

Bats

Animal Control Officers will respond to reports of bats. Example of situations that would meet criteria might be:

- Out during the day when typically not seen (accessible to officers)
- On the ground (accessible), either sick or injured
- Multiple bats in one area (accessible to officers)
- Inside of a residence or business (possible exposure to rabies)

Bats up high in places where bats routinely nest would not necessarily meet criteria for dispatch without other extenuating circumstances. If uncertain, confer with on-duty ACO for guidance.

General information about bats:

1. Rabies does not cause an epidemic. Therefore, finding bats on the ground is not indicative of rabies.
2. Bats are extremely fragile to the elements. Heat, demolition of old buildings and spraying of insecticides will cause disruption to bat colonies.
3. During the months of July and August, babies are born and get disoriented when they learn to fly. Many of the baby bats will drop to the ground because they are unable to find their way back to their colony.
4. Bats are not aggressive toward one another, if bats are observed fighting with one another that would be considered a possible sign of a rabid bat.

Alternative Resources:

Should there be a request for bat removal wherein there is no indication of illness; customers may be referred to the following resources during normal business hours and early evening:

Fran Zitano 916-838-7002

-Will retrieve bats that have **not** been handled by humans

Corkey Quirk 530-902-1918 (Northern California Bats Assoc.)

Information is also listed in the functional directory. Both resources are not on-call and may decline the request. It is a voluntary service.