



# Bat in a home? Don't release it!

If the bat has recently bitten a person or animal, and/or has been in a room with a sleeping person or child, the bat should be collected and tested for rabies. If you have a bat in your home, please call the health department for further assistance at 269.926.7121 or 517.335.9030 after hours or on the weekend.

## How to collect a Bat:

- An adult can safely capture a bat in a container (while wearing gloves). Animal control is trained to collect wildlife and can be reached during business hours at 269-927-5648.
- Wait for the bat to come to a rest then place a container over the top of the bat and slide a lid, piece of cardboard over the container while it is pressed against a surface.
- Once the bat is in the contain be sure to tape the container shut so the bat cannot escape.
- Place a few very small holes in the contain to keep the bat alive.
- Immediately call the Berrien County Health Department for further assistance.

## What is Rabies? How would I get it?

- Rabies is a virus that can be transmitted from an infected animal to a human through a bite or scratch. These bites or scratches can be very difficult to see.
- Although rabies takes several days to make a person ill, it is often a deadly virus and intervention measures should be started quickly.
- The simplest way to identify someone's risk of rabies is to monitor or test the animal in question.