
WE SUPPORT BAT-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

BATS ARE IMPORTANT



BATS NEED OUR HELP

Bats are often misunderstood. A growing body of research helps us to better understand bats, their needs, and what threatens their survival.

Bats are impacted by human activity and loss of habitat. They need our help. Every living creature benefits when we work together to protect and restore our environment.

DID YOU KNOW...?

INSECT EATERS

All BC bats eat insects including mosquitoes, agricultural and forestry pests. They provide Canadians with millions of dollars in natural pest control services.

We do not have fruit bats in Canada.

HIGHEST DIVERSITY

When it comes to habitat for bats, it's difficult to outdo the Okanagan Valley. There are 19 species of bats found in Canada, and 17 of them are found in British Columbia. Of those, all but two are found in the Okanagan.

PROTECTED

Bats are neither rodents nor considered pests under BC law.

Bats are considered wildlife under the BC Wildlife Act and are protected from harassment and being killed.

HELPING BATS



BATS SLEEP DURING THE DAY
LEAVE THEM ALONE.
PHOTO BY PAULA VEGA.

Bats live in natural and urban areas and thrive next to lakes and wetlands. They are amongst our most common wildlife.

This hotel is taking steps to help bats in the Okanagan.

- We do not use pesticides, mothballs, ultrasonic devices, sticky tape or other traps that may hurt or kill bats.
- We follow bat management guidelines as provided by the BC Community Bat Program.

BEST PRACTICES FOR LIVING WITH BATS

- Keep screen doors closed. Bats hunt insects from dusk to dawn, and might fly into your room chasing a mosquito.
- Leave bats alone. Do not touch or harass them.
- Bats hunt for insects at night. They have excellent vision and use echolocation (like radar) to navigate in the dark. They may fly near you if an insect nearby. Stay calm - bats do not attack people or fly into your hair.
- Never touch a bat with your bare hands.
- Less than 0.5% of bats carry rabies. Rabies exposure is possible if there is 'direct contact' with an infected bat. This means you were bitten, scratched, or there was saliva exposure into a wound or mucous membrane. If you come into 'direct contact' with a bat, please contact your health professional immediately.

IF A BAT FLIES INTO YOUR ROOM

- Open doors and windows to the exterior so the bat can fly out.
- Close other interior doors so the bat doesn't enter a different room.
- Turn lights off so flying insects don't come in.
- Keep pets and people out of the room.
- One person can crouch down and watch to see if the bat flies out.
- If the bat doesn't fly out and lands in the room, call Management.



THE BC COMMUNITY BAT PROGRAM WOULD LIKE TO THANK IT'S PARTNERS:



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