

WILDLIFE WATCH HOTLINE BRINGS ALL KINDS OF ANIMAL EMERGENCY CALLS



Wildlife Watch does not encourage buying exotic birds or other exotic "pets," and wild birds are illegal to keep unless you are a wildlife rehabilitator. BUT if you have rescued an exotic, or bought a bird before knowing better, as several of our friends have, then you need to know what to do in an emergency.

Wildlife Watch recently received a call from a panicked family. The husband was clipping their parrot's nails and blood started to gush forth. I quickly Googled to find the answer to stopping the flow of blood, and discovered this great site.

<http://voices.yahoo.com/tech-talk-trim-parrots-nails-7386922.html?cat=53>

It says:

"Because birds' nails have a quick, or vein that runs through the center, make sure you've got some kind of substance to stop any potential bleeding should you actually cut a nail too far back. Corn starch works well. You can also purchase styptic powder and silver nitrate sticks that are used for stopping the blood flow. However, use powders in moderation. Use only

what is needed to stop the blood flow as the bird will likely pick at it as soon as you let him go."

Wildlife Watch suggests that you take the bird to a veterinarian, but if you are going to cut the nails of any animal, PLEASE learn how to do it BEFORE you start, learn what problems can occur and have the necessary items ready. Be sure not to cut too far and be careful that the bird doesn't push toward the clipper as you are cutting. That's how most accidents occur. Knowing how to hold the bird without putting pressure in the wrong places is essential. Here is a YouTube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kic-ij38Xaw> but frankly you can see how dangerous this can be for a non-professional to attempt it. **We urge you to take your bird to an avian veterinarian.**