



Carer Michele Phillips is calling for help at the South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter.

Picture: EUGENE HYLAND N05WG2

Carer call as wild weather threatens animal life

BABY possums and lorikeets face a miserable and short life because wild weather has triggered a spate of early births around Monash.

Oakleigh South wildlife carer Michele Phillips said warmer conditions in early winter had

caused trees to blossom sooner, ushering in breeding season.

But the recent cold snap has left many of the animals without food or shelter, making it tough for carers to keep them alive.

"Unfortunately we've had some lorikeets and possums pass away

already," Ms Phillips said. "It takes me an hour to feed three or four, and sometimes there's up to 50 that need to be fed."

The influx of animals has left Ms Phillips desperate for help.

"We're flat-out trying to save all the animals," she said.

"If anyone has the time to train to be a carer or are even willing to do a task like driving an animal to the vet, it would be a massive help."

To volunteer at South Oakleigh Wildlife Shelter, call Michele on 0411 600 591.