

Article from "The Mickaboo Bird Rescue Companion"

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Access to Veterinarians During Pandemic

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Mickaboo's usual veterinary clinics have all confirmed they are available to treat sick or injured birds. Veterinarians are considered "essential businesses" during the shelter-in-place. (If you need to take a Mickaboo foster bird to a vet, our process is the same - contact Mickaboo to obtain authorization - and in a critical emergency, just **go!**)

In all circumstances, call the vet's office first to confirm they are able to see your bird. ALL our vets ask you not bring your bird in if **you** are sick or have been exposed to COVID-19. Stay home and send the bird with someone else. As is always the case, the bird must travel in an appropriate carrier.

Bay Area Bird Hospital in San Francisco is accepting patients for all purposes: emergency, sick birds, suspected sick birds, birds in need of medications or medication refills,

birds in need of diagnostic testing. They ask that you arrive on time for appointments to minimize time spent in the waiting room.

Wildwood North in Redwood City is accepting appointments for birds in need -- *not* well-checks, grooming, or similar minor issues. Only one person (the decision-maker) is allowed in the clinic with the birds - or if people in their home are sick, the person should wait outside. They are taking new patients/clients that need to be seen.

For the Birds in San Jose is accepting appointments for existing clients, which includes *all* Mickaboo foster birds. Appointments are for emergencies only - which means no well-bird checks or grooming. Allowable appointments include Lupron shots and implants, scheduled rechecks for significant illness, injuries, post-surgical visits, etc. (Call and ask if you are not sure if your appointment purpose is allowable.) Humans will be interviewed in the entry hall and can leave the bird there.

Medical Center for Birds in Oakley is accepting appointments for significant medical problems and related rechecks, injuries, post-surgical, etc. (Call and ask if you are not sure.) You can call from your car when you arrive, rather than wait in their waiting room.

Berkeley Dog & Cat Hospital in Berkeley is seeing birds. You can call ahead or from your parked car. The history will be taken over the phone, and someone will come to the car to collect the bird.

AIMSS, the emergency vet clinic in San Francisco, is asking that you call them from their parking lot. They will come to the car to pick up the bird. The staff will take the bird to the treatment area to be assessed. After the doctor has evaluated the bird, you will be called with recommendations for the care needed. They will provide an estimate via email and/or over the phone and collect payments over the phone.