

# Little Brown Myotis

*Myotis lucifugus*

... an endangered species



Little Brown Myotis in flight

The Little Brown Myotis (LBM), formerly Little Brown Bat, is one of five species of bats found in Pinery Provincial Park. As of January 2013, LBM have been classified as 'Endangered' under the Endangered Species Act.

## Why are they Endangered?

- White Nose Syndrome, an introduced fungal infection currently affecting colony-roosting bats has caused rapid declines in populations
- Habitat loss due to deforestation, urbanization and the expansion of agricultural land throughout North America
- Disruption during hibernation, often due to cave exploring, can be severely detrimental to a bat's survival
- Chemical control of insects is damaging to insectivorous bats. Pinery's bats all fall into this category as their diet consists almost exclusively of insects. When insects carrying pesticides are consumed the chemicals will be stored in fat reserves. Once these reserves are used (migration and hibernation) the bats are exposed to the high concentrations of deadly chemicals.

For more information about the Little Brown Myotis or to report a sighting please contact:



Pinery Provincial Park Visitor Centre  
9526 Lakeshore Rd.

R.R. #2 Grand Bend, ON N0M 1T0

519-243-8574

@PineryProvPark

[www.facebook.com/PineryProvPark](http://www.facebook.com/PineryProvPark)

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PARKS

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Bat Box



Bat Detector

### How Can You Help?

- Build and erect bat boxes on your property to provide habitat for bat colonies
- For information and bat box blueprints visit [www.batcon.org](http://www.batcon.org)
- **Pinery is conducting a citizen science project and would like to invite all to join**
- Bat detectors can be signed out from the Visitor Centre and used to survey bat activity in the park

### Interesting Facts

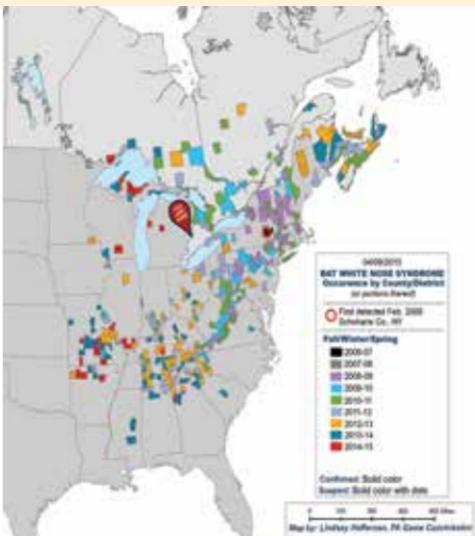
- More than 1000 species of bats in the world
- Comprise 25% of all mammals on earth
- Little Brown Myotis can eat up to 1000 insects per hour
- Most bats eat up to half their body weight in insects every night
- Bats can transmit rabies, if you come in contact with a bat, get medical attention immediately



Little Brown Myotis affected by White-Nose Syndrome

### White Nose Syndrome (WNS)

- Thought to be brought over from Europe by cavers
- First documented in New York in the winter of 2006-2007
- Recently found in Washington state, about 2000 km west of previous limit
- Has spread rapidly through Eastern parts of North America
- Affects hibernating bats
- The fungus causes frequent awakening during hibernation which depletes stored resources
- Has been linked to over 5.7 million deaths in North America alone



Map of confirmed cases of White-nose Syndrome