



Brazilian Free-Tailed Bats

South Carolina has 14 different bat species - 9 are known to roost in colonies; 5 generally roost singly in trees.

- Bats are the **only mammals capable of sustained flight**, and can fly up to 100 mph and as high as 10,000 feet!
- They break rules on longevity: Little Brown Bats can live for **30 years** or more, while most small rodents the same size only live around 1.5 years.
- **Less than 1% of natural bat populations are known to carry rabies.** BUT, people are more likely to contract rabies from bats because they pick them up more often than a rabid raccoon or cat.
- Bats in our state can consume **15 mosquitoes in 60 seconds.**
- Common bats in SC buildings are Big Brown Bats, Evening Bats, Brazilian Free-tailed Bats, and sometimes Little Brown Bats. Learn more at: <http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/bats/index.html>

Excluding Bats from Buildings

If bats are causing a problem, you can remove them safely and humanely through exclusion devices. The best time of year to exclude bats is in the early spring (March-April) or in the fall (August-October). We recommend you do not attempt to exclude bats in May through mid-July or August, because exclusion will result in flightless young (called pups) trapped within the structure.

For the **SCDNR Bats in Buildings** document:

<http://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/publications/nuisance/SCbatsinbldgs.pdf>

List of **Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators:**

<https://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/bats/wcc.html>

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Kindel

SCDNR Wildlife Biologist

Email: Kindelj@dnr.sc.gov

Phone: (864) 419-0739



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BAT CONSERVATION

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Bats are an integral part of South Carolina's ecosystem and economy, and need your help.



Bats Are Beneficial

- A study in 2011 (Boyles et al.) showed bats provide an annual pest suppression service to South Carolina's agricultural industry equal to \$115 million. Nationwide, that service is \$22.9 billion.
- With the use of less pesticides, bats help reduce the impact of chemicals on many other wildlife species that call South Carolina home.

Bats Are In Trouble

- White-nose Syndrome has killed over 6 million bats since 2006, causing significant local extinctions.
- Due to this, bats are being listed under the ESA.

What Can You Do To Help?

- Don't disturb bats in winter when they're hibernating.
- Decontaminate gear after entering caves and mines the rest of the year.
- Provide habitat and multi-chamber bat boxes.
- Educate others, volunteer or donate to bat organizations.



Big Brown



Brazilian Free-tailed



Little Brown



Northern Long-eared



Eastern Red



Eastern Small-footed



Northern Yellow



Rafinesque's Big-eared

We depend on bats. Like secret superheroes, they fly at night to suppress forest and agricultural pests while we sleep.



Seminole



Silver-haired



Evening



Hoary

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Southeastern



Tri-colored

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For more details on SC bats, see the

South Carolina Bat Conservation Plan:

<https://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/bats/batconsplan.html>

For information on Gear Decontamination:
www.whitenosesyndrome.org

To learn more about Bat Boxes, see:
<https://www.batcon.org/about-bats/bat-gardens-houses/> and
<https://www.merlintuttle.org/selecting-a-quality-bat-house/>