

CISD Bat/Animal Plan

Bats and other animals are a part of our natural surrounding and are very beneficial. The reality is that we have often constructed buildings in areas that were previously their habitat. However, special caution and consideration should be taken in dealing with these small creatures, given they could possibly be infected with the rabies virus. When a bat/animal is discovered in a school building or on school grounds, specific steps should be taken immediately to ensure the safety of students and staff:

1. Once a bat has been discovered, students should be removed from the immediate area to ensure there is no further possibility of contact.
2. If the bat is alive, the area should be secured so that the bat cannot enter other parts of the campus to the degree possible. People should be kept from the area and the area should be monitored to ensure that persons are not able to go into that area. From a distance of several feet, the administrator or assigned staff members should monitor any movement of the bat so that it can be successfully located by the maintenance staff.
3. If the bat is found on the ground or on the floor inside the building, a box or trashcan may be placed over the bat if this can be accomplished without physical contact. An adult should remain in the area but several feet away from the covered bat at all times to monitor its movement and to ensure that other people do not enter the area.
4. Notify the campus administrator right away.
5. The campus administration should contact the Maintenance Dept at 936-756-3183 or 936-672-0849 and the campus nurse as soon as possible. Note that only trained persons should handle bats.
6. The principal should contact the appropriate assistant superintendent and inform him/her of the bat's location as soon as it is possible to do so after ensuring the safety of the situation.
7. Any students or staff that may have come in contact with the bat should be taken to the nurse for questioning and evaluation. The nurse should call Gary Johnson (Specialist Zoonosis) with Texas Department of State Health Services at 713-767-3300. He will assist with the rabies risk assessment to determine if a true exposure occurred and expedite testing of the bat if needed. The nurse should also notify Steve Muir 936-709-8201, who will contact the local health department.
8. Administration should make a note of the names and phone numbers of any person that came into contact with the bat and turn this information over to the certified applicator picking up the bat. Please use the Animal Removal Procedure Form. The nurse should complete this form and will retain a copy for the campus records. Another copy will be given to the certified applicator that retrieves the animal. .
9. Any bat that is known to have had physical contact with students or staff will immediately be taken by our certified applicator to Houston for testing.
10. For bats found in the County's jurisdiction, Maintenance will take the bat and any information gathered, to Montgomery County Animal Control for testing.

11. If the bat is found at a school inside the Conroe city limits and in a populated area of a school, the bat will be taken to the Montgomery County Animal Control or to Houston by the Maintenance department for testing. If found in an unpopulated area of the building or campus, the bat will be held for 24 hours by the IPM Department before disposal.
12. Custodial staff should be contacted so the areas where the bat was found may be cleaned properly.
13. The situation will be evaluated by Administration to determine which/if further communication is warranted.
14. Upon receipt of testing results appropriate administrative personnel, including the assistant superintendent, the Safety Coordinator (Muir), and principal, will be notified by electronic means as soon as possible by the IPM Coordinator.
15. Steve Muir will contact the local health department if the test is positive for rabies.

CISD Maintenance Department: 936-756-3183 or 936-672-0849

Conroe Animal Control: 936-522-3211

Montgomery County Animal Control 936-442-7738

DSHS Zoonosis Control: Houston 713-767-3300

Montgomery County Health Department 1-888-825-9754 (Montgomery County
Emergency Contact Number)

