



Bat Education



What to do if you find a bat in a dwelling:

1. Find a small container, plastic butter tub, coffee can and a piece of rigid cardboard large enough to cover the opening of the container. Punch small air holes in the cardboard.
2. Put on leather work gloves. When the bat lands, approach it slowly and place the container over it like a dome. Slide the cardboard under the container to trap the bat inside the container.
3. If you are **certain** there has been no contact between the bat and any people or pets, carefully hold the cardboard over the container and take the bat outdoors and release it away from people and pets.

For an example of bat capture, you may watch this video.

<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnAnimalControl/videos/2448249498732716/>

If there is any question about contact between the bat and people or pets, you want to save the bat for testing. Tape the cardboard to the container, securing the bat inside and then contact your health department/animal control division (402-441-7900) to have the bat tested for rabies.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department and the Nebraska Rabies Control Program defines the following as high risk forms of exposure to a potentially rabid animal.

1. The animal has bitten.
2. If infectious materials such as saliva gets into the eyes, nose, mouth or wound.
3. If one awakens and finds a bat in their room.
4. If the bat is seen in a room of an unattended child.
5. If the bat is seen near a mentally impaired child or intoxicated person.
6. If you step on a bat barefooted or the bat collides with you.