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TO THE RESCUE

Wildlife Rescue
ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER



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How To Help Ducklings in Need

From early spring and well into summer, Wildlife Rescue will see hundreds of orphaned ducklings in need. Wildlife Rescue team members will rescue these ducklings from the sides of highways, from the tops of high rise buildings, and many of other unexpected locations. There's always a chance that you could be the one to run into some scared ducklings in an unusual place! But, how do you know when a duckling needs help, and when to leave them be?

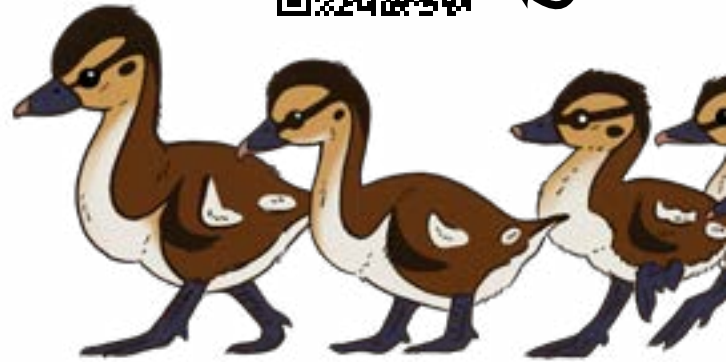
I have found a bunch of eggs on the ground, what should I do?

Mallards typically lay up to 12-13 eggs in a clutch, and one egg a day, so this will take up to 12-13 days. She will not start incubating her eggs (laying on them) until all eggs are laid, so finding a nest with only three or four eggs and no mother duck does not mean that the nest is abandoned. Mallard eggs are unmarked and creamy in colour to grayish or greenish buff. If something happens to an unfinished clutch of eggs, Mallard hens will make another attempt until they raise a successful brood. Once all eggs are laid, she will rarely leave the nest apart from short breaks to feed and stretch her legs. About 28 days later the eggs hatch together. This takes about 24 hours.

Two of the first three ducklings of 2024 to arrive at WRA in April



scan here for
EVEN MORE
info!



The ducklings have just hatched! How long will they stay there?

Once hatched, the ducklings will stay in the nest for at least 10 hours while they dry and get used to using their legs. Then, usually in the early morning, the female leads them to water. Bad weather may delay this, but the sooner the ducklings get to water to feed, the better their chances of survival. They cannot survive without their mother, and take 50-60 days before they fledge and become independent.

I have found ducklings alone! What do I do?

The mother duck may have been scared away and has not returned. Keep the babies protected and wait from a nearby location. Do your best to conceal yourself so that you don't scare mama away if she returns. She will usually return within a half-hour if the area has become quiet again and the threat is gone. She is very protective of her babies and will not go far or stay away for very long. If the mother does not return to her babies within 1-hour, the ducklings should be rescued and brought to Wildlife Rescue. If assistance is required please reach out to our Helpline. If they are not in a contained area during capture, ducklings will sometimes scatter into a dangerous location.

We have a full FAQ available with even more answered questions at the QR code on this page. Of course, if you ever have more questions, you can reach out to our support team at wildlife@wildliferescue.ca or call (604) 526-7275.

These ducklings and many more orphaned baby species will need your help as we come towards summer. **If you'd like to make a donation to help injured and orphaned babies, your gift will be providing these innocent babies the start they need for a life in the wild.**

This Winter, Your Impact Helped..

595 Patients from September to January *or an average of 119 patients per month!*



Belted Kingfisher



Anna's Hummingbird



Golden-crowned Kinglet



Fox Sparrow

From Fence to Freedom

On a sunny Monday in March, an **American Crow** found itself stuck, entangled in the chain-link construction fence of an abandoned property in Vancouver. Trapped by their head and wings, the bird was struggling to break free – **until two women caught light of the situation.**

The kind-hearted strangers joined forces and found wire cutters to rescue the weakened crow. Clearly exhausted and dehydrated from the ordeal with the metal fence, the crow didn't move when finally freed. The duo had another mission: to **bring the crow to Wildlife Rescue** to get a chance to recover and return to thriving in the wild.

Thanks to the hard work of the Wildlife Rescue rehabilitators and the good Samaritans, this black beauty **recovered and is free to soar** through the skies of the Lower Mainland again.



The Best Bird in BC is...

In March and April, we held the first ever Best Bird in BC competition. We put 32 of the coolest feathered flyers found in BC head-to-head in a bracket competition to see which one was the best. This event was a just-for-fun way to show off the great biodiversity of birds in BC and get people engaged and talking about wildlife.

There was a fierce competition as people all over BC championed their favourite birds, but the final round found the midnight black Raven up against the shining emerald Anna's Hummingbird. It was an extremely close final round matchup, and after all the votes were tallied, the Anna's Hummingbird narrowly won with 51.5% of the vote!

Congratulations to this worthy bird!

Wildlife Rescue

BEST BIRD
in BC



join
**FREEDOM
PARTNERS**
today!



You can ensure the needs of wildlife are met all year round with a sustainable monthly donation. For the price of your favourite streaming service, you can help injured, orphaned and pollution impacted animals when they need you most.

Simply head to wildliferescue.ca/give to set up your monthly gift.

Behind the Wheel for Wildlife!

Animals need rides to and from the Wildlife Rescue hospital all day, every day.

Will you be their chauffeur?

Become a Transport Volunteer today!

Apply at wildliferescue.ca/volunteering or scan the code on the car!

