I Found a Baby Squirrel. What Should I Do?

**IMPORTANT:**
- It is a myth that if you touch a baby wild animal the parents will reject them – **this is simply not true.**
- Not all wild babies need help!
- Each year, we receive hundreds of baby squirrels who are mistakenly taken from their parents.

**Before seeking help, ask these questions:**

1. **Is the baby warm to the touch?**
   - **NO**
   - **YES**

   **Try to warm the baby up in your hands.** When she is warm, place her in a box lined with soft cloth and place the box in the same tree where she was found. Check back in 1-2 hours. **Is the baby gone?**
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

   **Mom has come back for her baby. Thank you for reuniting them.**

   **She needs help. Bring her to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator. Do not give food or water.**

2. **Are the baby's eyes open?**
   - **NO**
   - **YES**

   **She still depends on mom and may need some help reuniting with her.** Place the baby in a container lined with cloth or soft tissues and place in the same tree where she was found. Leave her be, and check back on her in 1-2 hours. **Is the baby gone?**
   - **YES**
   - **NO**

   **Please leave her be.** She is a juvenile, and though she may look small, squirrels become independent after 10-12 weeks.

3. **Does she have a fluffy tail, and is she longer than 6 inches (excluding the tail)?**
   - **NO**
   - **YES**

   **Most healthy babies can be successfully reunited with their parents.**

   A baby's best chance is always with their mother. Mother squirrels often make a back-up nest, so if one nest is destroyed, she still has somewhere to keep her babies. However, mom will not take her baby back if he/she is cold.

   **Please call our hotline if you have any questions or find a baby squirrel.**
   (830) 336-2725

   *Note: It is illegal for an unlicensed individual to possess a wild animal for more than 24 hours.*