

Wildlife Road Safety

Tips for reducing the risk of a wildlife collision:

- Drive with extra caution during the spring and fall, especially at dusk and dawn, as this is when animals are most active
- The faster you're going, the greater the distance you'll need to stop
- Always obey the speed limit, as some areas purposely have reduced limits where wildlife is prominent
- Pay attention to yellow, diamond-shaped signs which indicate where animals are known to cross and take extra caution in these areas
- Actively scan for wildlife in both rural and urban areas, especially in ditches ahead
- If you see one animal, chances are there are more; slow down and exercise caution
- At night, use your high beams when possible and watch for the reflection of an animal's eyes
- Consider an animal deterrent; a deer whistle, which emits an ultrasonic noise, is believed to help prevent collisions and can be attached to a vehicle

What to do if you hit a wild animal:

- Stay calm, pull off the road safely and turn on your hazard lights
- If the animal is lying in the road, direct your headlights toward it so other drivers can see it
- Do not approach the animal – an injured animal can be dangerous.

Who to contact after an accident:

- If you are injured, call 911
- If the animal is still on the road, call the local RCMP to assist with removing it
- Call your insurance company as soon as it is safe to do so
- Take photos of your vehicle and the collision site
- In some provinces it is required that you report a wildlife collision; employ the assistance of the local RCMP as they will liaise with wildlife control or conservation officers

Understanding your insurance:

Does it cover animal collisions? If your auto policy includes comprehensive insurance, then you are covered for animal collisions. This coverage typically includes damage to your car caused by events out of your control, such as collisions with animals. However, comprehensive auto coverage is not mandatory.

If you only have liability insurance, which primarily covers damage you cause others, you are generally not covered for animal collisions. Always ensure you talk with our insurance advisor and understand what type of coverage you have on your insurance policy. **Rest Assured, BrokerLink has you covered.**

Contact BrokerLink today:

- Call 1.833.998.3798
- Visit <https://www.brokerlink.ca/insurance/groups/nova-scotia-federation-of-municipalities>