



Extreme Heat can Kill Wildlife

Heat stress (hyperthermia) is painful and life threatening. Hot surfaces burn paws, dehydration causes organ damage.

How can you tell an animal is suffering heat stress?

- Nocturnal animals out during the day
- Arboreal animals on the ground
- Birds may be panting with wings out, any signs of loss of balance, seizures or confusion indicate an animal is suffering

You can help an animal suffering heat stress!

Ring a vet, wildlife carer or rescue group - remember they will be extremely busy during a heat wave so transport the animal yourself if possible.

To transport an animal to a vet or carer;

- ✓ Pick up the animal with a towel and place it in a ventilated box or pet carrier
- ✓ Cool animals slowly, mist spray them
- ✓ Keep noise down, children and pets away
- ✓ Water can be provided in a bowl but do not offer any food
- ✓ Provide the exact location the animal was found so it can be returned to its territory



Photo by Paula Rivera

Our aim is to inspire and educate our community to protect and help wildlife

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You can Help Prevent Heat Stress

Prevent animals becoming heat stressed

1. Mist spray your garden during the heat of the day.
2. Provide a fresh, reliable water source at different levels in shady locations.
3. Hang a water container in a tree or place a bowl in a hanging basket for arboreal animals such as birds, possums and bats.
4. Confine pets to keep safe wildlife searching for water and shade.

Keep these contacts handy for advice or suffering wildlife:

- AWARE Wildlife Rescue 0412 433 727
- Your local vet will help wildlife
- Peninsula Vet Emergency & Referral Hospital
161 Mornington-Tyabb Rd, Mornington
- AEC (24hr Emergency Vet) 9770 5555
39 McMahons Road, Frankston
- Find your nearest
Licensed Wildlife
Shelter and keep their
no in your phone.



Ringtail possum above orphaned in March 2019 during extreme heat event.
Photo by Paula Rivera.

The DELWP website has a list of shelters or ask your vet or rescue group

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