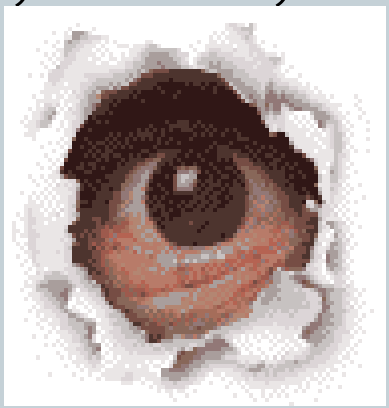
- Clear Plastic Tub or Wire Cage:





Containing an Animal

- Swans and geese can become too warm (hyper-thermic) and will need to be placed in a well ventilated carrier for transport.
- Blue herons, cranes , loons or grebes:



  - People have lost an eye peaking into a container because the animal stabbed!!!

How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Animal is safely secured in container

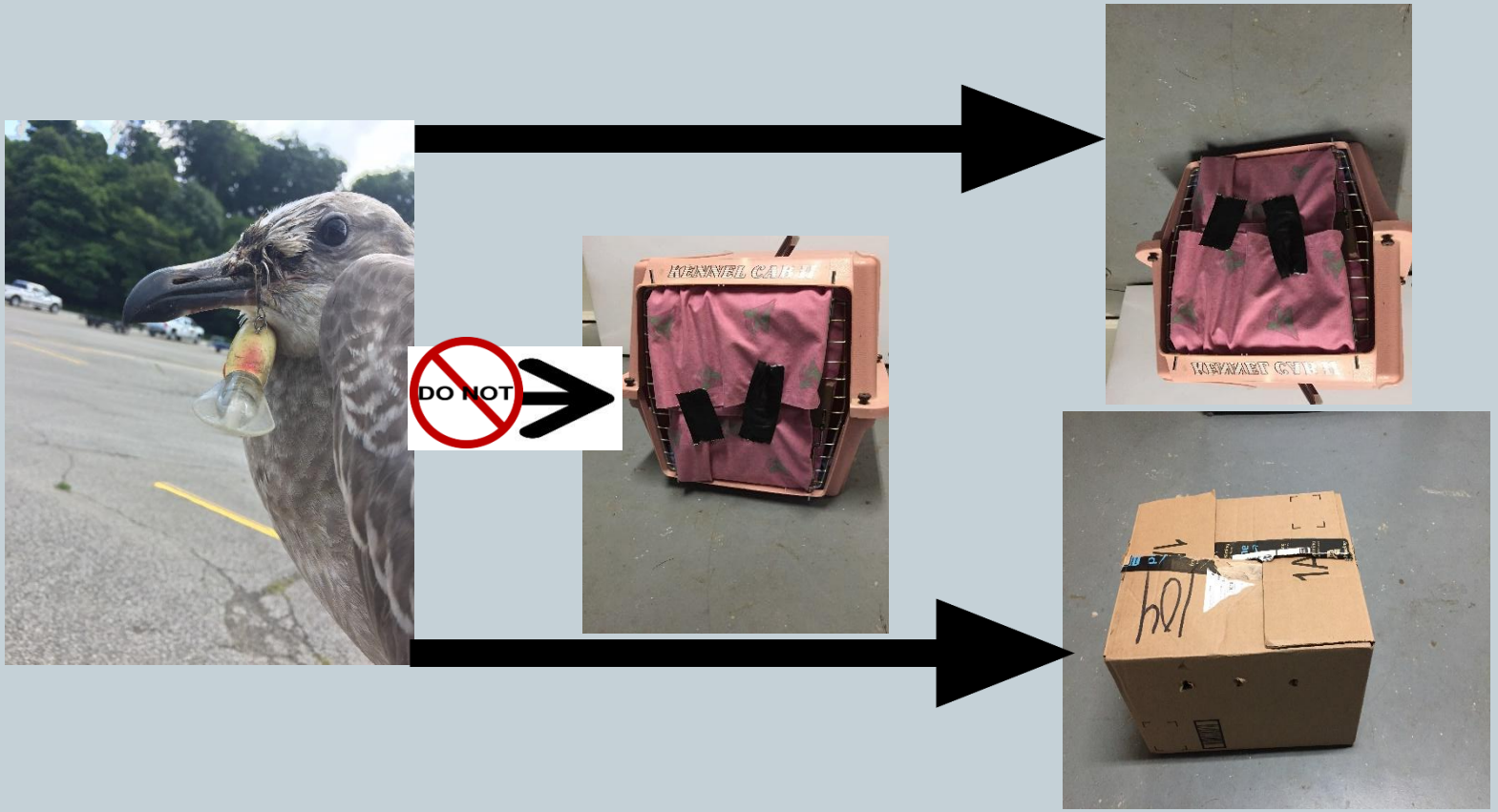






How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Animal is safely secured in container



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- In addition to having the animal safely contained, make you have:
  - The PA wildlife rehabilitation center's approval for admission
    - C & T permittee should have made the arrangements
  - The address and/or directions to the PA wildlife rehabilitation center
  - If you are transporting to another wildlife courier make sure you have contact information and have made arrangements when and where to meet.

