Important Numbers

Jackson County Health Department:
(816) 881-4424

Kansas City Animal Control
(816) 513-9800

Missouri Department of Conservation:
Metro Office: (816) 759-7300

Lakeside Nature Center:
(816) 513-8960

There are many species of bat in Missouri: Big Brown Bat, Little Brown Bat, Gray Bat, Indiana Bat, Small Footed Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Eastern Pipistrelle, Red Bat, Hoary Bat, Evening Bat, Big-eared Bat, and two types of Free-tailed Bats. Vampire bats do not live in Missouri. All bats are beneficial, eating millions of flying insects each night. Bats can also be dangerous as they can carry rabies. Talk to your veterinarian about rabies and have your domestic animals vaccinated against the disease.

Worldwide, bats are major predators of night-flying insects that cost farmers billions of dollars annually. Seed dispersal and pollination by bats are vital to rain forest survival. Studies of bats have contributed to medical advances, including development of navigational aids for the blind. Unfortunately, many bat species are now endangered.

Friends of Lakeside Nature Center
4701 E. Gregory Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64132
(816) 513-8960
Both humans and animals can be affected by the infectious viral disease called rabies. It is a disease transmitted to people or other animals by an infected "rabid" animal, most generally through a bite or scratch and transmitted through saliva.

Animals that can carry rabies are bats, raccoons, skunks, foxes, coyotes and bobcats.

Rabies can only be determined in a laboratory. If you or a pet has been bitten Immediate medical treatment is necessary. If saliva of any animal that may carry rabies comes in contact with eyes, nose, mouth, or an open wound, wash the area thoroughly and get medical attention. Whenever possible the offending animal should be captured and given to the authorities for testing. **DO NOT TOUCH IT!**

Any bat or other animal that may carry rabies found in an unnatural location, acting unnaturally or easily approached, is a suspect animal. Animal Control should be called.

Rabies is a fatal disease. To find out more about Rabies contact the Health Department, Centers for Disease Control or go to www.cdc.gov/neidod/dvrd/rabies

Bats have very small teeth and their bite is not easily felt or seen. Any bat found in a confined area such as a bedroom, classroom or hospital room, or in direct contact with anyone, particularly a child, must be tested for rabies.

If a domestic pet has been bitten, call your veterinarian for immediate assistance and have the wild animal tested for rabies. Always make sure that your animals are current on vaccinations.

To learn more about bats in general or some of the endangered bats go to: 
**Www.fws.gov** or **www.batcon.org**