

BASIC HEALTH AND SAFETY

Your safety and the safety of the wildlife are top priorities. Follow these simple guidelines to ensure smooth and safe transport.

If at any point you feel uncomfortable entering someone's property or dealing with the situation, do not proceed. It's okay to step back and you can always call for guidance.

OUR BEHAVIOUR STANDARDS

Be courteous when interacting with the public or property owners. People may be emotional about the situation so approach with understanding and empathy.

It is equally as important that we show respect to veterinary staff as they handle the emotional and logistical challenges of wildlife care, from emergency admissions to the difficult task of euthanasia.

Recognising their role not only eases collaboration, it also respects that they are running a business where unplanned wildlife admissions can strain their resources and impact on their day-to-day operations.

THANK YOU

Your time and effort as a Connection Volunteer make an enormous difference in the lives of the wildlife you help. Every transport you make is a step toward saving a life and ensuring that these animals get the care they need.

For any questions or support, please reach out to your mentor or our team at Healing Hands Wildlife Care.

24/7 WILDLIFE HELPLINE
0475 442 202



Could you be a Connection Volunteer?



Healing Hands Wildlife Care
gratefully acknowledges
funding from:

Community Bank
Albany

 Bendigo Bank

As a Connection Volunteer your role is to act as a 'wildlife taxi', transporting injured or orphaned wildlife that has already been contained to and from rehabilitators or medical care facilities. Your contribution ensures that these animals receive care quickly and safely.

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RESPONDING TO A NOTIFICATION

When a wildlife transport request is posted in the Messenger group, it will include details such as the type of animal, location and confirmation that the animal has already been safely contained.

If you're available to help, respond by confirming your availability in the group chat.

Be sure to double check the address and any specific instructions related to the transport.

It's a good idea to wear your badge for identification when attending a rescue.

ARRIVING AT THE LOCATION

Once you arrive at the premises, confirm that the animal is already in a suitable container. The container should be secure, well-ventilated and allow for minimal movement to prevent further injury or distress.

If the container the wildlife is in does not seem secure then place the container inside yours if possible. If the container still does not seem safe or appropriate seek advice from a mentor before proceeding.

APPROACH CALMLY

When handling containers with wildlife, approach slowly and avoid any sudden movements or noises that could stress the animal.

MINIMISE INTERACTION

Avoid opening or handling the wildlife container unless necessary. Keep your contact with the animal minimal to reduce stress.

Wildlife must not be offered food or drink at this time unless advised by a veterinarian or rehabilitator. These may be detrimental to the wildlife.

TRANSPORTING WILDLIFE: BEST PRACTICES

Once you have confirmed that you are transporting the wildlife, let the reporting person know where you'll be taking the animal and provide them with any additional information they may need.

ENSURE SAFE CONDITIONS FOR TRANSPORT

Place the container in a secure position in your vehicle to prevent it from shifting or tipping during the journey. A level surface or back seat is ideal.

Ensure the container is not in direct sunlight or near air vents that could cause extreme temperatures.

If the wildlife is in a cage, cover the cage to prevent the wildlife becoming distressed.

Extreme heat can kill wildlife. Do not leave wildlife in the car unsupervised.

DRIVE SAFELY

Drive carefully. Avoid sudden turns or stops. Remember that the wildlife is likely stressed and may be in pain. A smooth ride is crucial.

MAINTAIN A CALM ENVIRONMENT

Keep the vehicle quiet and calm during transport. Turn off loud music and avoid any distractions to ensure a stress-free environment for the wildlife.

When transporting wildlife do not smoke or vape in the vehicle as the fumes can be distressing to wildlife.