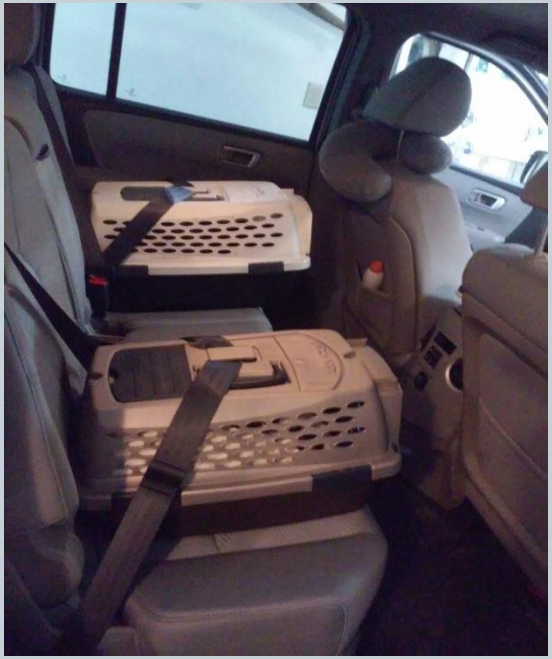
How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Secure the container in the vehicle:



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Secure the container in the vehicle:





How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Young animals need heat:





How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Important when transporting;









  - No speeding

How to Safely Transport an Animal

- Important when transporting;
  - Dark
  - Warm
  - Safe
  - Quiet
  - are the key factors in keeping an animal in a stressful situation from going further in shock.

How to Safely Transport an Animal

- What not to do when transporting:



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- What not to do when transporting:



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- What not to do when transporting:



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- What not to do when transporting:



How to Safely Transport an Animal

- What not to do when transporting:



GROUP RESCUE

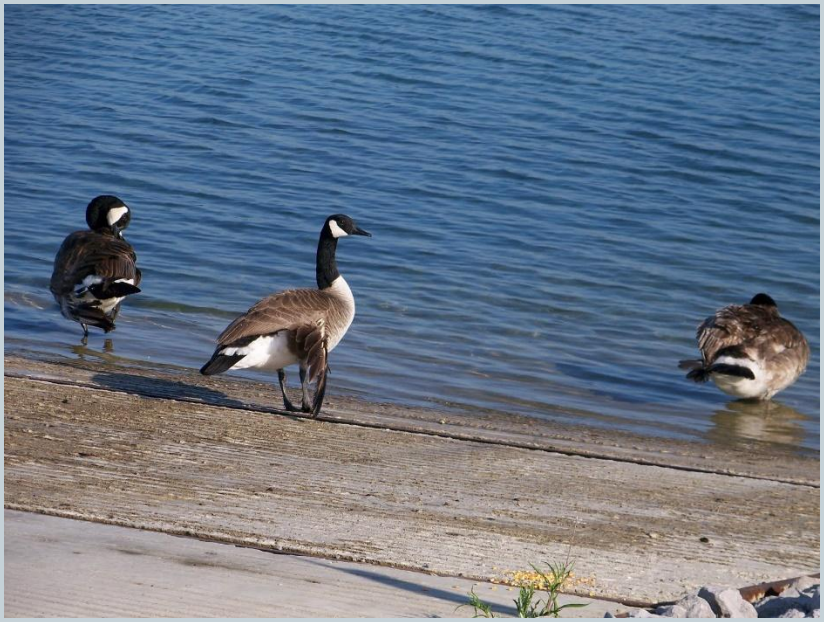
- When body of water is involved
  - Can use:
    - long rope or carpenters tape
    - remote control boat
    - Watercraft

It is much easier to perform a group rescue during the daylight hours, for visibility reasons. Also, waterfowl are more apt to come out of water during the day.

Group Rescue

- **Waterfowl:**





Group Rescue

- For a group rescue to be successful
  - There must be a plan in place before rescuing.
  - There must be coordination, and communication.
  - Everyone must work as a team.
  - One person takes charge
    - Gives direction
    - Gives commands

The goal is to capture the animal as fast as possible, so there is very little stress to the animal.

