

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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FUNDING BOOST FOR WILDLIFE RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

The Allan Labor Government is boosting funding for Victoria's wildlife rescue volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise to care for sick, injured and orphaned wildlife.

Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos opened applications for the Wildlife Rehabilitator Grants with up to \$3,000 in funding available as part of a \$300,000 investment to support wildlife rescue volunteers provide native animals in need of rehabilitation.

Wildlife shelter operators and foster carers can apply for funding to cover a range of expenses, including equipment, vet fees, training, feed and medication.

Wildlife shelter operators can apply for up to \$3,000. Foster carers can apply for up to \$2,000.

In January this year, \$230,000 worth of grants were awarded to support 102 wildlife organisations continue to provide vital care for thousands of native animals across Victoria – enhancing facilities to treat, house and rehabilitate wildlife for release while boosting skills and knowledge through education and training.

Since 2015, the Labor Government has invested \$6.3 million to support the work of foster carers, authorised wildlife shelter operators and key wildlife organisations – building on a historic \$609 million investment in Victoria's environment since 2014.

Applications open on Tuesday 25 November 2024 and close on Wednesday 5 February 2025.

For more information visit wildlife.vic.gov.au/grants/wildlife-rehabilitator-grants/ and to submit an application visit, wildlife.vic.gov.au/grants/wildlife-rehabilitator-grants/.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Environment Steve Dimopoulos

"We're supporting wildlife volunteers to provide the best possible care to the animals they work with, by supporting them with training, equipment and resources to carry out best-practice treatment."

"Wildlife shelters and foster carers across Victoria play an essential role in the recovery and rehabilitation of native animals that have been injured or orphaned."