

# Pacific Wildlife Care

## Virginia Opossum Feeding Regimen

Shared by Kathy Duncan, [Pacific Wildlife Care](#) licensed wildlife rehabilitator

Pacific Wildlife Care has had long-term success with this diet, which can be made up in batches and is based on a regimen described by Gode & Ruth (2016).

Opossums	Recommended Diet	Comments	
< 45 grams	<a href="#">Fox Valley Day One</a> 32/40		
45 grams to Weaning	<a href="#">Fox Valley Day One</a> 25/30	>70 g	Offer 90% formula 10% solid food items (see Weaning Diet below)
		100 g	Offer a 50:50 diet ratio of formula to weaning diet
		>200 g	Reduce formula to 10% of the diet
		~300-350g	Discontinue formula
<450 grams	Weaning Diet	6 TBSP	Chopped vegetables, diced small
		3 TBSP	Chopped fruit, diced small
		1 TBSP	Plain yogurt
		¼ tsp	Calcium carbonate
		1 cup	Dry cat food kibble softened with water, Purina Cat Chow or a similar brand (avoid foods with excess phosphorus and a poor calcium:phosphorus ratio)
>450 grams	Transition to Adult Diet	2/3 cup	Chopped vegetables
		1/3 cup	Chopped fruit
		1 TBSP	Plain yogurt
		¼ tsp	Calcium carbonate
		1 cup	Dry kibble [Some rehabilitators feed cat kibble while others feed adult opossums dog kibble, i.e. Purina Cat Chow or Purina Beyond dog kibble
		Daily	Additional protein source (see info sheet)

### Reference

Gode D, Ruth I. Wild Mammal Babies! The First 48 Hours, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Gode and Ruth; 2016.