



South Carolina Bat Week:

October 24-31, 2026

Bat Week is an annual, international celebration of the role of bats in nature. #SCBatWeek, #BatWeek

SC Bat Working Group Events

Bat Week Art Contest

October 1 to October 21 by 8 p.m.

S.C. DPH Rabies Prevention Program

Help DPH Celebrate International Bat Week and support the Rabies Prevention team's mission to educate and support our communities about rabies. We are asking for your help with encouraging students across the Palmetto State to participate in a drawing contest. The drawing should demonstrate what to do if they, a friend or family member, or a pet finds a bat or has direct contact with a bat.

Age Groups: Kindergarten to 8th Grade

Submit your artwork here: dph.sc.gov/batweek

Creatures of the Night

October 2 and October 23 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Huntington Beach State Park

16148 Ocean Hwy, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576

Spend the night discovering nocturnal animals, including ghost crabs and other creatures that use the beach at night. Then walk through the darkened corridors of Atalaya using an echo meter to identify bats by their echolocation sounds as they fly around the courtyard. We'll finish the night by Mallard and Mullet Ponds, searching for owls, bats, and whatever else we can find using UV flashlights and the echo meter.

Location: Meet at Shelter #1 behind the playground. Cost: \$20 per person.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10012471>

Pre-registration required; 25 person maximum capacity. Full information is available on the park's website.

SC Bat Week Events 2026

Let's Get Batty with the Summerville Flowertown Garden Club
October 13 at 10:00 AM
Doty Park

320 N Laurel St, Summerville, SC 29483

South Carolina is home to an amazing 15 species of bats, each with its own unique story to tell. On October 13th, join Lindsey Troutman, Wildlife Biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Summerville Flowertown Garden Club, as we dive into how these species differ in their behaviors and where they roam across the state—from tree-roosting solitary bats to bustling colonies. We'll explore the diversity of foraging habits in and outside of South Carolina and even shine a spotlight on pollinator bats that help keep ecosystems thriving. You'll also learn how bat boxes can provide roosting spaces and the cautionary tales to keep in mind for keeping the sky pups safe. And, most importantly, discover simple, meaningful ways *you* can help protect these remarkable nighttime acrobats.

Location: Meet in the Doty Depot Building. **Cost:** Free

Pre-registration is required for this free event due to limited space. To register, email Sherry Menke-Wilson at sherrmen@aol.com.

Bats in the Backyard
Webinar from BCI and Wild Ones
October 21 at 7:00 PM

What can you do at home to help bats thrive?

Join Wild Ones and Bat Conservation International for a free online webinar exploring how native plants, insects, water, shelter, and thoughtful landscape choices can create better habitat for bats.

Learn what bats need—and what you can do to help.

Cost: FREE to attend.

Register: <https://wildones.org/bats-in-the-backyard/>

Can't make it live? All registrants will receive the recording.

Celebrating Bats
October 23 at 6:00 PM
Joe R. Adair Outdoor Education Center
Scout Creek Rd, Laurens, SC 29360

Please join us for a presentation about bats by guest presenter, Brenda Bhatti. She is a consulting Wildlife Biologist who has participated in bat studies and fieldwork throughout the United States and internationally for over 25 years. The presentation will include an indoor introduction to the bats of SC with a follow-up Q&A session. The program will continue outside for an optional short walk to search for bats in their natural habitat using bat acoustic detection technology.

Audience: adults and children aged 9+

<https://www.laurens55.org/page/joe-r-adair-outdoor-education-center>

SC Bat Week Events 2026

Nature at Night

October 23 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Sesquicentennial State Park

9564 Two Notch Rd, Columbia, SC 29223

Join us at Sesquicentennial State Park to find out what's up when the sun goes down on this family-friendly night hike! Look for animal eye shine, listen for nocturnal calls, and try your hand at some of the skills nighttime critters need to survive.

Location: Meet at Park Office.

Cost: \$5/participant *Does NOT include regular park admission.

Audience: This program is designed for ages 5 and older and adults must accompany children 15 and under.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10002811>

Pre-registration required; space is limited.

**Please Note: This is a moderately difficult hike due to uneven terrain and low visibility.*

Dress appropriately for the outdoors, wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight.

Questions: (803) 788-2706 or sjensen@scprt.com.

Hanging Out with Rafinesque's Big-Eared Bats:

October 23 and 24 at 1:00 PM

Hampton Plantation State Historic Site

1950 Rutledge Rd, McClellanville, SC 29458

Join us for a talk about the big-eared Rafinesque bats that call Hampton their home. We'll show video footage of the colony living in the old kitchen building, and discuss facts about bats and how we manage them.

Free to attend. Registration is not required.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10006265>

All About Bats

October 24 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Paris Mountain State Park

2401 State Park Rd, Greenville, SC 29609

Join a ranger for a fun-filled evening as we explore the fascinating world of bats! Discover the incredible ways these nighttime flyers help our environment through interactive games, engaging stories, and surprising facts that will make you see bats in a whole new light. The evening includes a short 0.75-mile walk along parts of Lake Placid and Mountain Creek.

