WHAT IF I GET BITTEN OR SCRATCHED?

In the unlikely event that you do get bitten or scratched by a bat, there are three simple steps to follow:

1. Thoroughly wash the wound in running water for at least 5 minutes.
2. Generously apply a good Iodine-based antiseptic like Betadine to the wound.
3. Seek professional medical advice as soon as possible. Tell your doctor what happened. Your doctor will arrange for you to have a series of post-exposure vaccinations free of charge. Remember: do not delay. Effective post-exposure vaccination should occur as soon as possible.

CAN YOU HELP US TO HELP BATS?

There are a number of ways in which you can help. You could become a member of Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld., or you can make a tax deductible donation to Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Unlike other iconic wildlife, we get very little support. Please visit our web site for a wealth of information, membership and donation details and help us make a difference to our misunderstood forest gardeners and little miracle pest controllers.

Donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated!

Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld. Inc.

INFORMATION ABOUT DISEASES IN AUSTRALIAN BATS

The Truth About BATS

STAY SAFE - DO NOT TOUCH BATS

The golden rule is do not touch bats. If you do not touch or handle bats there is nothing to fear from them. Health authorities warn not to handle any bats due to possible infection from the delivery of infected saliva via a bite or scratch. ABLV is a rare reportable zoonotic disease and although routine testing of other wildlife and domestic animals is not performed, to date no cats or dogs have been found to be positive or have antibodies to ABLV. But as a mammal to mammal virus, it is possible. In 2013 a horse tested positive to ABLV. The source was shown to be a Yellow-bellied Sheathtailed bat.

IF YOU DO FIND A BAT IN TROUBLE

Bats get into trouble for all sorts of reasons such as entanglement in barbed wire, in loose fruit netting, vehicle collision and dog and cat attack. Well-meaning people may try to help these animals, and sometimes get bitten or scratched in the process. Simply remove children, bystanders and pets from the situation, call us and monitor the bat from a safe distance until we arrive. Bat Conservation & Rescue Qld (BCRQ) is a volunteer organization. Can you help us to help bats?

REFERENCES


They need somewhere to live in peace. If you cannot catch Hendra (or any other disease) from bats, the fact remains that bats have a right to live in peace. They need somewhere to live in peace, and we need to do the things that are necessary to protect them. The easiest and best option is to learn to live with our batty neighbours. After a while, you will begin to enjoy the benefits of having bats living near you. They are fascinating creatures with a unique way of life. They are important to our ecosystem and have a right to live in peace. The easiest and best option is to learn to live with our batty neighbours. After a while, you will begin to enjoy the benefits of having bats living near you. They are fascinating creatures with a unique way of life. They are important to our ecosystem and have a right to live in peace.