

Elgin ISD Bat Protocol



Never touch a bat - dead or alive - with bare hands

Elgin Animal Control needs to be contacted for any bat found on campus (Maintenance and Operations will contact Animal Control).

If a student, staff, or visitor touches a bat, it needs to be reported to the campus administrator and the Director of Safety and Risk Management for assistance. The bat MUST be turned over to Animal Control for testing. Please **notify Animal Control that the bat came into contact with someone and it needs to be tested.**

Any students or staff that touched the bat must be sent to the clinic immediately. Parents must be contacted and instructed to call their family doctor for medical advice.

LIVE BAT

If a bat is on the ground or cannot fly, it is probably sick:

- Isolate the area and keep students away
- Call Maintenance and Operations to capture and hold for Animal Control. If Maintenance and Operations are not available, then call Animal Control to come to the campus and pick up the bat.

If you must trap the bat yourself:

- Move students to another room/area
- Wear leather gloves to avoid direct contact with the bat
- Isolate the area by closing doors
- Turn on lights
- Wait for the bat to land; cover it with a container such as a box
- Slide cardboard, such as a file folder, under the can, and then tape the cardboard to the can
- Dispose of anything that touches the bat or disinfected with bleach

DEAD BAT

If a dead bat is found and no one has touched it, the campus can:

- Isolate the area, wear disposable gloves, slide cardboard, such as a file folder, under the bat, and put the bat in a trash bag to keep for Maintenance and Operations or Animal Control to pick up. Disinfect the area with bleach or spray (custodian).

DISPOSE OF ITEMS

- Any items (folders, gloves, etc.) used to handle the bat should be properly disposed of and/or disinfected.

Additional contacts:

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| Elgin ISD Maintenance and Operations: | 512-281-9760 |
| Matthew West, Director of Safety/Risk Management: | 512-281-9760 ext. 1245 |
| Elgin Animal Control: | 512-285-5757 |
| Bastrop County Animal Services: | 512 549-5160 |