



INSTRUCTIONS WHEN FINDING WILDLIFE

IMMEDIATELY PHONE WILVOS 54 416200 HOTLINE

- Be aware of your own safety. Claws, as well as teeth, can inflict damage, as wildlife naturally see us as predators.
- Don't see lack of movement as being a safe situation - always cover before handling.
- Place a towel over the animal. A towel is usually sufficient with a bird, whereas a possum may require something larger.
- Have basket prepared with towel, warmth etc. so no further handling needed after animal is put into it. Warmth can be put outside the basket if necessary.
- Ensure the animal is in a comfortable position ie wings folded in against the body in the case of a bird, with neck supported with towel to enable normal breathing.
- Place in a carry cage or carton (never put a bird in a cage – it causes further feather damage.) Make sure carton is securely closed, with breathing holes.
- Place young/baby animals in pouch for smaller ones, pillow slip for larger ones. Secure opening so animal doesn't escape. Native foliage (lilly pilly, grevillea, eucalypt etc.) is beneficial for large possums, to make them feel that the environment isn't quite so foreign.
- **Dark, cosy and quiet** are the vital ingredients to prevent an animal becoming more stressed than is necessary.
- A wine caske bladder can be half filled with warm/hot water, or the gel bag can be put in microwave for 1 minute. Put the 'warm bladder/bag in a bag or fold of a towel, and put in or outside of basket for gentle warmth.
- Please **DO NOT** attempt to give feed or water, unless instructed to do so.

CAUTION: DO NOT HANDLE SNAKES OR BATS.

- *Thank you for taking the time to care for our Australian Native Wildlife -*

www.wilvos.org.au