



It's Bat Season

It's bat season! With all the recent warm weather, bats are out of hibernation and flying the night skies once again. Colonies are showing up at their summer roosts, too...including the [Bat Cam](#) bats!

This is a friendly reminder to follow [NJ's Guidelines and "safe dates" for bat exclusion](#) (updated March 2016) as you go about your work. Exclusion/eviction should NOT be done during the sensitive months of May, June, or July, when maternity colonies are active and flightless young bats could become trapped inside the building.

So, please schedule your upcoming bat exclusion jobs for August, September, or the first half of October. As the guidelines explain, some preparation work *can* be done sooner, as long as the bats and their main entry/exit points to the outdoors are not disturbed. If a homeowner is unhappy about waiting, you can explain to them that the guidelines protect bats *and* people by insuring that an exclusion is done *effectively*. When you follow the guidelines and the "safe dates," young bats will not become trapped, and mother bats will not struggle to find another way into the building to reach their pups. Doing an exclusion at the *wrong* time is more likely to result in bats getting into the homeowner's living space than if they simply wait until August, in synch with the bats' natural patterns.

Truly urgent cases can be discussed with me to possibly grant an exception. You can always reach out to me with questions about the guidelines or to talk about those trickier jobs. For health-related concerns, clients should be directed to their [local health department](#).

You can find lots of great info about bat biology & behavior, the exclusion process, and FREE bat houses for eviction sites at the Conserve Wildlife Foundation's [Bats in Buildings webpage](#) and at Rutgers University's [Bat Conservation webpage](#). Attached are postcards (from CWF) that you can give to clients who want to learn more about bats.

Again: **we have FREE bat houses!** Stephanie at the Conserve Wildlife Foundation, and Brooke at Rutgers University both have bat houses to offer you & your clients on a case-by-case basis. Stephanie & Brooke are copied on this email – just let one of them know when you're ready for a bat house. They can even install it if needed. Bat houses are a great way for homeowners to keep bats around for **bug control** (and evening entertainment, perhaps).



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