

How to Safely Contain an Adult Mammal

1. Our first priority is your safety! The primary means of defense for most adult mammals are their teeth, and they will often attempt to bite when handled. Remember that even a sick or injured animal will give everything it's got to defend itself, and they don't understand we are there to help.
2. Gather your equipment. We suggest the following items:
 - Heavy leather gloves
 - A secure transport container large enough to easily fit the animal.
 1. A cardboard box, plastic tote, or a trash with a lid can will work.
 2. Be sure there are adequate ventilation holes in the container prior to containing the animal.
 - Duct tape, bungee cord, twine or other method to secure the lid onto the container.
 - Broom or shovel
 - Net or thick towel or blanket
3. Put on your personal protective equipment. Take note of the location you have found the animal – this information will be helpful at the time of release. Follow one of the methods below.



Method 1	Method 2	Method 3 – more active animal
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Slowly approach the animal with the transport container. Place the transport container over the top of the animal. 2. Find something flat that will completely cover the opening of the container such as the container lid, piece of cardboard or plywood. Slide this under the container and the animal. 3. Secure the cover to the container using duct tape, a bungee cord or tie with twine or rope. 4. Gently and slowly turn the container upright. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tip the transport container on its side next to the animal. 2. Use a broom to gently push the animal into the container, or use a shovel to gently pick up the animal and place it into the transport container. 3. Cover the container, secure the lid, and then slowly tip the container upright. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tip a large transport container on its side. It is helpful to place the container along a wall or between other objects to funnel the animal towards the container. 2. Use a broom to herd the animal into the container. 3. If this doesn't work, use a net or a toss a blanket to over the animal to stop it from moving away, then follow Method 1 to contain completely.

4. Once secure, place the transport container in a quiet, dark environment until transport. If the container does not have solid sides, cover the entire container with lightweight sheet or blanket to restrict the visual stimuli for the animal.
5. Do not feed the animal. Most injured animals are dehydrated, and often emaciated, and feeding before stabilizing them can result in their death.
6. If you don't already have an appointment, please call Dane County Humane Society's Wildlife Center right away at 608-287-3235. The law allows a member of the public 24 hours to transport the animal to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator, but the sooner the animal receives care the better its chances of successful treatment.
7. During transport to the wildlife center, please keep the car quiet by leaving the radio off and keeping voices low. For more information about safely transporting wildlife once contained, please click [HERE](#).