



CANADIAN
WILDLIFE HEALTH
COOPERATIVE

GOT BATS?

HERE ARE YOUR OPTIONS:

FOLLOW CWHC



www.cwhc-rcsf.ca



Photo by Jordi Segers

OPTION 1. LET BATS STAY



Bats provide many important services for people, including insect control. However, three bat species that live in Nova Scotia year-round are listed as endangered. So, to protect bats, they can be left in their building roosts whenever possible. How to live with bats:

- Prevent a build-up of guano (bat droppings) by strategically placing plastic sheeting to protect surfaces and disposing of guano on an annual basis.
- Prevent bats from entering the living space by sealing openings with galvanised (steel) wire mesh.

OPTION 2. SAFELY REMOVE BATS

If there is a bat-related human health or structural concern, it may be necessary to remove bats from a building. **To protect human and bat health, call 1-833-434-BATS (2287) to be put in contact with a trained pest control operator and the provincial wildlife division.** How to exclude bats:

Step 1. Identify entry and exit points.

Step 2. Evict bats using one-way exit devices kept in place for a minimum of 5-7 nights. Bat exclusions should only take place from the **beginning of September until the end of April** to prevent killing bats (see adjacent diagram).

Step 3. Seal the roost.



Calendar Legend

1. pups born and in maternity roost
2. pups are able to fly
3. bats begin to move to hibernation site
4. bats hibernate
5. pregnant female bats begin to move to maternity roost
6. pregnant female bats in maternity roost

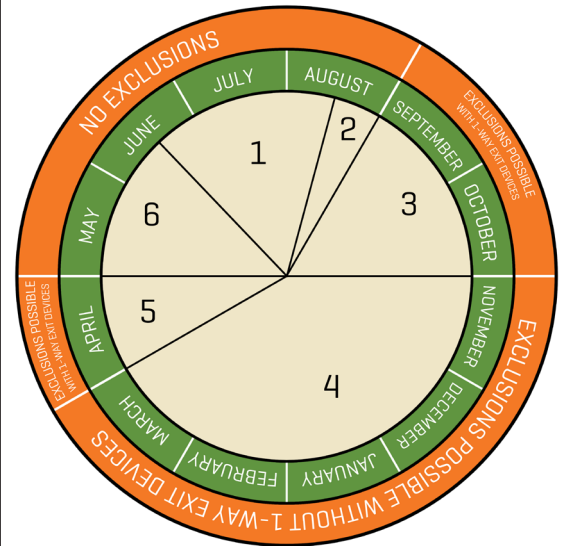


Image adapted from Craig and Sarell 2016

KEY FEATURES OF A BAT HOUSE

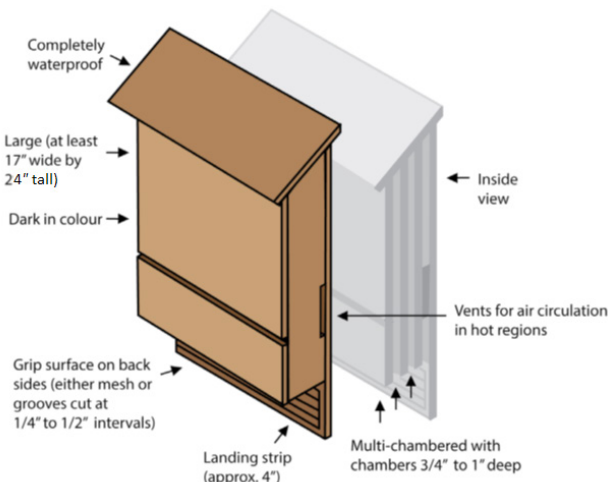


Image from Craig and Sarell 2016

OPTION 3. CREATE BAT HABITAT



Homeowners can encourage bats to roost on their property by making it attractive to bats. Bat-friendly changes include:

- Creating new roosting opportunities by providing safe bat houses.
- Enriching bat habitat by keeping dead or dying trees and supplying a water source such as a small pond.
- Improving food availability by planting a garden with native plants that attract the insects bats like to eat.

Call 1-833-434-BATS (2287) to report your bat sightings!!

For more detailed information on this subject see:

[HTTP://WWW.CWHC-RCSF.CA/WNS_RESOURCES.PHP](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/wns_resources.php)