



ADVICE ON ANIMAL RESCUE

- ? **Rescue can pose a number of dangerous situations. BEWARE.** Do not compound the problem by exposing yourself or others to possible injury.
- ? **Do not park your car to create a traffic hazard, get well off the road.** You may have to walk back a few hundred metres to the animal but you'll be safe.

Now, to the animal..... You should have an old blanket, heavy leather gloves and a good torch. **Be aware, the animal is injured, frightened and in shock.** Most animals can and will bite, kick or scratch. A possum, wombat, or kangaroo can bite a finger off very easily.

- ? **If the animal is on the roadway, move it off quickly. Approach the animal from behind and cover it's head with an old blanket to restrict it's view.** Most animals will quieten almost immediately once they are in the dark and cannot see you. **BEWARE. All wild animals will attempt to bite, kick and scratch when handled.** A kangaroo and possums tail will act as a "handle" to drag the animal off the road. A wombat's hind leg can be utilised in the same way.
- ? **Ascertain the location where the animal was found.** Some animals are territorial and will need to be released in the same location.
- ? **Conduct a quick assessment of the animal.**

DEAD

If the animal is dead, check the sex of the animal and if female check the pouch for any young. Marsupial orphans should be put in a woollen pouch or jumper and cuddled in order to keep the animal warm and secure. **Call LAOKO on 6456 1313 for assistance.**

INJURED

If the injuries are too bad to be treated, for example badly broken bones, severe wounds and excessive bleeding call one of the numbers contained in this information package for euthanasia. Local police will also assist in putting an animal down.

If they appear to be no serious injuries and the animal needs to be transported to a vet or held until LAOKO can attend, extra care is required. Unconscious or semi-conscious animals may revive as shock wears off. **Do not have the animal inside your house or car unrestrained.** Put the animal, wrapped in a blanket, in a secure box or cage, or in the boot of the car.