



MAINE HOMEOWNER GUIDE

Bat Exclusion

How bats are removed from a structure without trapping the colony - and why the time of year matters.

Bats are normally resolved through **one-way exclusion**: active exits are fitted so bats can leave, secondary openings are sealed, and final exits are closed after activity has cleared.

1	2	3	4	5
Inspect	Seal gaps	One-way exit	Allow time	Final seal

Why not just seal the hole?

Closing an active exit too soon can trap bats - including flightless young - inside. Maine IF&W; recommends exclusion rather than trapping and relocating bats.

Maine timing

Approx. May 15-Aug. 15: avoid colony exclusion during the maternity period. **June and July:** Maine specifically restricts exclusion from unoccupied buildings. **Mid-Aug.-mid-Oct.:** preferred fall exclusion window. Late fall/winter work requires care because bats may be hibernating.

What Turcotte's does

Inspect accessible areas, identify active exits and secondary gaps, install one-way devices, seal other openings, allow time for bats to leave, then remove devices and complete the final seal and included repairs.

Living-space bat?

If a possible human exposure occurred - bite, scratch, bare-hand contact, waking with a bat in the room, or a bat with a young child/person unable to reliably report contact - do not simply release it. Maine CDC: **1-800-821-5821**.

Removal. Repair. Prevention.
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Sources: Maine IF&W; Bats / Evicting Animals From Buildings; Maine CDC rabies guidance. Educational summary current Sept. 2026. Wildlife laws, seasons and agency guidance can change; site-specific conditions control.