

Stages of Development



HATCHLING

Newly hatched bird, naked and helpless.



NESTLING

Still in the nest, starting to grow feathers.



FLEDGLING

Leaves the nest, learning to fly and forage.

Fledglings in Perinton



A fledgling is a young bird that has developed enough feathers to leave the nest but is still dependent on its parents for feeding and protection.



IF YOU FIND A FLEDGLING

Observe: Keep a distance and watch for parent birds feeding the fledgling.

Leave Alone: If in a safe area, leave the fledgling alone as parents are usually nearby.

Move to Safety: If in immediate danger (e.g., predators, roads), move it to a nearby shrub or low branch.



WHEN TO INTERVENE

- + Visible injuries or signs of distress.
- + No parental activity observed after several hours.
- + Very young birds (nestlings) that fall out of the nest may need to be returned.



MYTH

Handling a fledgling will cause parents to abandon it.

FACT

Birds have a poor sense of smell and will not abandon their young due to human scent.



Perinton Animal Control
(585) 223-5115
After Hours: (585) 425-7380
www.perinton.org
Contact Us by Email

NYS DEC
Nuisance Wildlife Information

Please dial 9-1-1 for emergencies. For any other inquiries or concerns, please call Perinton Animal Control.