

Living with bats

Danielle Dagenais, MSc, PAg
BC Community Bat Program
Regional Coordinator, Greater Vancouver-Squamish





K. Takahashi

Bats in the belfry

Protect human spaces



Common bat roosts



bcbats.ca



D. Burles

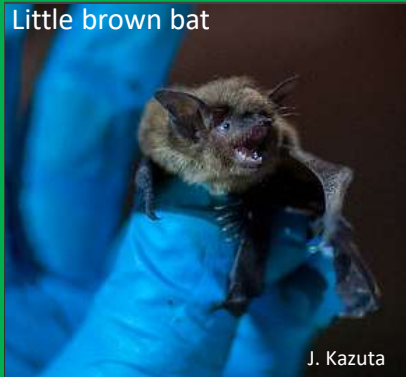


K. Woods



Bats in buildings

Little brown bat



J. Kazuta

Yuma myotis



J. Burgar

California myotis



scbats.org

Big brown bat



bcbats.ca

D. Burles

Townsend's big-eared bat



J. Barrett

5 most common species

Long-legged myotis



Western small-footed myotis



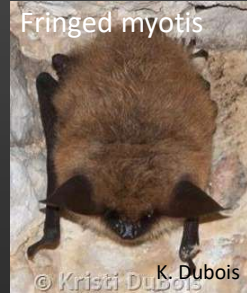
D. Grima

Pallid bat



J. Hobbs

Fringed myotis



© Kristi DuBois

Brazilian free-tailed bat



batworld.org

Silver-haired bat



SPES

Western long-eared myotis



J. Barrett

Northern long-eared myotis



<https://www.fws.gov/arkansas-es/Species/mammals/NLEB.html>

13 of 17 species

May use buildings



Bats in buildings

- ✓ Most common in summer
- ✓ Important maternity habitat
- ✓ Female colonies
- ✓ Bats are protected under the Wildlife Act
 - ✓ May to August

Bats offer us great services;
they are important wildlife

bcbats.ca



<http://handlensandbinoculars.blogspot.com/2010/06/just-pup.html>



Females only have 1
pup per year!



Fears and misunderstanding

Myth 2: Bats attack humans



Isn't it true that bats attack people? Granny says that bats pull your eyes out!



Hahahaha! Where did that come from? I'm ten times smaller than you and I don't even go to a gym!



In fact, we're just as scared of you as you are of us! That's why we live on trees and in crevices.

Published By: Bat Conservation India Trust



Fears and misunderstanding

**RABIES
WARNING**

<1%



<https://archive.mtheadlines.com/2018/07/02/more-bats-testing-positive-for-rabies-in-michigan/>



Bat poop - aka guano

<https://exoticwindsandspicyfreedom.wordpress.com/2013/02/02/lopburi-by-motorbike/>



www.villagecatclinic.ca



Alberta Community Bat Program

M.Henson

bcbats.ca



Guano management

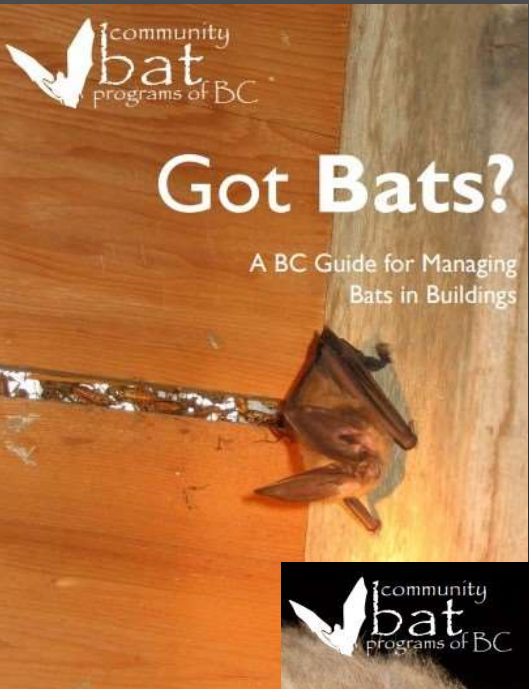
External roosts

- ✓ Maintenance level dependent on colony size
- ✓ Intercept with ledge / plant
- ✓ Sweep or wash away
- ✓ Low cost
- ✓ Minimal effort

Internal roosts

- ✓ Design a plan for collection, removal and deposit
- ✓ Install measures
- ✓ Few hours once measures in place
- ✓ Conduct work October - March
- ✓ Need safety equipment
- ✓ ~\$1000 when contracted





Got Bats?

