

ALTERNATE HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Habitat loss is a problem for many organisms and bats are no different. They are losing their habitat.

Sadly, bats living in large colonies in buildings will become a nuisance even to people who like them. It is therefore recommended that prior to removing the unwelcomed guests that bat houses be erected.

Bat houses provide a safe refuge after being evicted from roofs. They also help to replace some of the habitat lost due to the clearing of forests and repeated disturbance of caves.

Information on construction can be found at www.eparks.org/wildlife_protection/wildlife_facts/bats/bat_house.asp



For additional information on Bats contact:
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Unwelcomed Visitors



Preventative measures

WHERE DO BATS LIVE



Bats are known to roost (live) in a variety of structures. They will roost in both natural structures (caves, crevices, tree cavities and trees) and man-made structures (roofs, eaves, churches and factories and ceilings of abandoned buildings). Research has shown that mainly insect-eating bats live in homes of humans.

BATS AND YOU

Bats are mammals and are not related to mice and rats. They pose no health risks to humans or pets. The build-up of bat guano/bat droppings inside roof spaces could be a health risk and is the main reason to remove bats from your building.

REMOVAL OF UNWANTED GUESTS

Bats leave their roosts at night to feed. It is at this time that the entrance/exit point/s into the roof should be noted. Emergence is usually from one or two main entry and exit points. All minor points should be sealed and one-way devices installed at the main points. Bats should only be evicted if they pose a sanitary nuisance.

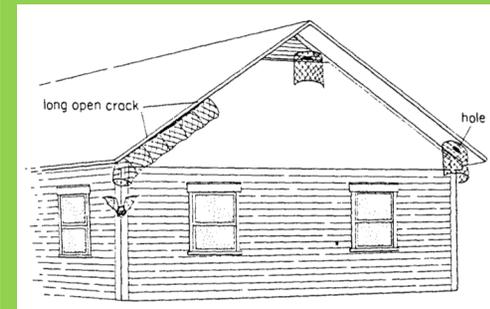


One-way Devices

This is a one-way tunnel which allows the bats to exit but prevents re-entry as the bats are unable to land on the edge of the tunnel and crawl back into the roof. The best time to install the device is at dusk after most of the bats have left the roof.

WHEN TO SERVE THE EVICTION NOTICE

The timing of the eviction activity is important to prevent the separation of mothers and their young. Research has shown that from December to May bats do not have young who are dependent on the mother for food. It is therefore recommended that removal be conducted at this time.



An important part of moving bats out of a building is to provide them with another place to go.