



CANADIAN
WILDLIFE HEALTH
COOPERATIVE

BATS ASTRAY

CREATING A WORLD
THAT IS SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE
FOR WILDLIFE AND SOCIETY

PLEASE Don't Take Bats With You!

- Bats sometimes roost on campers, trailers, or transport containers. Bats have been found in awnings, and up inside umbrellas too!
- If those bats aren't discovered and removed before campers and trucks leave, the bats could be accidentally taken to other areas of the province or even right across the country!
- Bats that are accidentally taken to new areas may not be able to find safe roost sites or places to hibernate. They may not survive their move.

About BATS

- Bats are protected wildlife, and it is illegal to kill or harm them or to keep them in captivity.
- Bats provide valuable pest control by eating millions of insects (like those pesky mosquitos!).
- 17 bat species are native to Canada – all are insect-eaters.
- Three of Canada's bat species are listed as Endangered under the federal Species at Risk Act.

WHITE-NOSE Syndrome

- A disease of bats caused by a fungus that grows on the bats while they are hibernating during the winter.
- White-nose syndrome only affects bats - not people, pets or other animals.
- White-nose syndrome was first detected in 2006 in New York State, and has since spread across eastern North America, killing millions of bats.





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How You Can HELP

Before You Leave

- Inspect the outside of your camper, trailer or tent and the inside of transport containers before you leave to make sure no bats are roosting there.
- Check the underside of your umbrella packing it away, and check your awnings before rolling them up.
- If possible, inspect your awnings and umbrellas and close or pack them up before you go to bed.

When You Arrive

- Carefully inspect awnings, umbrellas and trailers as you open them and check inside transport containers for stowaway bats.
- If you find a bat, report it to local wildlife (conservation) officers and if possible, carefully contain the bat.

As You Pack Up If you see a bat on the outside of your camper, in an awning, umbrella, or shipping container:

- Keep an eye on the bat, and keep children and pets away from it. Like most wildlife, bats will bite if they are handled.
- The bat will probably leave on its own. Make sure the bat has left before you drive away.
- Do not fold your umbrella or retract your awning if a bat is present there as this may injure the bat.
- If the bat does not leave on its own, carefully and gently nudge the bat with a broom (or similar) to remove it from your camper or umbrella.
- If the bat does not fly away, place it on a tree or shrub, high enough that children and pets cannot reach it.

Remember, never touch a bat with your bare hands. Use a thick towel, oven mitts or a leather glove to remove a bat, or GENTLY nudge the bat into a container using a whisk broom.

For More INFORMATION On Bats

- [Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative](#)
- Neighbourhood Bat Watch [English](#) & [French](#)
- [Community Bat Programs of BC](#)
- [Alberta Community Bat Program](#)
- [White-nose syndrome](#)
- [Bat Conservation International](#)
- Report any sick/dead animals to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative. Find your closest regional centre [HERE](#).

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