It's against the law to keep wild animals if you do not have proper permits, even if you plan to release them!
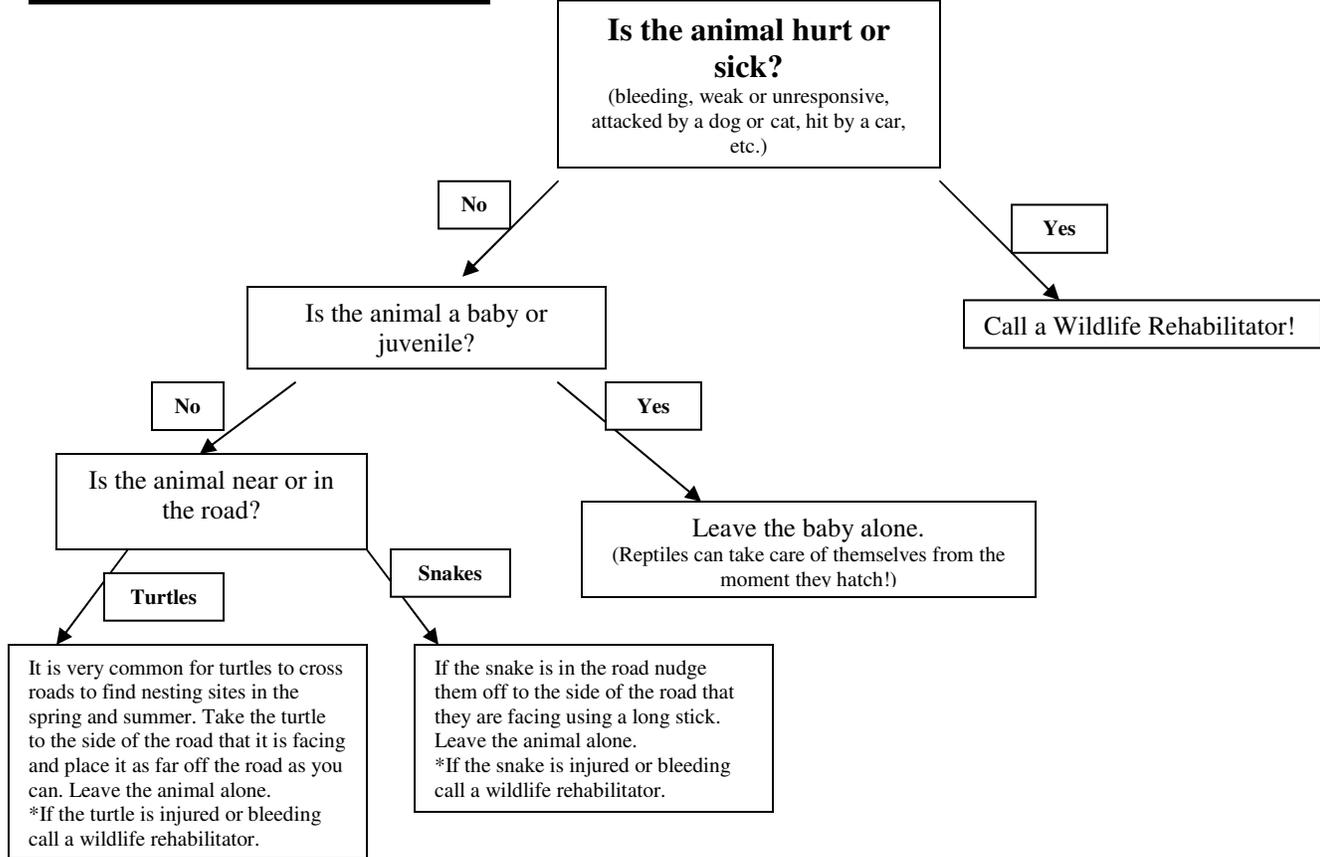
I found a Reptile!

Is the animal hurt or sick?
(bleeding, weak or unresponsive, attacked by a dog or cat, hit by a car, etc.)

No

Yes

Call a Wildlife Rehabilitator!

Is the animal a baby or juvenile?

No

Yes

Is the animal near or in the road?

Leave the baby alone.
(Reptiles can take care of themselves from the moment they hatch!)

Turtles

Snakes

It is very common for turtles to cross roads to find nesting sites in the spring and summer. Take the turtle to the side of the road that it is facing and place it as far off the road as you can. Leave the animal alone.
*If the turtle is injured or bleeding call a wildlife rehabilitator.

If the snake is in the road nudge them off to the side of the road that they are facing using a long stick. Leave the animal alone.
*If the snake is injured or bleeding call a wildlife rehabilitator.

There is a snake in or around my house.

*Snakes are good animals to have around. They feed on small rodents that cause problems in homes.
*To detour snakes from coming into your home or other buildings remove any areas that are close to buildings that snakes like to stay; piles of wood, brush, mulch piles, old flower pots, etc.
*Making sure you do not have mice or other rodents in or around your home or other buildings will cause the snake(s) to go elsewhere to find food.
*Having non-venomous snakes around will detour venomous snakes from coming around; there is usually not enough food sources available for all of them.
*If you need a snake removed from you property, please **do not kill it**, contact a wildlife rehabilitator, an animal removal service, or a local reptile group to assist you.

I have dug up a 'nest' of eggs

*The nest you have found is not a venomous species! Venomous snakes give 'live birth' so you will not find eggs.
*Leave the nest in the area you found them. If necessary re-cover them with the same soil that was taken off of them. Try not to move the eggs more than necessary; do not turn the eggs if at all possible.
*Once the eggs hatch, each baby reptile will be completely capable of caring for itself.
*If the nest is in an area that will be disturbed before the eggs hatch, call a wildlife rehabilitator to see about relocating the nest.

I have a pet reptile I do not want anymore

***Do Not** release your pet into the wild for any reason! Pet reptiles cannot survive in the wild. By releasing pet reptiles you risk introducing bacteria and other problems into native populations of reptiles.
*There are several reptile rescue groups that can help you with your pet reptile. Look online for groups near you to find one that can help.
*If your pet reptile was once a wild reptile contact a wildlife rehabilitator to help you.

Created by Savannah Trantham (2012)