

Get started!

Become a Volunteer Wildlife TRANSPORTER

What is a Wildlife Transporter?

- Transporters are an essential part of the wildlife volunteer network – they help get rescued sick, injured and orphaned wildlife **FROM** a rescuer, carer or vet clinic **TO** a wildlife hospital or a wildlife carer.
- It is a great first step to get involved in the wildlife rescue and rehabilitation area, particularly if you're not feeling confident to start doing wildlife rescues just yet.
- All wildlife will be securely contained for safe transport, so no handling experience is required.

What equipment do I need?

- **A reliable vehicle** with air-conditioning and sufficient room to place transport carriers (such as cardboard boxes, pet carriers). A standard hatchback, sedan or SUV is sufficient. Animals may not be transported in the enclosed boot of a sedan or in the tray or canopy of a ute; they must be transported in the cab, so they don't overheat. Noise must be kept to a minimum (no radio or loud talking) and do not allow pet dogs in the vehicle whilst transporting wildlife.
- **Basic rescue supplies** – you don't need much to get started:
 - Cardboard boxes of various sizes – A4 photocopying paper boxes are a great size for most birds
 - Plastic rescue baskets are great for transporting birds and orphaned joeys
 - Pet carriers – available cheap through Facebook Marketplace, Gumtree or donated from other wildlife volunteers, friends, associates
- **Miscellaneous supplies:**
 - Second-hand linen such as towels, pillowcases, handtowels, bathmats– for lining and covering transport carriers (items donated to Wildcare are often available at workshops or from the Wildcare storage shed)
 - Notebook and pen/pencil for marking boxes and completing paperwork
 - Packing/sticky tape to secure cardboard boxes and to affix paperwork to the animal's carrier
 - Wildcare Rescue Record Book (optional)
- **Specialised transport carriers** - some wildlife (such as koalas, possums, reptiles) will already be contained in a more specialised transport carrier by the rescuer and the animal will remain in that carrier for transport. *You do not need to have these specialised carriers.*

How do I get started?

- **Become a Wildcare member** – join online at <https://wildcare.org.au/help-us/join/>
- **Register for and attend an Orientation / Rescue and First Aid for Wildlife workshop** (all training workshops are free for Wildcare members) – current Education Calendar is available at <https://wildcare.org.au/education-training/>. Attending this introductory workshop is compulsory to ensure you are covered by Wildcare's insurance
- **Get your basic supplies ready** as listed above
- **Submit a Rescue/Transport List Application Form** – complete the online [Rescue List Application Form](#). You can specify the days/times that you are available.
- Join the Wildcare members-only Facebook groups:
 - [Wildcare Wildlife Transport Facebook group](#)
 - [Wildcare Community Facebook group](#)

Then what?

- Wildcare's Hotline operators may then call you to help with the transporting of contained wildlife. Keep your mobile handy so you don't miss calls for help.
- Turn on notifications for the Wildcare Wildlife Transport FB group – keep an eye out for posts from wildlife rescuers and carers asking for assistance with transporting.
- Keep us up to date with your contact details so we can get in touch quickly and easily.

Not ready to commit?

Even if you aren't able to commit to being included on Wildcare's Rescue List, keep a close eye on the requests for help in the Transport and Community FB groups. Wildcare and our volunteers often ask for help for both wildlife and non-wildlife tasks and any help you can provide will be greatly appreciated.