Location: Meet at the Picnic Flats (first lot on the left). **Cost:** \$8 per person.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10011176>

Registration required; capacity limited to 25. Please dress for the weather and bring a flashlight or headlamp. All ages welcome.

Park After Dark — Moonlight & Mysteries Night Hike
October 26 from 6:20 – 8:00 PM
Myrtle Beach State Park
4401 South Kings HWY, Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

Enjoy the moonrise from the pier, then take a walk in the woods as we hope to observe bats and listen for owls while also searching for hidden life that glows with UV flashlights.

Audience: Adults only. **Cost:** \$15 per person

Registration: <https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10012313>

Park After Dark - Bat Chat
October 28 from 6:15 -7:00 PM
Myrtle Beach State Park
4401 South Kings HWY, Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

Join us for a brief and informal twilight exploration as we watch bats swoop overhead. We'll also use a bat detector—a special device that converts ultrasonic bat calls into sounds we can hear—to “eavesdrop” on their hunting conversations.

Location: Meet at the Nature Center Parking Lot.

Cost: Event is free with park admission.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10002695>

Wear closed-toe shoes and bring a chair if you don't want to stand the entire time.

Bat Program
October 28 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Columbia Canal and Riverfront Park
312 Laurel Street, Columbia, SC, 29201

Celebrate Bat Week by learning all about this beneficial species from SCDNR bat biologists! Join us at Riverfront Park in downtown Columbia for this free, family-friendly event. You will learn about the natural history of bats, explore field equipment used for research, and identify nearby bats using an ultrasonic bat detector.

Audience: All ages are welcome.

Registration link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/scdnr-bat-program-at-riverfront-park-tickets-2001633548827>

The Night Shift: Discovering Bats
October 28th from 7:00 – 8:00 PM
Greenville Zoo Conservation Lecture Series
Virtual Lecture via Zoom

Join DNR's State Bat Biologist Jennifer Kindel to discover bats of the world and the 15 species that call South Carolina home. Plus, get an insider's look at the state's newest arrival - the endangered gray bat, discovered in SC in 2023!

Free and no registration necessary.

See webpage link after Oct 15: <https://www.greenvillezoo.com/conservation-lectures>

Annual Halloween Bat Count at Sunrift
October 29 from 5:00 - 7:30 PM
Sunrift Adventures

1 Center Street, Travelers Rest SC

Sunrift Adventures has bat houses fostering hundreds of beneficial, insect-eating bats that emerge in an impressive display at sunset. Join the Batman of Travelers Rest, Jon Gillespie and SCDNR Bat Biologist Jennifer Kindel to survey and celebrate these mysterious creatures with a bat talk, bat count, and prizes PLUS Mac Mercedes with PAWS Animal Wildlife Sanctuary's educational owls! See

<https://www.dnr.sc.gov/wildlife/bats/index.html> for more details.

Let's Get Batty at Table Rock State Park
October 29 from 5:00 – 7:45 PM
Table Rock State Park

158 Ellison Lane, Pickens, SC 29671

Meet at the White Oak Shelter for Bat Crafts, Activities, and Trivia Games from 5:00 – 6:00 PM, then join the Bat Count from 6:15 -7:45 PM.

Cost: Event is free with park admission. TableRock@scprt.com. 864-878-9813.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10011175>

STEAM Studio: Bats
October 29 from 4:00 – 5:00 PM
Richland Library Sandhills
763 Fashion Drive, Columbia 29229

Celebrate Bat Week by learning about these magnificent creatures and why they are so important from the Department of Natural Resources.

Age Group: 5 – 10

More Information here: <https://www.richlandlibrary.com/event/2026-10-29/steam-studio-bats>

Bat Twilight Takeoff

October 30 from 6:00 -7:00 PM

Sesquicentennial State Park

9564 Two Notch Rd, Columbia, SC 29223

Join us at dusk and watch bats leave their daytime roost to hunt insects. Our bat box is home to over 200 bats, who all emerge in a span of about 20 minutes! We'll learn a few fun facts about these bats while we wait. Bring a chair or a blanket and enjoy a relaxing evening observing these fascinating creatures.

Location: Meet at the main parking lot near the playground.

Cost: \$5/participant *Does NOT include regular park admission*

Audience: All ages are welcome, but adults must accompany children 15 and under.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10012351>

Pre-registration required; space is limited.

Questions: (803) 788-2706 or sjensen@scprt.com.

Batty Over Bats

October 31 from 11:00 – 11:30 AM

Myrtle Beach State Park

4401 South Kings HWY, Myrtle Beach, SC 29575

While reading a story and using a batty costume, swoop into the world of bats and discover what makes them so fascinating.

Audience: Ages 8 and under. **Cost:** Free with park admission.

<https://southcarolinaparks.com/products/10003555>

Other Fang-tastic information:

Bat Week Art Contest and other Batty Activities visit: [Bat Week | SCDPH](#)

Fun educational bat activity sheets for children

[Connect the dots](#)

[Color by number](#)

[Coloring sheet](#)

Educational Video (Batman themed!) [The truth about bats - Amy Wray](#)

More information about National Bat Week: batweek.org/

More information about the South Carolina Bat Working Group:

southcarolinabatworkinggroup.org/