



# GOT BATS? HERE ARE YOUR OPTIONS:

## OPTION 1. LET BATS STAY



Bats provide many important services for people, including insect control. However, both regularly-occurring bat species in Prince Edward Island are listed as endangered. So, to protect bats, they should be left in their building roosts whenever possible. How to live with bats:

- Prevent a build-up of guano (bat droppings) by strategically placing plastic sheeting to protect surfaces and assist in guano collection for annual disposal.
- Prevent bats from entering the living space by sealing openings with galvanised (steel) wire mesh.



Photo by Jordi Segers

### EXCLUSION GUIDELINES FOR BATS

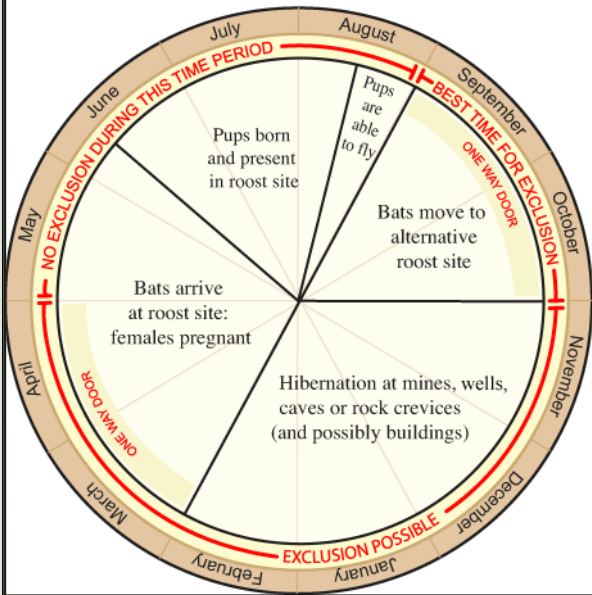


Image adapted from Craig and Sarell 2016

## OPTION 2. SAFELY REMOVE BATS



If there is a bat-related human health or structural concern, it may be necessary to remove bats from a building. **To protect human and bat health, call 1-833-434-BATS (2287) to be put in contact with an appropriately trained pest control operator and the local wildlife division.** How to exclude bats:

**Step 1.** Identify entry and exit points by watching where bats leave the structure just after sunset.

**Step 2.** Evict bats using one-way exit devices kept in place for a minimum of 5-7 nights. Bat exclusions should only take place from the beginning of September until the end of April to prevent killing bats (see adjacent diagram).

**Step 3.** Seal the roost. Remove the exit devices and seal all entry and exit points using galvanised (steel) wire mesh.

## OPTION 3. CREATE BAT HABITAT



Homeowners can encourage bats to roost on their property by making it attractive to bats. Bat-friendly changes include:

- Creating new roosting opportunities by providing bat houses.
- Enriching bat habitat by keeping dead or dying trees and supplying a water source such as a small pond.
- Improving food availability by planting a garden with native plants that attract the insects bats like to eat.

**Call 1-833-434-BATS (2287) to report your bat sightings!!**

For more detailed information on this subject see:  
[http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/wns\\_resources.php](http://www.cwhc-rcsf.ca/wns_resources.php)

### KEY FEATURES OF A BAT HOUSE

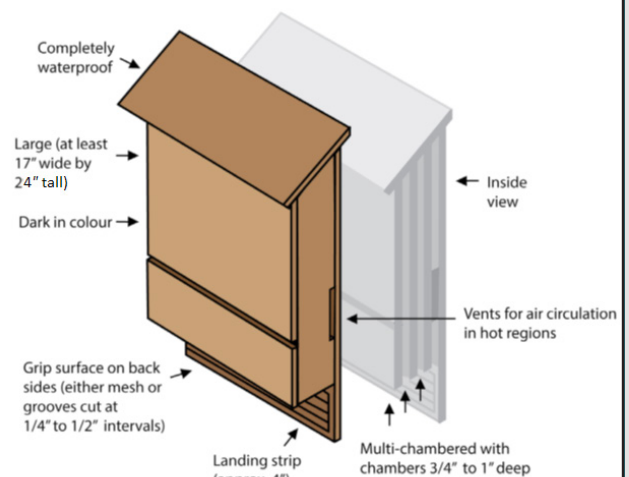


Image from Craig and Sarell 2016