

QUICK GUIDE TO NJ BAT EXCLUSION FOR PEST CONTROL CONTRACTORS AND HOMEOWNERS

May 1st – July 31st	Maternity Season: Nursery colonies are active: mother bats and their flightless pups may be present in the roost.	Only LIMITED bat-proofing is permitted Seal or screen all potential points of entry into human living quarters, such as gaps under the attic door, vents, and other spaces in the floors/ceilings and walls (most important step). <i>Unused or secondary cracks and openings may be sealed</i> from the outside of the building while still allowing bats to enter & exit through their primary route(s). There could be several potential entry points because bats can fit through a half-inch crack or a hole smaller than a nickel. (Bats do NOT chew or claw new holes.) <i>Do NOT seal the primary entry/exit hole(s)</i>, and don't separate the mothers from their pups. Bats must be able to enter and exit the building freely. If females are sealed out from their pups, they will actively search for a new entrance and may end up in the living quarters.
April 1st – April 30th August 1st – October 15th	Safe Dates: Bats may be present in the roost but pups are not yet born. Bats may be present in the roost but all young bats should be flying.	Bat-proofing with the use of one-way doors One-way doors (screening, tubes, etc.) enable the bats to leave the roost on their own but not get back inside. These devices must be <i>left in place for a minimum of one week</i> prior to permanent closure (including at least 3 consecutive nights of weather conducive to bat activity), and monitored to confirm that all bats have vacated before sealing their entry point(s). All other cracks and holes on the outside of the structure should be sealed <i>prior</i> to installing one-way doors, since bats will try to get inside the building through other entry points.
October 16th – March 31st	Hibernation Season: Little brown bats have returned to caves and mines for the winter. Big brown bats or other species may remain in buildings.	CONDITIONAL bat-proofing Limited bat-proofing is permitted, as during the maternity season: Seal or screen all potential points of entry into human living quarters and unused/secondary cracks and openings to the exterior, while still allowing bats to enter and exit through their primary route(s). <i>Do NOT seal the primary entry/exit hole(s)</i> unless adequate surveys have been done to confirm that bats are not present in the building. Bats must be able to enter and exit freely. <i>If bats are NOT hibernating in the building</i>, all potential openings can be sealed with caulking, foam insulation, wood, or other appropriate materials without the need for one-way exclusion devices.