

For Immediate Release

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Scouts Get Batty for Bats New Mammal Study Merit Badge Teaches Scouts About Bats

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI, October 10—The Organization for Bat Conservation announced today that they will offer a new Mammal Study Merit Badge with a focus on bats. The first workshop will be offered in partnership with and held at the Leslie Science and Nature Center, 1831 Traver Road in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Saturday, November 8 from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. The workshop fee is \$20. Register by calling Christina Funk at the Organization for Bat Conservation at 248-645-3232 by October 24. This workshop has been generously underwritten by Critter Catchers, Inc.

In this workshop, Scouts will meet *all* requirements for the Mammal Scouts Merit Badge (Requirements 1, 2, 3c, 4g, and 5). Scouts will learn about mammal classification and natural history while meeting live bats from Michigan and around the world. Leslie Science & Nature Center staff will lead a hike through the Black Pond Woods to discover what bats and other mammals eat. Scouts will then have the opportunity to build bat houses that will in turn provide roosting sites at Leslie Science & Nature Center. Additional bat house kits are available for purchase to build at the workshop and take home for an additional fee of \$50 per kit. Organization for Bat Conservation Scout patches are available for purchase for \$3 per badge or for \$2.50 per badge if purchased as a group of 10 or more.

About the Organization for Bat Conservation

The Organization for Bat Conservation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the protection of bats and their habitat and our sensitive ecosystems through ecological research, educational programs, and collaborative conservation efforts. Each year, nearly 250,000 people attend a live bat program, see a live bat exhibit, or visit the Bat Zone at Cranbrook Institute of Science. The Organization for Bat Conservation has been combining community education, Bat Zone Tours, research and conservation to protect bats worldwide since 1992.

About Critter Catchers

Founded in 2005, the Ortonville, Michigan-based Critter Catchers, Inc. was formed by David Kugler, an Oakland University graduate holding a Bachelors of Science in Biology, and a Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering from Wayne State University. Critter Catchers provides wildlife control services in southeast Michigan and specializes in humane bat removal and other attic pests. Visit the website at www.crittercatchersinc.com or call 248-432-2712.

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