



## MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Your public health team, connecting with our communities to achieve healthier outcomes

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### **Bat in your home? Call Health Department for guidance**

Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns~ So, you have a bat in your house.... now what?

First of all, if you are bitten by a bat, contact your doctor right away to see if medical treatment is necessary. Your doctor will then contact the Mid-Michigan District Health Department to determine if the bat should be tested for rabies.

If a bite does occur; or if a bat is found near a sleeping person, an unattended child, or a mentally impaired or intoxicated person; it should be captured because it may need to be tested for rabies.

Once you have captured the bat, contact the Mid-Michigan District Health Department at 989-227-3111 in Clinton County, 989-875-1019 in Gratiot County, or 989-831-3615 in Montcalm County to find out if the bat needs to be tested. Not all bats need to be tested. Communicable Disease nurses at the Health Department will assess your risk and determine if the bat needs to be tested. The Health Department asks residents to call before bringing bats to their office.

Capturing a bat isn't as difficult as you may think. To see a video demonstration on safe bat capture, visit [www.mmdhd.org](http://www.mmdhd.org).

Bats, skunks, foxes, and unvaccinated cats and dogs are all likely rabies carriers. To help protect yourself and loved ones from rabies, avoid approaching or touching any wild or stray animal. And remember, if you are bitten by a bat or other wild or stray animal, contact your health care provider.

*Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.*

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