



# I Found a Baby Fawn, **NOW WHAT?!**



It is **EXTREMELY** rare that a Doe will abandon her fawn. Even well-meaning human interference may cause a fawn's mortality (death) due to intrusion

with the very normal activity of a Doe and her newborn fawn. Please **NEVER** touch a fawn **EVER**.

Before taking any action please contact your local Fish and Game or a licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator.

Read our "Fun Facts" for more Information.

- Is the Fawn bleeding or does it have an open wound, or broken bone?
- Is it covered in fly eggs (these look like small grains of rice)
- Is it crying nonstop for hours on end?
- Does it appear weak AND is it lying on its side?

**Yes**

**The fawn is likely injured or orphaned.**  
Call your local Utah Division of Wildlife (DWR) for advice.  
**NEVER** chase a fawn, the stress alone can lead to it's death

**No**

**Is the fawn in a dangerous location?**  
(e.g., near a busy road).

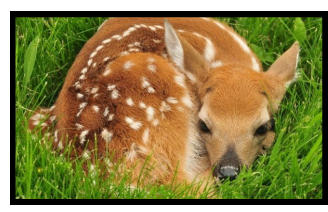
**Yes**

**No**

**The fawn is healthy and waiting for mom to return!** Mother deer stay away from their young during the day to avoid leading predators to the fawn's location.

- **KEEP children and pets AWAY!**
- Reassess the situation in 24 hours—the fawn should be gone

**It may still be best to leave it alone. Get advice from a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or, here in Utah, your local Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR).**



This youngster is just fine and should be given a wide berth while it waits for mom to come back later in the evening. Mom will not appear or reunite with her fawn while humans are around; **DO NOT** approach, take a photo if you must and then leave her be. **NEVER TOUCH!**

*\* Utah does not allow rehabilitation of deer, so its **BEST** chance for survival is to be left alone. \**

## Fun Facts

- A five-day old fawn can outrun a man.
- A doe will seek out her fawns three to four times in a 24-hour period.
- The first five days of a fawn's life are the most perilous. Human interference will make it worse. Stay away!
- Frightened fawns are able to slow their heart rate and suspend or slow their breathing for several minutes until a perceived danger has passed. Stress kills, stay away!
- For their safety, fawns are born with almost no odor; touching one may bring in predators.
- In Utah and most states, it is illegal to keep a wild animal without a permit, even if you are trying to care for it and plan to release it. ALWAYS call a licensed wildlife rehabilitator for advice BEFORE taking action.
- Wild animal care requires very specific skills and knowledge. Utah Wildlife Rehabbers, like WRCNU, are licensed by Utah DWR and the U.S. FWS to rehabilitate wildlife, and are the only ones permitted to treat wild animals, giving the patient its best chance of survival.

**Call Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah (WRCNU) 801-814-7888 for further advice.**

**NOTE:** Laws for wildlife vary from state to state, in Utah it is illegal to care for, or rehabilitate any wildlife without a state Rehabilitation Permit/License. Furthermore, Utah does not allow rehabilitation of any ungulate (deer) species, so the best practice and best chance for its survival is to **NEVER** interfere with a fawn. Doing so increases the chances of the fawn dying. If the animal is in need help because it is in a dangerous situation or needs humane euthanasia due to severe injury, please contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources directly.  
**PLEASE understand that WRCNU is NOT part of Utah DWR, we are a privately run nonprofit who works under state and federal permits.**