



Turtle Oblonga Rescue and Rehabilitation Network

Ensuring that every turtle receives professional and compassionate care

**Now working under the umbrella of the amazing team at
Darling Range Wildlife Shelter!**

If you find a turtle in need, please call our dedicated turtle rescue numbers:

0424 727 411 East Metro 0424 727 624 South Metro

You can also call DRWS on 08 9394 0885 or Wildcare on 08 9474 9055

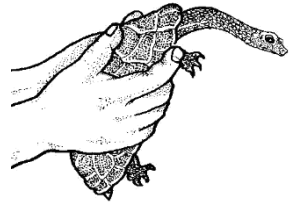
If, for any reason, there is no answer, please call one of the other numbers.

There is no fee for our rescue services

What to do if you find a long-necked turtle in need

How to HANDLE a turtle: When *handling* turtles, be prepared for them to squirm strongly - take care not to drop them. Use both hands to pick up a turtle, **place your fingers under the plastron (bottom shell) and your thumbs on the carapace (top shell)** and put it in a small box. Do not put it in water or offer it artificial heat.

If you are nervous, use a small towel. The turtle will not bite, but may lightly scratch you with its claws as it tries to escape your grasp.



from Caring for Australian Wildlife

If you find an INJURED turtle:

- **Please do not put the animal in water.**
- Gently place the turtle on a damp towel in a secure container.
- Cover the turtle with a damp hand towel (reduces stress & flies).
- Place the container somewhere dark, quiet and cool (under 26°C).
- Call one of the **rescue numbers** immediately. We can provide step-by-step advice.

If you find a turtle in a SALTWATER environment: Call immediately. Oblong (long neck) turtles are **freshwater turtles**, but are sometimes washed through the drains onto our beaches. They will need to be rescued and taken into care.

If you find a LOST / WANDERING turtle: Generally, there's a lake or wetland nearby. If the turtle appears uninjured, alert and healthy, you can return it to your nearest permanent water

body. If you're unsure about where to release, or are concerned the turtle is unwell, please call for advice.

If you find a turtle CROSSING THE ROAD: If safe to do so, please carry the turtle in the direction it was heading (or they will recross the road once you have gone!).

If you find a NESTING turtle: Please guard her until she's finished laying (15 - 30 minutes), and then carry her back to the nearby lake.

If you find turtle EGGS: Please leave the turtle eggs undisturbed and call our rescue numbers for advice. We can advise on protecting any turtle nests found in your garden.

If you find a HATCHLING turtle: Please pick the hatchling up and place it in fringing vegetation in the nearest suitable water body. If the hatchling appears to be dead, ill, or injured, or if you have any concerns at all about the hatchling, please don't hesitate to call us for rescue and/or advice.

If you find a DEAD turtle: Please call us. If the turtle was a pregnant female, a vet can retrieve the eggs and we will incubate the eggs and release any hatchlings. And, it might sound silly, but it can be very hard to determine if a turtle is dead - 'dead' hatchlings have been known to revive and go on to thrive!

For sick, injured or orphaned wildlife and to report suspicious, malicious or illegal wildlife activity including poaching and hunting:

7-day Statewide Wildcare Helpline: 9474 9055

The Turtle Oblonga Rescue and Rehabilitation Network

Between 2012 and 2022, the ***Turtle Oblonga Rescue and Rehabilitation Network Inc. (TORRN)*** supported the rescue and rehabilitation of hundreds of long-necked turtles in south-west Western Australia. The organisation was run purely by volunteers who generously gave of their time and resources.

Over time, the administrative burden of maintaining a not-for-profit registered charity with incorporated association and tax-deductible status, along with new licensing requirements, diverted resources from the primary goal of rescue and rehabilitation.

In August 2022, TORRN decided to voluntarily cancel all formal accreditations and divest resources to the Darling Range Wildlife Shelter. Pooling resources with a well-respected wildlife centre reduces the compliance and administrative burden while allowing the sharing of years of collective expertise in turtle rescue and rehabilitation. The good work of TORRN can continue under the umbrella of the Darling Range Wildlife Shelter – an organisation the TORRN Committee felt shared similar values and purpose.