

Bats Are Dying

Bats are dying in unprecedented numbers in the eastern United States from White Nose Syndrome (WNS), a fatal condition associated with exposure to a fungus (*Geomyces destructans*). Although humans aren't susceptible, they can potentially spread the fungus between caves, mines, and other bat roost sites. We are asking for your help to prevent this fungus from infecting bat roosts in western North America.

Until we know more, please take the following precautions to avoid the risk of spreading this devastating fungus.



Please avoid entering caves, mines, or other potential structures where bats roost.



If you enter, do not take ANY item - gear, clothing, boots, etc., that has been used in eastern caves or other potential bat roosts into western caves, mines, or other potential bat roosts.



Please ensure ALL items used in western caves or other roosts structures have been cleaned and disinfected between entering different caves/roosts in the west. Soaking equipment for at least 10 minutes in a 10% bleach solution, Lysol all-purpose professional cleaner, or Formula 409 is recommended. Electronics can be treated with 70% alcohol.

Help us protect bat species in the west.

For more information please visit the web sites of the Western Bat Working Group, National Speleological Society, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service North Eastern Region.