Suffolk Bat Group and Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Suffolk Bat Group is a specialist group within Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

The group is the county’s main point of contact for all bat conservation related issues.

Joining will help Suffolk’s bats and will help us do even more for Suffolk’s wildlife and countryside.

Members of Suffolk Bat Group are encouraged to give their support by joining Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Bats in trouble

There have been widespread declines in the distribution and abundance of bats, particularly during the past 50 years.

There are a number of reasons for this including the changes in agricultural practices, the removal of woodlands and hedgerows and the use of toxic chemicals to kill wood-boring insects in buildings.

How can I help?

- Encourage insects into your garden
- Make a bat box and put it up on a tree
- Be a bat champion

Bats and the law

All species of bat and bat roosts are protected by the law.

It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or handle a bat, to possess a bat, disturb a roosting bat, or to offer a bat for sale without a licence. It is also an offence to damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used by bats for shelter, whether they are present or not.

Anyone planning building operations, pest control, timber treatment that might affect bats, including householders, should seek professional advice.

For more information on bat legislation: gov.uk/bats-protection-surveys-and-licences bats.org.uk

Further help

If you find a sick or injured bat, please contact:
National Bat Helpline
0345 1300 228
Bat Conservation Trust

Choice to support

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suffolkwildlifetrust.org/ suffolkbatgroup

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What we do
Suffolk Bat Group

Formed in 1983, we are one of 90 bat groups nationwide and are part of the Bat Conservation Trust network.

We co-ordinate the licensed Volunteer Bat Roost Visitors in Suffolk for Natural England and assist in the protection of bats through advising householders, landowners and builders.

Suffolk Bat Group aims to:
- Advise the general public on the importance of bat conservation and what they can do to help
- Protect, enhance and create bat hibernation sites
- Carry out bat detector surveys with computer analysis to advise landowners on management
- Monitor bat box projects particularly in Thetford Forest where members can see bats close up
- Provide training for members and loans of bat detectors
- Lead bat walks and give talks on bats
- Submit bat records to Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service and keep the Suffolk Bat Atlas up to date
- Encourage members to take part in National Bat Monitoring Programme surveys.

Bats in Suffolk

12 BAT SPECIES ARE FOUND IN SUFFOLK

1. Barbastelle
2. Brandt’s
3. Brown long-eared
4. Common pipistrelle
5. Daubenton’s
6. Leisler’s
7. Nathusius’ pipistrelle
8. Natterer’s
9. Noctule
10. Serotine
11. Soprano pipistrelle
12. Whiskered

Bats live in a variety of roosts, both natural and manmade, where they return each year. They can be very secretive and the first clues that bats are living somewhere, could be seeing them flying around at dusk or finding their droppings on your windowsill.

DID YOU KNOW?
- A tiny pipistrelle bat can eat 3,000 insects in one night.
- If you find moth wings in a garden or woodland, they are evidence of bats. They eat all the bat wings!
- Scales on moth wings have evolved to avoid echolocation signals from bats.
- Bats usually only have one pup a year and can live for up to 30 years.

Join Suffolk Bat Group

If you would like to donate to Suffolk Bat Group, please fill in your details on the form below and send to Suffolk Bat Group by post or e-mail.

I would like to give

Contact details
Title                  Forename                Surname
Address
Postcode
Email
Payment
☐ I enclose a cheque for £
☐ Pay by standing order or bank transfer using the following details:
- HSBC Bank
- Suffolk Bat Group
- Sort code 40-47-42
- Account number 31038885
If you donate by standing order or bank transfer, please include your name in the reference and e-mail us to let us know so that we can make sure that you are added to the mailing list.

Address
Suffolk Bat Group, c/o Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Brooke House, The Green, Ashbocking, Suffolk IP6 9JY
suffolkbatgroup@suffolkwildlifetrust.org
suffolkwildlifetrust.org/suffolkbatgroup

Suffolk Bat Group relies on donations to be able to carry out the work that we do. Those donating to the group will join our mailing list and will receive a digital copy of our newsletter Pipework twice a year, packed full of information about bats in Suffolk. You will also receive e-mails with details of meetings, training sessions, bat detector surveys and bat walks and talks.

Thank you for joining Suffolk Bat Group

We will keep your details secure and will only send you information relating to bat and Suffolk Bat Group activities. We do not pass on any information about Bat Group donors to any group or individual outside of the Bat Group.

Please confirm you are happy for us to contact you by:
☐ Post  ☐ Email
You can change your mind at any time.

Thank you for joining Suffolk Bat Group.