Stay focused

Group Rescue

- Waterfowl must be herded out of water:



Group Rescue

- Types of barriers:



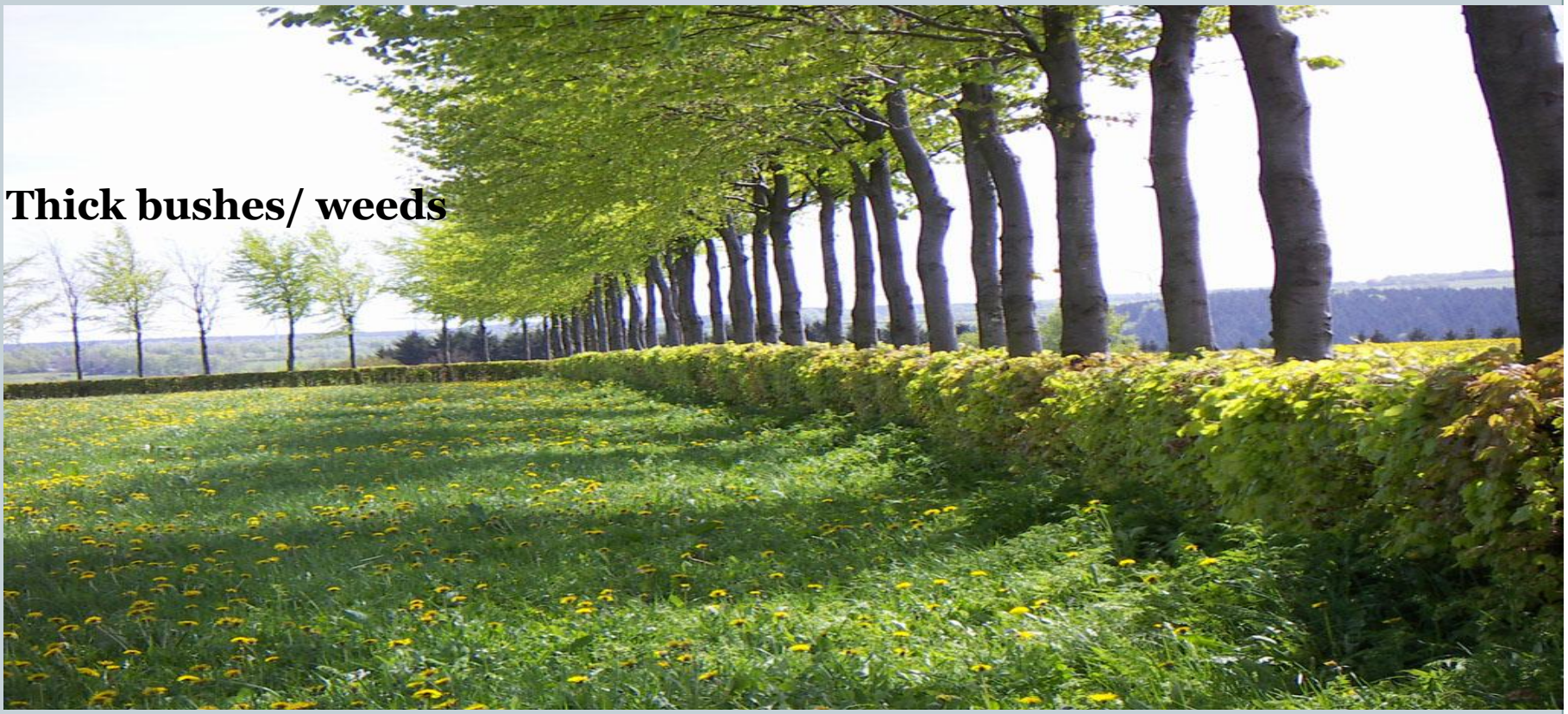
Group Rescue

- Types of barriers:



