

Bat Sign, Identify Damage and Conflict Prevention



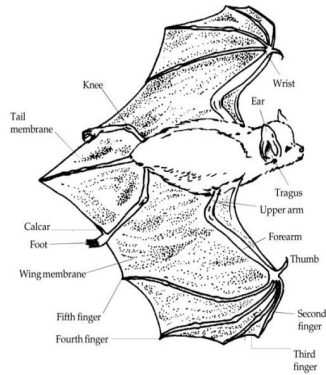
Free-tailed bat Photo UDWR



Pallid bat Photo by Daniel Day, UDWR



Brown bat Photo UDWR

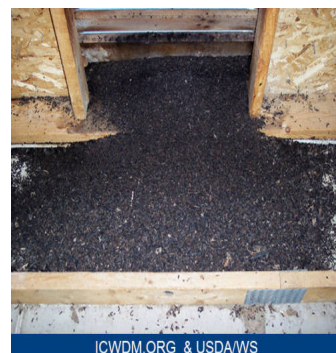
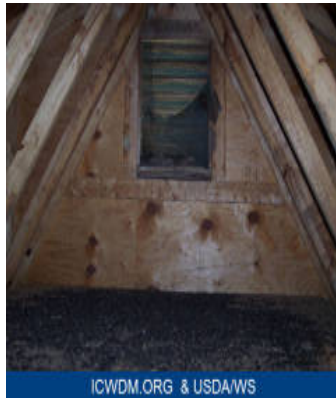


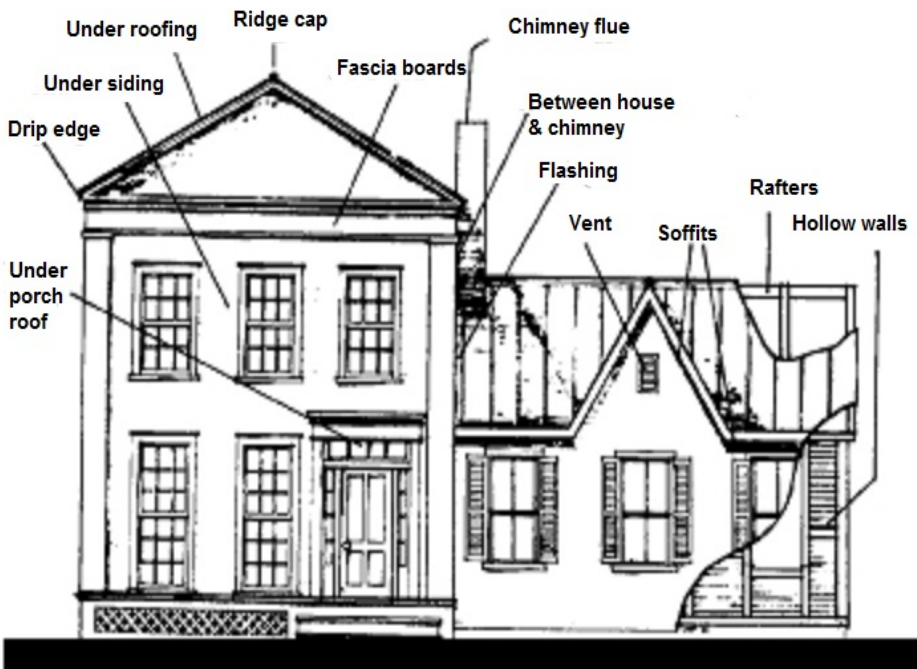
Silver bat Photo UDWR



Big eared bat Photo UDWR

Scat (Guano):





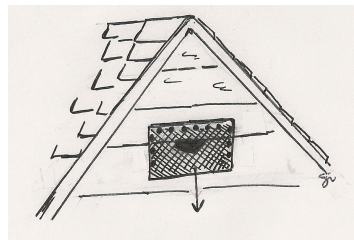
ICWDM



Install a chimney cap



Bats roosting in a home



Avoiding Conflicts:

Do not seal cracks and holes in attics and rooflines during the breeding season, late May through September, doing so could result in leaving babies to die inside the property. Fall is the best time to seal these opening when bats are vacating roosts.

