



European Bat Week - Grants available for Bat boxes

Friday 25th August marks the beginning of European Bat Week. Around 19 countries are taking part in this attempt to highlight the plight of this misunderstood mammal. For events in Scotland go to: <http://www.bats.org.uk/events.php?action=list&type=®ion=scotland&month>

Bat populations are in decline around the world. Britain has 16 species, six of which are endangered, and another six are vulnerable. In 1991 the 17th species - the mouse-eared bat - was declared extinct.

Many popular beliefs are attached to this flying mammal, but few are facts. For example, bats are not blind, they seldom transfer diseases to humans, and they are only likely to bite in self defence. In fact, they are an important element of the world's ecosystems, pollinating plants and catching many harmful insects, like mosquitoes and rootworms.

However, the use of pesticides and the reduction of natural habitats, combined with slow reproductive rates has put these wild animals at risk.

Get Involved!

Can your club support European Bat week by erecting Bat boxes on your golf course?

- To find out if your course is suitable for bat boxes please contact:

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- For information on grants available to buy or make bat boxes please contact SGEG at info@sgeg.org.uk and view the news article at <http://www.sgeg.org.uk/news.html>
- For details on how to make, install and maintain bat boxes: http://www.bats.org.uk/pages/encouraging_bats.html