

What if bats are roosting under your eaves during the nighttime hours?

Then you have a night roost where bats hang to rest and/or hang to pull inedible parts off of insects before eating them. Discouraging bats from roosting at night is easy; plug in electronic bat repellents on each side of your house, pointed up toward the eaves where bats can roost. These devices are available from your local hardware store and are guaranteed to work.



For more information,
please contact:

Forest Service Wildlife Biologist
at (928) 203-7507

or

Arizona Game and Fish
at (928) 942-3000

Got Bats?



Guidelines for Proper Exclusion



Special thanks to Bat Conservation International for
guidelines and information.

Homeowners might hear bats rattling in the rafters during the day. If you have a day roost of mothers and pups, you need to follow specific steps and timelines when excluding bats in order to prevent unnecessary mortality.

One thing you should know about bats: It is illegal to kill certain species.

- Protecting bats is crucial because they are an important part of the food chain. Without bats, insect populations would explode.
- Whether or not you appreciate bats' role in controlling insects, one thing is true: bats have the lowest reproductive rates of all mammals and therefore are the most at-risk for declining populations.
- In Arizona it is illegal to kill bats; and if bats get into your attic, it's important to know that killing them is not a permanent solution. The only effective way to remove bats from a home is to remove access to the area the bats are living in. This can be done by following the subsequent advice or calling in a *qualified* expert to help.
- The process of removing bats from the attics of homes is called "exclusion". This involves blocking the opening through which bats entered the home and installing a device that allows the bats to exit, but not re-enter. Exclusions need to be conducted a certain way in order to prevent the inadvertent killing of bats during the spring and summer months.
- Bats mate in the fall, hibernate during winter and give birth in the spring. The young bats, called pups, are not capable of flying for the first few months of their life. So if there are pups in the attic and the mothers are excluded, the pups are left to die.

In other words, even if you humanely - and legally - exclude adult bats from your home, you must take care not to kill pups in the process.

Follow these guidelines for proper exclusion:

Proper Exclusion of Day Roosting Bats

Step 1:

Hang a bat box on or near your house early in the summer. This allows bats time before the eviction date (in the fall) to explore and find the alternate roost.



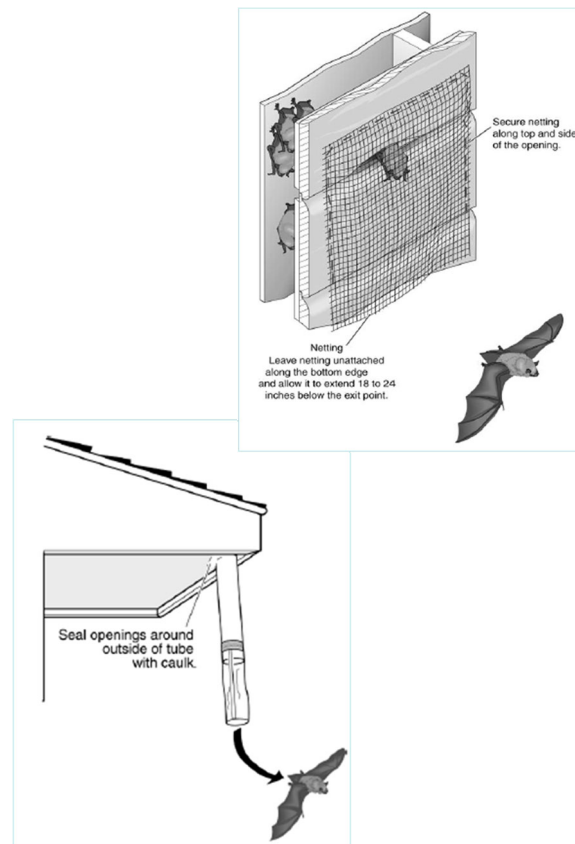
Step 2:

Inspect your house for openings 1/2 inch or greater in diameter.



Step 3:

In **September** (not before), install tubes or flaps to allow exit but prevent entry.



For more detailed instructions, check out this site:
http://www.batcon.org/pdfs/education/fof_ug.pdf

Suitable Artificial Bat Houses

1. Minimum size of 2 ft X 2 ft.
2. Air tight, caulked seams, painted dark to be a solar collector, vented along lower 2/3 for fresh air, surfaces roughened, crevices between 3/4 and 1 1/2 inches wide.
3. Placement 10' above ground, facing south, near but not shaded by trees.



Check out this website for bat house specifications:

<http://www.batcon.org/index.php/get-involved/install-a-bat-house.html>