

# HEY EXPLORERS...

## BATS NEED YOUR HELP!

**Don't spread white-nose syndrome.**

Help bats everywhere.

**CLEAN** your gear and outerwear.

Produced by the White-Nose Syndrome  
National Response Team: [whitenosesyndrome.org](http://whitenosesyndrome.org)

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White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a disease caused by a fungus that is killing millions of bats. Bats save farmers billions of dollars by eating insects that harm crops. The fungus that causes WNS could hitch a ride to healthy bats on you or your gear. If you are visiting **caves, mines, tunnels, rock crevices, bridges**, or other places where bats hang out:

## Help bats everywhere. Clean your gear and outerwear.



**CHECK** the map at: [www.whitenosesyndrome.org](http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org). **Never** take clothes, footwear, or equipment used to explore places where bats hang out in a WNS-affected area to an unaffected area, *not even gear that has been decontaminated*.



**SCRAPE** dirt and debris from clothes, footwear, and equipment that touched the ground or other surfaces **before** leaving. Remove as much as you can. If possible, place dirty items in plastic bags to keep your other gear and vehicle clean.



**WASH** hands, clothes, footwear, and any equipment that touched the ground or walls **promptly** with hot water and soap. If you will be visiting multiple places where bats hang out, learn how to decontaminate your gear at [www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination](http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org/topics/decontamination)



**PROTECT** bats and yourself by keeping your distance. Do not disturb hibernating bats and **never touch a bat**. If you do accidentally touch a bat, contact a doctor or public health official for help.

*Bats help us by eating insect pests. Please help them survive WNS.*

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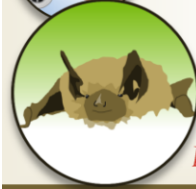
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