

Auto reply when sent email to: wildbunnyrehab@yahoo.com

(Ed: A few formatting changes were made.)

Good day. This auto response is to get you/the bunny help ASAP as we are out working with wildlife/rabbits. Note, please, this email responds only ONCE no matter how often you write. Below are links for ALL questions about wild/domestic rabbits. Your question should be answered in this, so please read through first:

<http://www.rabbit.org/faq/sections/orphan.html>

We trust you will read it to help the bunny ... it is vital! The biggest question usually is if you find a baby bunny (eyes open), warm healthy what to do? PLEASE put him back outside ... yes YES! Even if you don't know where he's from or see a nest. EYES OPEN means no nest needed ... he can find mom. The mom only comes back at night. If eyes closed, put back or remake a nest. Mom calls for them at night. If you have dogs or cats, please try to keep inside or on a leash. The babies (not jackrabbits) need 10 days or so in the nest (eyes closed) before they start moving around and hopping. Two more weeks before they may leave the area. Please do not let kids play with, pet them.

Rehabbers by state (only if sick, injured):

http://wildliferehabber.org/st_disp_list.php

If your question was NOT answered, there is an email at the bottom to write further, but we trust you looked through this first and the FAQ above. Realize we get hundreds per day.

With wild rabbits, if you ever find a baby rabbit ("kit") in a field ... leave him be! The mother leaves him alone for the entire day and comes back only at night, ONCE. She will be calling for him to find him. No matter how cute, IF he looks healthy, leave him alone/put him back! If you brought him in, and it's the next day, go put him back in the brush. If you disturbed a nest, just remake it. If eyes are closed, and you find the nest (and the baby is warm), put the baby back now. You will NOT see the mom ... she will not come back if you watch ... and only returns at night, and we've seen her do this up to 5 nights after her baby was taken. If the baby's eyes are open, he belongs out there! He can see and will go find her. If you touched a baby whose eyes are open, no worries, just immediately put back in the general area in a safe place.

The biggest problem is when we humans pick them up and feed them! Mom ONLY comes back at night to call for him when you are not looking. She goes far from him to feed. If, however, you find ANY injured animal, contact your local humane society/animal control/ER VET. If injured after hours, bring him to an emergency or exotic rabbit vet or rehabber; don't wait.

Rehabbers by state:

http://wildliferehabber.org/st_disp_list.php

and RABBIT VETS:

http://www.morfz.com/PB_vets.html

<http://www.rabbit.org/faq/sections/vet.html>

For TRULY ORPHANED WILDLIFE (you see mom dead), do not raise them yourself; they NEED a skilled wildlife person and like kind to be with. Do not feed formula yourself or keep as a pet as 90% will die and suffer terribly from wrong feedings/over feeding! Trust us ... seen this 20+ years. Wild rabbits cannot be pets. They get wild and can injure themselves when older trying to get away from you. Rehabbers will feed formula twice a day for healthy babies, (safest is KMR KITTEN formula ... can mix with Meyenberg Goat Milk). Rabbits are extremely fragile. NEVER ESBILAC or puppy formulas. Call your humane society first for wildlife centers to see IF they do rabbits; check the links for vets/rehab folks, GLOBAL WILDLIFE CONTACTS:

http://wildliferehabber.org/st_disp_list.php

and RABBIT VETS:

http://www.morfz.com/PB_vets.html

<http://www.rabbit.org/faq/sections/vet.html>

(Often they know of wildlife folks as do humane societies.)

Why so many rehab links? Without a professional, wild babies mostly die!! For TRUE orphans, until you get them to a rehab person, house them in a cat carrier on soft towels with plenty of timothy+oat hay+alfalfa hay or grasses you picked +water bottle or tiny bowl of water. Safe greens: dandelion greens, parsley, carrot tops, tiny grated carrots. Hay (find horse people):

<http://www.oxbowanimalhealth.com>

Each state/area has different types of rabbits, so this is based on the smaller ones and feeding amounts since SO MANY picked up and fed at home died from overfeeding and bloat.

Reminder ... it is illegal in most states to feed a wild animal, so he/she needs a rehabber where he/she can have others of his own kind.

For PETS or DOMESTIC ORPHANS -- Note the mom only feeds also once in the middle of the night and often acts like she is not caring for them ... that is normal. Leave babies with her! If the domestic mom was killed, use KMR kitten formula (not Esbilac). These feedings are based on smaller orphans, so it is the lower amounts due to so many overfeeding, which is deadly. We've seen most who feed at home have the bunny die from bloat (overfeeding ... very painful death). This is until you get to a rehabber or experienced person. Feed orphans ONLY TWICE a day (based on healthy babies). Baby must be sitting UPRIGHT. Use a syringe and point downward to the side so they don't aspirate. Go slowly. Feed less rather than more. More die from overfeeding! If their eyes are NOT open, they need to be stimulated to pee before/after each feeding until their eyes are open (10 days). (If you find the nest -- put them back for mom!)

More Questions? Read this for orphans ... it has ALL:

<http://www.rabbit.org/faq/sections/orphan.html>

<http://www.rabbit.org/care/orphan.html>

http://wildliferehabber.org/st_disp_list.php

Reminder ... if you find a wild bunny, eyes open, looks healthy, and you picked him up, even if a

day or so, please put him back. The mother WILL come back nightly to find him, for days to find her baby! Please don't keep him from her. The general area is fine as they do wander. Babies are up and about like this when young. Eyes open mean okay to put back out there! Thank you for caring for them and leaving them for mom!!

If your question was NOT answered, email: fawnhorse7 at aol dot com, NOT this one please.

For domestic/pet rabbits, search:

<http://www.rabbit.org>

first and if not answered, PET/domestic rabbit questions email: care at rabbit dot org. Please understand, this is a global site, and the world volume is hundreds per day so we cannot get to all. Thank you for caring. Bless you.