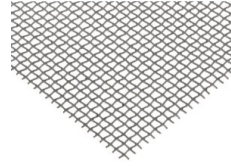
When possible, provide bats with alternative roosting sites by installing a bat house near your property.

BEFORE SEALING CRACKS: Bird netting is placed over the hole, and stapled tight along the top edge and down both sides. The bottom is left open. When the bats leave they hit the netting and crawl down the siding and out the open bottom. When they return they are unable to fly back up under the netting, and cannot return to their roost. **Leave this in place for at least 5-7 days to ensure that all the bats have left.** (USU Cooperative Extension)

Temporary Roosts. Bats will sometimes temporarily roost on porches and patios, in garages, and behind shutters, shingles, and roof gutters. Roosting behind shutters may also be long-term in duration. Actual control measures may not be necessary unless bat droppings become a problem or the risk of human contact is significant. Coarse fiberglass batting tacked to the surfaces where bats prefer to hang sometimes discourages them. A potentially useful intervention for the wall-ceiling interface is the application of a wide 45° molding strip to eliminate the 90° angle corner and force the bats to roost in a more exposed area. (Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management Arthur M. Greenhall Research Associate, Stephen C. Frantz Vertebrate Vector Specialist). Balloons or CD's hung from the porch ceiling may disturb the bats enough to keep them from reusing the site for roosting.



Bat entry in roof sealed with Todal foam



Wire hardware cloth

Most bats in Utah vacate their roosts in the fall. That is the best time to patch holes and block access points. A variety of materials, such as caulk and self-expanding foam sealant, can be sprayed on urine soaked areas. Rubber, fiberglass, or steel wool can be used to close any openings. Metal screening, small mesh (<1/4 in. diameter) wire hardware cloth, or tar paper can be tacked over larger holes. (USU Cooperative Extension)

Repellants:

There are no effective repellants to stop bats from roosting.

Handling bats: Never attempt to touch bats with your bare hands. If a person or pet is bitten by a bat, they should get medical treatment immediately. The wound should be washed with soap and water, and your doctor and the health department should be contacted. Rabies occurs in less than 1% of bats but if contracted and not treated, can be fatal. For that reason, any bat that behaves strangely (e.g., active during the day), or can be easily caught, must be suspected of being rabid and should be avoided. (USU Cooperative Extension)

Pets and Bats: Occasionally pets catch bats. For this reason, keeping pets vaccinated against rabies reduces the risk to humans. (USU Cooperative Extension)



USFS

Alternate roosts: Bat Houses

Providing bats with alternative roosts can encourage them to remain in the area and reduce their mortality when they are excluded. Potential roost sites may include hollow trees and unused barns or out-buildings, providing the roofs are intact and large openings are closed to provide additional protection from inclement weather. In addition, bat houses can be constructed and placed around the property. Ideally, alternative roosts should be prepared before the bats are excluded from the original site. (USU Cooperative Extension)

For Bat House plans visit Bat Conservation International

<http://www.batcon.org/index.php/get-involved/install-a-bat-house/subcategory/617.html>



LEGAL STATUS All bat species are protected by Utah law. It is illegal to intentionally kill bats. Additional Federal protection is extended to bat species on the Endangered Species List.

How to safely remove a bat flying around inside your home:



Do not swat at a flying bat. Wait for it to land.



ALWAYS wear gloves!



Open a door or window and turn off the lights inside. Turn on a porch light outside. Leave the room and allow the bat to leave on its own.



Use a towel to place over the bat once it lands on something low to the ground. If the bat is on a curtain or wall, use a small bucket or coffee can and place it over the bat, then slide a stiff piece of cardboard between the can and the wall, trapping the bat inside the can.



Take the bat outside, some distance from your home, and place it on a high area so predators cannot get to it. Do not leave the bat in the container; it will have difficulty crawling out. If it is in a towel, loosen the towel so it can crawl out.



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