

Brazilian Free-Tailed Bats

South Carolina has 15 different bat species - 10 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:

<https://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:

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MERLIN TUTTLE'S
BAT CONSERVATION

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



**BATS OF
SOUTH CAROLINA**



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



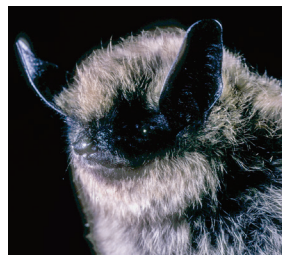
Little Brown



Northern Long-eared



Eastern Red



Eastern Small-footed



Northern Yellow



Rafinesque's Big-eared



Gray

**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



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](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/>