7 Steps to Excluding Bats in Buildings

phone: 855-922-2287
email: info@bcbats.ca

1 Know the Bat Basics

- Bats are an ecologically & economically valuable group of species and are protected from harm by the BC Wildlife Act.
- Bats can only be evicted in the appropriate season in a safe and sensitive manner.

2 Assess the situation

- Where are bats roosting?** The figure at right shows all the places bats could enter into or use in a house.
- Is this a night roost?** Night roosts are places that bats use temporarily during the night to rest between feeding bouts and include covered patios, door ways, and carports. Bats are rarely seen but droppings are observed in the morning.
- Is bat eviction necessary?** There's no reason to evict them if there is little chance for contact with people.

Based on original drawing by Dr. Stephen C. France

3 Protect human living space

- Prevent guano and bats entering inside the human living quarters by sealing spaces in floor joists and other entry points between roost and human living spaces.

4 Identify entry and exit points

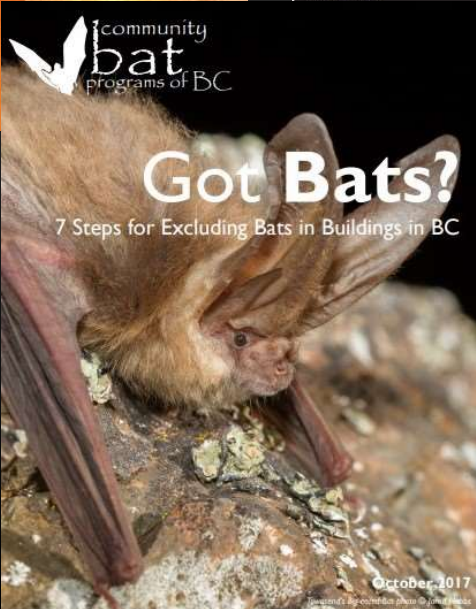
- Look for telltale signs of bat entry. These could include brown stains on walls where they squeeze in or accumulated guano below the entry point.

Want more information?

Living with Bats in British Columbia

Examples of safe, secure roost sites for bat colonies in buildings

BC Community Bat Program
www.bcbats.ca



Bats are protected
May - Aug

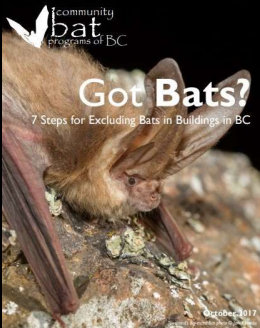
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Mitigate habitat loss

- ✓ Monitor bats before and after
- ✓ Install a bat box
- ✓ Consider a partial exclusion

Bats are creatures of habit
Changing behaviour to prefer buildings



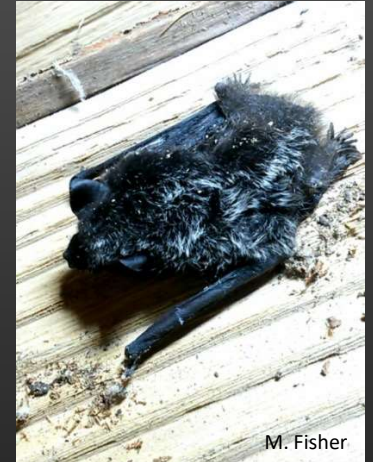


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L. Rensel



Other common roosts



bcbats.ca



Minimize bat encounters

- ✓ Report bat roosts
- ✓ Look for guano
- ✓ Keep doors and windows closed
- ✓ Check screens for holes
- ✓ Keep pets indoors between dusk and dawn
- ✓ Open patio umbrellas and awnings slowly
- ✓ Move wood with care

Protect family and friends

- ✓ Vaccinate pets against rabies
- ✓ Report bat encounters to your vet and Public Health Authority
- ✓ Speak to your children about wildlife and to never handle dead animals
- ✓ Never touch a bat with bare hands
- ✓ Inform neighbours of local bat activity



Protect bats



Bright lights can delay emergence



Slippery surfaces have no grip and can trap bats



Obstacles near bat boxes can injure bats



J. Parfitt

Sticky traps can injure or kill bats

bcbats.ca



J. Craig

05/21/2009

Empty containers can trap and kill bats

14



Water features can cause drowning





bcbats.ca

J. Barrett

15

