

eastern bat *Nycticeius humeralis*

Kingdom: Animalia

Division/Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Chiroptera

Family: Vespertilionidae

ILLINOIS STATUS common, native

FEATURES

The evening bat is medium-sized with brown body fur. The belly fur is lighter than that of the back. The wings and ears are black. It has a short, curved tragus in its ear.

BEHAVIORS

The evening bat may be found statewide in Illinois. This species lives in buildings and trees. It flies slowly and begins flying before sunset, hunting the insects that are its prey. The evening bat probably does not hibernate in Illinois, flying further south for hibernation. Maternity colonies of female evening bats are present in Illinois. Young, usually two per female, are born in June. Young can fly about three weeks after birth and attain adult size after about six or seven weeks.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests; peatlands; swamps

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; coniferous forests; southern Illinois lowlands; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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