

Montana Raptor Conservation Center

(406) 585-1211



The Montana Raptor Conservation Center is a nonprofit raptor rehabilitation organization located in Bozeman, Montana, and serves the entire state. MRCC is governed by a Board of Directors and operates under state and federal permits. The center is funded entirely by donations, specialty license plates, grants and fundraisers, and does not receive any state or federal funding.

MRCC was founded in response to rapid development of Montana and the resulting unfortunate conflicts that occur between humans and birds of prey. Through education, research, rehabilitation and release, our mission is to conserve and restore raptor species, as they are an important indicator of the health of the environment.



Report an injured raptor quickly! (406) 585-1211

The faster MRCC receives an injured bird, the better the bird's chances for recovery. The longer it goes without professional treatment, the less likely the bird will survive or be released. Many injuries are time sensitive!

If you find an injured raptor:

Do not try to pick up the bird, unless specifically instructed by a rehabilitator. Raptors are wild animals and can be very dangerous to an untrained individual. Note the specific location of the bird and then call MRCC at 406- 585-1211. If you can stay near the bird until help arrives, that is always best. You are the most important step in the bird's potential recovery and return to the wild. The faster MRCC receives an injured bird, the better the bird's chances for recovery.

If you find an injured raptor and must contain it due to circumstance:

It will resist being caught by attacking with the beak, talons, and wing flapping. Wear gloves. Throw a jacket, towel, or blanket over the bird, covering the head, and gather the bird in the blanket, avoiding the dangerous feet. Place the bird in a carrier or cardboard box with ventilation holes. Transport to MRCC.

If you are holding a raptor until it can reach MRCC:

Do not feed it, unless someone at the center has given you instructions. In some cases, birds can be emaciated and/or dehydrated. If an emaciated or dehydrated bird is given too much food or water, their systems can shut down. Keep handling of the raptor to a minimum to reduce stress. Raptors do not understand that you are trying to help them. And keep the bird in a dark, warm, quiet space away from other animals and loud noises.

If you are transporting a raptor:

It is best to keep the bird in a plastic dog or cat kennel/carrier or a sturdy cardboard box that has a closing lid, with some towels on the bottom for gripping and comfort. The carrier or box should be a little bit bigger than the bird, and ventilation holes are necessary.