



BATS IN THE ATTIC

If you ever come across an unwelcome guest in the form of a bat, here is what you can do:

- Trap the bat in a room in the house and open the window. The bat will hopefully find its way out.
- Call a bat removal expert (for a list of places, go to <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/batcoop.asp> or contact the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at 1-877-620-8DNR (8367) (Weekdays 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.). Second Chance does NOT do bat removal.)
- Put on thick gloves and wait till the bat has landed on a wall. Then put a bowl over the bat and slide a piece of cardboard under the bat. Take it outside and release it.



NOTE: It is important that no contact occur between the bat and the people and pets inside the house. If there has been contact, please notify your local health agency or animal control.

If you suspect you have a colony of bats, contact the DNR for advice and/or go to <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/batsinhome.html#col> for suggestions.

Bat Facts and Trivia

(Source: *Bat Conservation International*: <http://www.batcon.org/>)

- The world's smallest mammal is the bumblebee bat of Thailand, weighing less than a penny.
- Giant flying foxes that live in Indonesia have wingspans of nearly six feet.
- The common little brown bat of North America is the world's longest lived mammal for its size, with life-spans sometimes exceeding 32 years.
- Mexican free-tailed bats sometimes fly up to two miles high to feed or to catch tail-winds that carry them over long distances at speeds of more than 60 miles per hour.
- More than 1,100 species of bats account for almost a quarter of all mammal species, and most are highly beneficial.
- A single little brown bat can catch 1,200 mosquito-sized insects in just one hour.
- More than 50% of American bat species are in severe decline or already listed as endangered. Losses are occurring at alarming rates worldwide