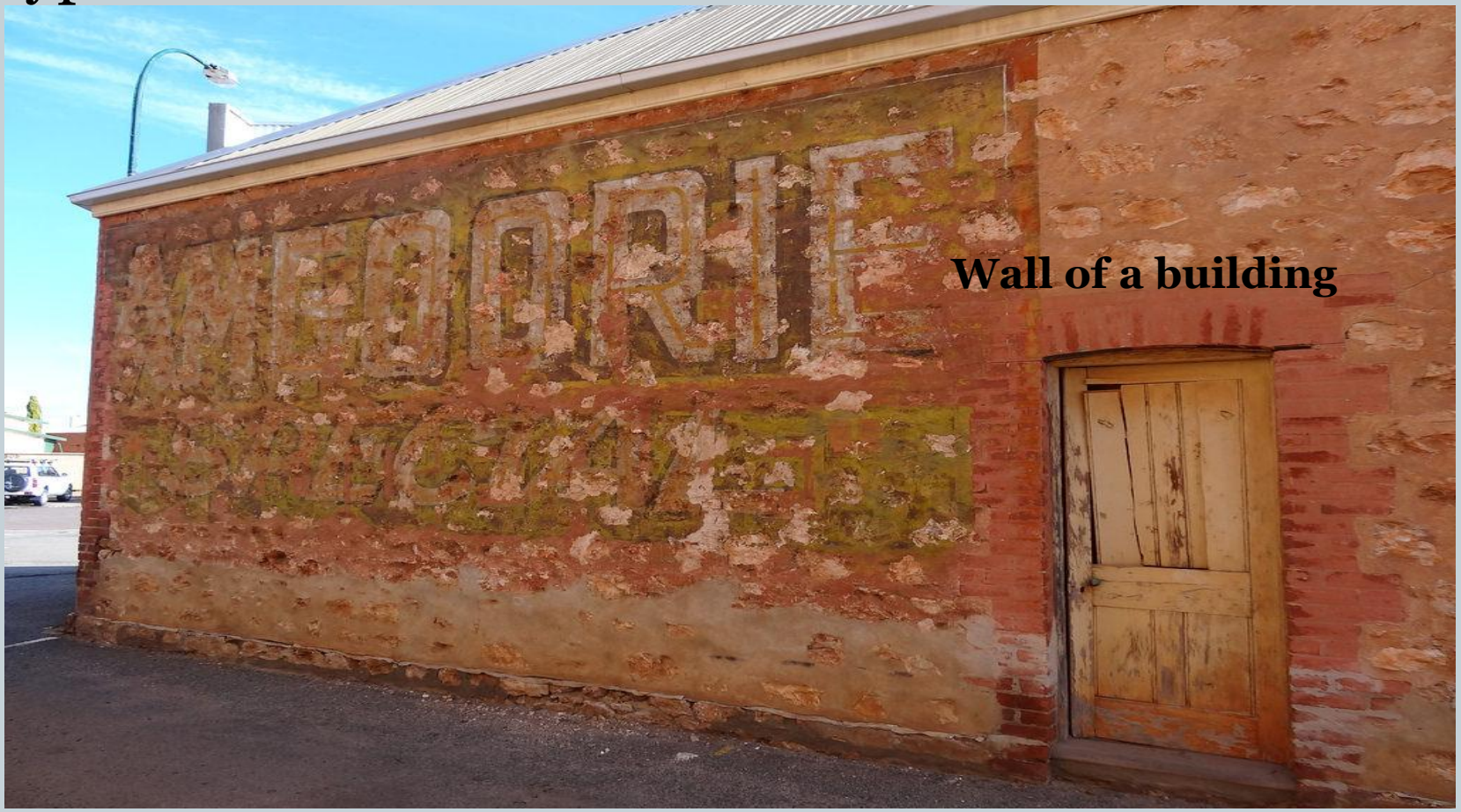
Group Rescue

- Types of barriers:



Group Rescue

- Types of barriers:



Group Rescue

- Herding the waterfowl on land



Group Rescue

- Herding the waterfowl on land
  - 

Group Rescue

- Herding the waterfowl on land



Group Rescue

- Herding the waterfowl on land



Group Rescue

- Ducks or fowl hiding under bushes:



Group Rescue

- Use of drone or remote control





The End or Just the Beginning!

- Each rescue presents new challenges
  - We learn something from each one.

Embrace the challenge

Keep an open mind

Be creative

Most importantly, Be safe!!!

What to Expect

- Added to Wildlife Courier list
  - E-mailed:
    - WIN Application
      - Once completed, reviewed, background check is clear and accepted
    - Schedules of both C & T permittees and Wildlife Couriers
    - List of Pa Wildlife Rehabilitators
    - Are on the Connecteam app.
    - You will receive:
      - WIN Rack Cards
      - WIN Business Cards
      - Safety Vest

THANK YOU!

- Thank you for your interest in helping the wild animals of Pennsylvania!



WIN
Wildlife In Need
PA









Questions

- Below:
  - This is not a test.
  - Please read through the questions. The answers are in bold.
  - Review the questions and answers to ensure you understand everything you are reading.
  - Once you have completed the course and reviewed the questions Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator so they can pass your information to the volunteer that can set you up on the dispatch app.

