



What to do when you find a bat in your home and how to bat proof your home.

Carefully examine your home for holes that might allow bats entry into your living quarters. Any openings larger than a quarter- inch by a half-inch should be caulked. Use window screens, chimney caps, and draft-guards beneath doors to attics, fill electrical and plumbing holes with stainless steel wool or caulking, and ensure that all doors to the outside close tightly.

Additional “bat-proofing” can prevent bats from roosting in attics or buildings by covering outside entry points. Observe where the bats exit at dusk and exclude them by loosely hanging clear plastic sheeting or bird netting over these areas. Bats can crawl out and leave, but can not re-enter. After the bats have been excluded, the openings can be permanently sealed.

Common Bat Entry Points:

- Under or through open doors
- Under siding
- Under loose easements
- Under loose shingles
- Down the Chimney
- Openings around the Chimney
- Through Vents
- Through open or unsecured Windows

Things to remember when bat-proofing your home.

During summer, many young bats are unable to fly. If you exclude adult bats during this time, the young may be trapped inside and die or make their way into living quarters. Thus, if possible, avoid exclusion from May through August.

Most bats leave in the fall or winter to hibernate, so these are the best times to “bat-proof your home.

Bat Facts

- Bats live in Illinois

- They are most active at night and during the early fall months (August-October)
- Bats can carry rabies and are able to transmit the virus to humans.
- There have been recent cases of rabid bats in DuPage County and surrounding Counties
- People cannot get rabies from having contact with bat quano (feces), blood, or urine, from touching a bat on its fur or seeing a bat in an attic, in a cave or from a distance.

Bat Exposures

No Exposure:

People cannot get rabies from having contact with bat feces, blood, or urine from touching a bat on its fur or seeing a bat in an attic, in a cave, or from a distances.

Direct Exposure:

If you are bitten by a bat - - or if infectious material (such as saliva) from a bat gets into your eyes, nose, mouth, or a wound - - wash the affected area thoroughly and get medical advice immediately. Whenever possible, the bat should be captured and sent to a laboratory for rabies testing.

Possible Exposures:

Certain situations involving bats may require medical treatment or testing of the bat. People usually know when a bat has bitten them. However, because bats have small teeth, which may leave marks that are not easily seen, there are situations in which medical advice should be sought or the bat tested for rabies even in the absence of an obvious bite wound. These situations include:

- Waking up to find a bat in your room or the room of a family member who was asleep.
- Sighting a bat near a mentally impaired or intoxicated person.
- Sighting a bat in the room of an unattended child.
- Sighting a bat in the room of someone who cannot communicate whether or not they had direct contact with the bat.
- If your dog or cats has caught Bats and was eating the bat you will be unable to tell if your animal was bitten, the bat should be captured and tested.

In general bats should not be handled. However with the right equipment and patience it can be done. If the bat is hanging on a wall, curtain, ceiling, etc. Grab the bat, while wearing thick leather gloves and placed the bat in a coffee can or other container with a lid. Bats can be caught using a small net.

Bats that are found in living quarters should not be hit with a tennis racket, stomped on, or shot with any thing, since this can cause damage to the bats head, therefore possibly making the bat unable to be tested for rabies.

If you are unsure whether you should seek medical treatment or have the bat tested, contact your local health department, health care provider, or hospital.

If you find a bat in the living quarters or during the above situation it is appropriate to call 9-1-1 to have a Police Officer or Animal Control Officer dispatched to your home. It is also appropriate to call the DuPage County Animal Control Department for rabies testing of the bat at 630-407-2800.



City of Warrenville
Ordinance Number 2419
Title 6, Chapter 3

ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6, CHAPTER 3 OF THE CITY CODE WITH
RESPECT TO RODENT AND BAT INFESTATION

Structures and exterior property shall be kept free from rodent and bat infestation. Where rats are found, they shall be promptly exterminated by approved processes which will not be injuries to human health. Where bats are found, every effort shall be made to humanely trap and remove the bats from the premises. After extermination and removal, proper precautions shall be taken to prevent reinfestation.

Infestations: All structures shall be kept free from insects, rodent and bat infestations.

The owner of any structure shall be responsible for the extermination and/or removal within the structure prior to renting or leasing a structure.

The occupant of any single occupancy structure containing a single dwelling unit or a single nonresidential structure shall be responsible for extermination/removal on the premises.

The owner of a multiple occupancy structure consisting of two or more dwelling units, multiple occupancy, a rooming house or a non residential structure shall be responsible for the removal and extermination of rodents and bats.

The occupant of any rodent or bat-proof structure shall be responsible for the structure to continue to remain free of rodents, insects and bats, and if the occupant fails to maintain said condition, the cost of the extermination and removal shall be the responsibility of the occupant.

A full copy of Ordinance 2419 can be obtain by calling the City of Warrenville or by the City website at www.warrenville.il.us