



News Release

For immediate release:
Contact:

Date: June 23, 2010
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Wildlife Problems Affecting Animal Care and Control

As of July 1, 2010, Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control will no longer be able to send Animal Control Officers to pick up wildlife such as orphaned baby birds or mammals. The Division will continue to handle rabies surveillance for Palm Beach County, which includes quarantine, testing, and response to rabies vector species and human or animal exposure.

While Animal Care and Control has assisted in transporting wild animals to the rehabilitation centers in Palm Beach County, budget restraints have now forced the shelter to stop. The goal of Animal Care and Control is to focus on the safe haven and veterinary care for lost, abandoned and unwanted domestic animals, adoptions, lost pets, enforcing county, state and federal animal laws and providing effective programs to protect the health, safety and welfare of domestic animals and humans in the county.

Residents who find injured birds or wildlife in need of rescue should contact Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Jupiter, 561-575-3399, or SPCA Wildlife Care Center in Ft. Lauderdale, 954-524-4302, or visit www.buschwildlife.com or www.wildcare.org.

Additional names of individuals who rehabilitate wildlife may be obtained from the Florida and Wildlife Conservation Commission at 561-625-5122 or visit their website www.myfwc.com.

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Electronic Press Release

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Barbara Lee Searls

From: Karen Buchan [kbuchan@pbcgov.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2010 5:00 PM
To: Karen Buchan
Cc: Elizabeth Harfmann
Subject: PBC Animal Care and Control News Release on Wildlife
Attachments: Wildlife Issues 6.17.10.pdf

To All Palm Beach County Municipalities:

Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control will no longer be able to dispatch Animal Control Officers to wildlife issues, including injured, sick or orphaned wildlife. The policy takes effect July 1, 2010. Please notify your appropriate agencies of this change. See attached news release.

At this time, Animal Care and Control will continue to provide service regarding:

- Rabies vector species displaying symptoms of rabies (e.g., raccoon, fox, skunk, bat, otter, coyote, bobcat)
- Humans or domestic animals exposed to rabies vector species
- Rabies vector species threatening the public

The public should be instructed to coordinate directly with a licensed rehabilitation center for possible transportation arrangements/directions involving wildlife.

The primary rehabilitators in Palm Beach County are:

- Busch Wildlife Sanctuary in Jupiter, 561-575-3399, www.buschwildlife.com
- SPCA Wildlife Care Center in Ft. Lauderdale, 954-524-4302, www.wildcare.org

A current list of licensed trappers (http://www.mvfwc.com/License/Permits_RulesWild.htm) and other wildlife rehabilitation centers (<http://mvfwc.com/CONSERVATION/ConservationYouLivingwWildlifeRehabbers.htm>) are available through the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 561-625-5122, or the main Website www.mvfwc.com.

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