

# Bat Houses



## Why are bats important?

Bats are fascinating creatures, and very important as well. They are natural bug exterminators, gobbling up mosquitoes, blackflies and other irritating insects that bite humans. Sadly, the bats of North America are greatly threatened by White Nose Syndrome, a fungus that grows on their noses while they hibernate during the winter months suffocating them in their sleep.

## What can I do to help?

Giving bats a safe, cozy place to live is a great way to help them live healthy, full lives, and has the added bonus of keeping the mosquitoes out of your yard. Installing a bat house on your property is the best way to jump-start this symbiotic relationship.

## Where can I get a bat house?

You can buy bat boxes from websites like <http://www.urbannaturestore.ca/wild-birding/other-wildlife/bats-bat-houses/?gclid=CPHRgZXmwsYCFQiNaQodJZIHdw>. They range from \$36.00 to \$160.00.



## Or you can make your own!

There are plenty of online resources that teach you how to build a bat box. You can watch YouTube videos and download plans. For more information about bats, and for some really great plans to help you build your own house, visit <http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/Build-a-Bat-House.aspx>

## Crafty ideas...

These bat houses are definitely working!

