

# Be a Bat Expert in Your Own Neighborhood



Bats live in all kinds of places in North America—cities, suburbs, and rural areas. Chances are, you have bats living right in your neighborhood. Follow these easy steps and you can become an expert on your local bats. Make a real difference in conservation by getting started today!

## LEARN

There are 45 species of bats in North America but not all live everywhere. Do some research online to find out: What kinds of bats live in your state? Do they live there all year or do they move with the seasons? What do they eat and what kinds of habitats do they live in? What threats do your neighborhood bats face—predators and general environmental threats, such as White-nose Syndrome?

## CONNECT

Reach out to others in your local community who care about bats. Professionals to look for include: representatives from your state government agencies such as the Department of Natural Resources or local city government, conservation organizations and university researchers or professors. Find out what they think about bats in your area and learn about their role in working with bats. Contact your local nature center, state park, or national forest to find out what they are doing for bats and how you can become involved.

## ACT

Armed with your new knowledge, look for ways you can share what you know with others or take on a local conservation project. Create a presentation and give a talk at your library or make flyers to hand out at a community event. Talk to local schools or parks about installing bat-friendly gardens and bat houses to give bats healthy places to eat and roost. Need help? Visit [www.batconservation.org](http://www.batconservation.org) for tips on creating healthy habitats for bats.

## DO

Build a bat house with your family and mount it in your backyard or neighborhood park. Plant a flower garden for wildlife with friends at your school. Help with grocery shopping and encourage your parents to purchase organically grown food. Or, study science in school and one day become a conservation biologist!



For more information about bats, visit [www.batconservation.org](http://www.batconservation.org) and [www.fs.fed.us/global](http://www.fs.fed.us/global)



ORGANIZATION FOR  
BAT CONSERVATION  
#SAVETHEBATS