

# Little Brown Bat

*Myotis lucifugus*

## Description

The Little brown bat is the most common bat species in Alberta. While some little brown bats migrate to the Eastern US, many stay in Alberta and hibernate in caves or abandoned mines. During hibernation they spend 5 – 7 months in a deep sleep called torpor in which their metabolic rate and body temperature decrease markedly. This is a way to conserve energy. If bats are woken during hibernation they can run out energy and starve. Bats are an important species in our eco-system eating more than half their weight in insects every night during the summer. Little Brown Bats are susceptible to a disease called White Nose Syndrome which causes fungus to grow on their nose waking up the bats during hibernation. There is no cure for White Nose Syndrome. To prevent the spread of White Nose Syndrome, do not visit non-commercial caves unless accompanied by an expert.

## FUN FACTS



- Little Brown Bats can live up to 34 years and are found in all provinces and territories in Canada except Nunavut.
- Bats use echolocation to hunt and situate themselves. Little Brown Bats are not blind.
- Bats are the only mammals that are capable of true flight.
- Little Brown Bats consume approximately 1000 insects a night.




If you find an injured or orphaned wild animal in distress, please contact the Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society hotline at **403-214-1312** for tips, instructions and advice, or visit the website for more information [www.calgarywildlife.org](http://www.calgarywildlife.org)



## Contact Us

 11555—85th Street NW, Calgary, AB T3R 1J3  
 403-214-1312

 [admin@calgarywildlife.org](mailto:admin@calgarywildlife.org)  
 [calgarywildlife.org](http://calgarywildlife.org)

 @calgarywildlife  
 @calgarywildlife  
 @Calgary\_wildlife