- **Welcome to Wildlife In Need!**

Questions

- Please answer the following questions:
  - 1. What is WIN's Mission statement
    - A. To have Capture and Transport permittees and wildlife couriers in every county in the state of PA
    - B. Provide a dispatch network for wildlife that are injured, orphaned and sick in the tri-state area.
    - **C. Provide a statewide dispatch network for wildlife that are injured, orphaned and sick within the state of Pennsylvania**
    - D. All of the above

  2. What are the governing agencies that over see wildlife regulations for Capture and Transport?

     A. Pa Game Commission and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services

     B. PA Boat and Fish Commission

     C. PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

     D. All of the above

Questions

- 3. A wildlife courier can be called out by whom with the exception of:
  - A. Regional Director
  - **B. General public**
  - C. County Coordinator
  - D. Wildlife Courier

- 4. What is **not** an acceptable reason to house an animal overnight?
  - A. Weather conditions are too dangerous to drive
  - B. Center is too far away to schedule a network transport before it closes
  - **C. When the animal is too hurt to transport**
  - D. Center closes before the animal can be transported

Questions

5. The C & T permittee evaluates the call to determine if the animal;
   - A. Acting normal and to leave it alone
   - B. Needs transported
   - C. Needs captured
   - **D. All of the above**

6. Wildlife Courier's main responsibility is to safely transport a contained animal.

   A. True

   B. False

Questions

- 7. Area you can transport an animal by regulations:(Circle the best answer)
  - A. In the tri-state area
  - B. In the county you live in
  - **C. Anywhere in the state of PA**
  - D. In the region you live in

8. You must always have the dispatch information when transporting an animal to a rehabilitation center.

A. True

B. False

Questions

- Transporting:
  - 9. When you are transporting a neonate mammal, nestling songbird or a young opossum, you need to have a heat source. Which heat sources should you use?
    - A. Heated car seat, container directly near car heater, rice bag, hand warmer
    - B. Heated car seat, rice bag and hand-warmer directly on or next to animal
    - **C. Heated car seat, rice bag or hand-warmer under the container**
    - D. Heated car seat, container directly near car heater, rice bag and hand warmer directly on or next to animal
  - 10. When transporting an animal, it is acceptable to
    - A. Bring your dog along for personal protection
    - B. Play the radio (as long as it's not loud rock or rap music)
    - C. Ignore traffic laws to promote expediency
    - D. All of the above
    - **E. None of the above**

Questions

- 11. When a contained animal is handed to you, and you are informed as to which PA licensed rehabilitation center you are to deliver it to, you must immediately drive it to the rehabilitation center.
  - **A. True**
  - B. False
- 12. The dispatch information is important because:
  - A. it helps the rehabilitator keep track of admissions
  - B. of state and federal annual reporting requirements
  - C. WIN may need to contact the caller
  - **D. All of the above**

Questions

13. Fishing birds, such as loons, great blue heron, grebe and cormorants pose what type of danger to you?

- A. Hitting you with their wings
- B. Biting you
- **C. Stabbing at your eyes**
- D. Striking you with their feet

14. What do you need to do to help the C & T permittee capture an animal?

A. Follow instructions given you by the C & T permittee

B. Herd the animal towards the C & T permittee

C. Block the animal from an escape route or dangerous situation

D. All of the above

Questions

- 15. Before transporting an animal, whose responsibility is it to make sure the box or plastic tub is securely taped, carrier door is securely shut, and carrier top and bottom are secured.
  - A. The capture and Transport person
  - B. The public caller
  - **C. Mine (as the courier)**

- 16. When called by a C & T permittee for assistance, you may be asked to:
  - A. Go to location closer to you than C & T permittee
  - B. Accompany the C & T permittee
  - C. Help locate an animal and stay with it until the C & T permittee arrives
  - **D. All of the above**

Questions

- 17. For a group rescue to be successful, what needs to happen:
  - A. There must be a plan in place before rescuing.
  - B. There must be coordination, and communication.
  - C. Everyone must work as a team.
  - **D. All of the above**

- 18. Waterfowl can be easily captured in the water.
  - A. True
  - **B. False**

Questions

- 19. What are the most important factors in keeping an animal from going further into shock?
  - A. Dark
  - B. Dark, warm, and quiet
  - **C. Dark, warm, quiet and safe**
  - D. Warm and quiet
- 20. You are transporting an unconscious animal. You hear it become active and it is scratching inside the box. What can you do?
  - A. Open the box and check on it
  - B. Peek in an air hole to check on it
  - **C. Double-check that the box is securely closed**
  - D. Release it. It was obviously just stunned