

# Be Smart About Bats: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

Keep your community, family and pets safe from rabies.  
Notify LCHD if you find or have contact with a bat.

## The Good

- Some bats can eat up to 600 insects in an hour, including mosquitoes, damaging moths, beetles, and grasshoppers. Bats in tropical regions also help spread seeds and pollinate certain plants, helping keep forests growing and trees producing fruit.



## The Bad

- Bats can often find their way into chimneys, gutters and basements.
- Exclude bats by covering chimneys, attics and vents with half-inch hardware cloth screens and by installing draft guards beneath doors, windows and plumbing.

## The Ugly

- **In Lake County, bats are the only animals that have tested positive for rabies in over ten years.** Rabies is a highly infectious and fatal viral disease that affects the nervous system of humans and other mammals.
- **Never touch a bat, including those lying on the ground.** They may not be dead, just ill, and could bite.
- **Bats, like any wild animal, should be left alone and should never be held barehanded.** Always stay away from stray and wild animals.



- **Always vaccinate pet dogs and cats according to the law.**
- **If you notice a bat acting in an unusual manner, such as flying in daylight or lying on the ground or in your home, call (847) 949-9925.**
- If the bat is inside your house, do not chase it away because it may be needed for rabies testing. Close the doors and keep people away from the room where the bat is located.

Remember to be smart about bats and help  
keep your community, family and pets safe  
from rabies.

