

RESOURCES FOR INJURED, WANDERING OR STRANDED WILDLIFE RESCUE

Important: Does that wild animal actually need rescue?

Some wildlife may look orphaned or abandoned but may not actually need your help.

The parent could be nearby or out searching for food and will return.

Some may appear injured but may only be stunned or resting.

Don't "kidnap" a wild animal!

Keep your distance, leave it alone, come back in an hour, and just observe before rescuing or calling for help.

Fort Morgan peninsula is home to many types of wildlife, from birds to land critters to sea creatures. Don't forget: we moved into **their** territory! Often residents and visitors come in contact with injured or baby wildlife and don't know what to do or where to turn.

Endangered Snowy Plover © USFWS



There is no one organization to contact for help or information in Baldwin County, but the following organizations and individuals may be able to offer assistance or referral to a more appropriate resource. FMCA has no affiliation with any of the following organizations and does not necessarily recommend any one resource. Check to see whether it's a not-for-profit volunteer organization or a private for-profit business. Some resources' services are available at no cost to you. Other resources are in business and charge a fee. Some businesses will attempt to relocate pesky critters or take them to rescue/rehab groups;

others are simply removal services, unequipped for rescue, and most likely would destroy the wildlife. Be aware of how the resource you choose will deal with the creature and what will be done with it after removal.

Coastal Wildlife Rescue Center ~ 251-978-6690 or 251-752-WILD (9453) [24/7] ~ Foley

Located in Foley next to the Graham Creek Nature Preserve, this group is a not-for-profit volunteer organization whose primary goal is to return wildlife to its natural habitat. Although they are primarily equipped for birds, they will provide you with information on how and when to handle wildlife (or not) and information on other resources available, or they will ensure that critters get to the appropriate mammal rescue/rehabilitation centers in Mobile or Pensacola. There is no charge for services, but donations to cover the cost of food and shelter are appreciated. They welcome volunteers who are willing to provide pick-up and delivery—pick up in our area and transport to them.

Dr. David Dykes, D.V.M. ~ 943-3211 ~ 8AM-5PM, Monday-Friday & 24/7 Emergency

For many years, Dr. Dykes's office has helped injured wildlife by setting bones, treating wounds, and otherwise caring for the animal. After treatment, they will get the animal to the proper resource, but you will need to transport the critter to their office in Foley. First, please check with your own

vet, if you have a local one, as s/he may volunteer to treat the animal. Dr. Dykes's office has a donation jar to help cover costs but does not charge a fee.

Wildlife Solutions, Inc. ~ 251-510-4316 ~ For-Profit Business

Removes pesky wildlife from private property. You *must be the owner of the property* and provide evidence. Will quote a general consultation fee based on type of critters that have invaded your home or grounds. Ask if they would be able to transport injured wildlife to an appropriate volunteer rescue group.

Critter Gitter, Inc. ~ 251-980-2970 or 251-968-6500 ~ For-Profit Business

Removes pesky wildlife from private property. You *must be the owner of the property* and provide evidence. Will quote a general consultation fee based on type of critters that have invaded your home or landscape. Ask how they will handle the wildlife afterward.

MARINE MAMMALS AND REPTILES

Sea Turtle Strandings

If you see an injured or dead sea turtle on the beach, contact Share the Beach Sea Turtle Conservation Program at 1-800-SEATURT immediately.

"Angel Face" Hatchling © Debi Gholson

If you see a sea turtle alive and traveling or nesting on the beach, do not approach, do not use white lights to observe, and **keep your distance**. It is a federal offense to harass—including touch, injure, or otherwise interfere with—a sea turtle, a sea turtle nest, or a turtle hatchling.



Observing a sea turtle from a distance is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and a life-changing experience. It is a chance for young people to observe and learn from nature how these ancient creatures survive (millions of years old) and what our responsibilities are to conserve and protect them. For more information on Alabama's sea turtles, visit:

<http://www.alabamaseaturtles.com/>

ALLIGATORS

There are alligators on Fort Morgan peninsula in the wetlands, canals and coastal ponds. When you feed an alligator, you have signed its eventual death warrant. Avoid alligators at all times and places and never feed or toss food to an alligator.

DOLPHIN, WHALE AND MANATEE STRANDINGS

The Alabama Marine Mammal Stranding Network is a cooperative regional stranding network partner that works with NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service to respond to dolphin and whale strandings in Alabama, with the US Fish & Wildlife Service to respond to manatee strandings in Alabama and Mississippi, and when requested to provide mutual aid to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in the Florida Panhandle.

ALABAMA MARINE MAMMAL STRANDING NETWORK

Contact ALMMSN:
Network Coordinator
Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Email: almmsn@disl.org

**For dolphin and whale strandings (live or carcasses), call
1-877-WHALE-HELP**

Dauphin Island Sea Lab-Manatee Stranding Network

- Report manatee sightings to <http://manatee.disl.org/>
- E-mail: manatee@disl.org or



- On-line: manatee.disl.org/report_siting.cfm
- Report **Stranded Manatees** to: 1-877-WHALEHELP immediately

Facebook page:
[Facebook.com/mobilemanatees](https://www.facebook.com/mobilemanatees)

For more information, educational materials, dock signs, or to volunteer, contact DISL/MSN via phone: 1-866-493-5803.

STRAY DOGS

**All About Dogs Coastal Rescue ~ 843-813-1291 ~ Highway 59 & CR 6, Gulf Shores
No-Kill Fostering & Adoption Center**

<http://allaboutdogscr.com>

Dogs are placed with foster homes until adopted. They do not as a rule keep dogs on site any longer than necessary to find a foster home.

Baldwin County Animal Control ~ 972-6834 ~ Highway 49, Summerdale ~ Cats & Dogs Only

There are only two Animal Control Officers to cover the entire area of Baldwin County. They are on duty only from 7AM-4PM, Monday through Friday. After hours, call the Sheriff's Office 972-6802

North Baldwin Animal Shelter ~ 251-937-8811 ~ McMeans Avenue, Bay Minette

<http://northbaldwinanimalshelter.com/>

No-Kill Shelter & Adoptions ~ Monday-Saturday 1:00-4:00PM

Baldwin County Humane Society (aka BARC!) ~ 251-928-4584 ~ 22886 Hwy. 98, Fairhope

<http://northbaldwinhumane.org>

No-Kill Shelter & Adoptions ~ Monday-Friday 9:00AM-4:00PM

The Haven ~ 251-929-3980 ~ 559 S. Section St., Fairhope

No-Kill Adoption Center

<http://www.havenforanimals.org/>

AGGRESSIVE STRAY DOGS

Call the Sheriff's Office 972-6802 and take steps to protect yourself, your family, and your pets. If you encounter an aggressive dog and feel personally endangered or fear for your own pet's safety, call the Sheriff's Emergency Dispatch: **911**.

CATS – PETS AND FERAL

Because of the presence of coyotes on Fort Morgan Peninsula, it is not recommended that pet cats be allowed to roam.

Feral cats may be a problem in certain areas of Fort Morgan. Report them to Baldwin County Animal Control.