

Jeffrey Popp Interview

Jeffrey Popp

[Chesapeake Bay Trust](#) - Grant Managers and Technical Assistance

Senior Program Officer

Email: [jpopp@cbtrust.org](mailto:jpopp@cbtrust.org)

## **TRANSCRIPT**

### **Where are bats usually located in Maryland or places with similar climate and environmental makeups as Maryland?**

Bats can be found in many different habitats in Maryland from snags (dead trees left standing), caves, and trees, to chimneys, attics, and residential siding.

### **Can bats find new locations to roost?**

While roosting sites should not be disturbed, bats generally will find new areas to roost when their original habitat has been lost or destroyed.

### **What would be an ideal location for a bat?**

Bats love tight, dark, warm spaces to roost. For hunting, bats love open areas, including bodies of water, near forests and other roosting areas where they have plenty of room to fly and hunt for insects. Some bats, like the red bat, actually roost and overwinter on the ground in leaf litter.

### **Do they have to roost with other bats?**

In MD, some bats form small colonies where they roost with other bats. We also have solitary bats that roost alone.

### **How far away does a bat have to be from water sources?**

Generally, bats love to hang out around sources of water both for drinking, as well as a perfect open area to fly around and hunt. However, they can fly miles away from water, and can even drink from small puddles.

### **What water counts as a source? (stream, creek, river, pond, etc)**

All of the above- generally the more open, the better. However, bats will take advantage of all sources of clean water.

### **How secluded do roosts or boxes have to be?**

Bat boxes need not be secluded. In fact, in our area they should get some full sun, and be adjacent to an open area. More information on bat house placement in the link below.

### **Can bats share territory?**

Yes, multiple species of bats can roost together, in the same habitat, and even share territories.

**How many bat houses would you recommend in one location?**

As many as you can attract! Bats are in decline, so the more we can do to help them, the better. If resources (food, water, space) are limited, they will move on and find another place to live.

**Resources to check out:**

[https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/plants\\_wildlife/bats/index.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Pages/plants_wildlife/bats/index.aspx)

<https://thebackyardnaturalist.com/wordpress/resources/bats-species-maryland/>

<https://www.batcon.org/about-bats/bat-houses/> (bat house placement)