

Spring is the time of year when normally shy creatures, hungry after the long winter, range far and wide in search of food.



This is why spring is the most likely time for unwanted house calls from bats. If you discover a bat in your living space, the University recommends the following actions.

If you encounter a bat Indoors on campus....

- ***Avoid direct contact with the bat and call the Public Safety non-emergency number: 609-258-1000.***
- ***Do not try to capture or kill the bat.***
- ***Do not release a bat found in a building until it has been confirmed through Public Safety that no exposure has occurred.***

Bites, Scratches & Other Exposures

The major concern with bats is the chance for an exposure to occur through a bite or scratch. Animal bites can result in infections, including tetanus and rabies. **Direct exposure** to a bat is defined by the University as:

- Awakening to find a bat in the room.
- Witnessing a bat in the room with a previously unattended small child, mentally disabled or intoxicated person.
- A bite (any penetration of the skin by teeth), or saliva or brain/spinal cord tissue introduced into mucous membranes (eyes, mouth), an open wound, abrasion or scratch in the skin from a bat

First Aid

If you have been bitten or scratched by a bat or have been exposed in any manner described above, call the Public Safety emergency line immediately at 609-258-3333.

For exposures that occur during evening and weekend hours, contact the Department of Public Safety and request transport to the Emergency Room at University Medical Center Princeton Plainsboro.

In the event of human exposure, Princeton University makes every effort to capture and test the bat to avoid the necessity of prophylactic measures.