

YOU FOUND A BABY SQUIRREL — WHAT TO DO



August through October, every rainstorm blows baby squirrels from their nests. If a tropical storm impacts our area, hundreds of people will find baby squirrels on the ground.

Please do not take them to St. Francis Wildlife immediately. Just because they fell from their nest doesn't mean they are orphaned. Mom is out there.

If the squirrel is injured, covered with insects, or was caught by a cat or dog (even if there are no visible wounds), please follow the directions in items 1 and 2 (below), and then bring it to us asap.

But if the baby squirrel is unharmed, please do the following:

How to Reunite a Baby Squirrel With Its Mother:

1) Bring it inside and put it in a cardboard box lined with an old t-shirt or pillowcase (toenails can get caught in towel loops). Cut air holes in the lid.

2) If the baby is wet, dry it with a towel. Warm a bottle of water or bag of rice in the microwave, wrap it in another t-shirt, and place it in the box. The baby should feel warm, not hot or cold. Do not feed it or give it anything to drink.

3) When the weather improves, place the box at the base of a tree near where you found it. Keep pets, kids and all people away from them so mom feels comfortable approaching. She wants to pick them up and take them to her nest (she has a few). It may take a few minutes or all day.

4) If the mother does not appear soon, try this to attract her: On your laptop or portable device, google "baby squirrel distress call," and play it from a nearby window inside your house or car.

5) If it is getting dark, bring the baby squirrel inside and call us at (850) 627-4151.

