**I Found a Bat.....Now What?**

**DO NOT HANDLE WITH BARE HANDS**

- **Is it in the house?**
  - **DO NOT PANIC,** the bat is more afraid than you are.
  - **It can fly**
    - Keep the bat in one room by closing the door into other rooms. Keep the bat from crawling under the door by blocking it with a towel.
    - Open any windows or doors to the outside so the bat can fly out.
    - Turn on a light outside. Turn the lights off in the room.
    - Now sit quietly in the room and watch the bat to be sure it flies out. If it does not fly out...

- **It CANNOT fly**
  - This usually occurs midsummer. Juvenile bats are learning to fly and become lost.
  - If this is the first day it is there, wait until evening to see if the bat leaves on its own. If it does not leave... **OR IF IT HAS BEEN THERE FOR 2 OR MORE DAYS OR IF YOU ARE NOT SURE...**

- **Is it outside?**
  - **Is it hanging on the side of a building or in a tree?**
    - Prepare a shoebox (or similar). Drape a clean soft cloth like a t-shirt over one side to give the bat something to hang from and to hide behind. Place a small lid with water on the bottom. Using a towel or gloved hand, gently place the bat inside. Use a rubber band to fasten the lid.
    - Place the boxed bat in a dark and quiet place, (closet) away from children, pets and noise.

- **Is it on the ground?**
  - **CALL A BAT REHABILITATOR**
    - Patricia Winters 707 869-9716
    - Melinda Alvarado 805 473-8047
    - Karen Moreno 831 426-8509

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*Rabies—A wild mammal that lets you approach it could be sick and it could have rabies. Handle a bat as you would any other wild animal...do not pick it up with your bare hands. A bat will bite in self-defense. If you must pick it up, protect yourself.*