

Rabies Info for McGregor Bay

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Rabid bats have been reported in the Manitoulin area for some time now. Recently, a McGregor Bay cottager woke up to find a bat on the foot of her bed. The bat was given to the Sudbury district Health unit which determined it was rabid. As a result, the cottager and her spouse were administered post exposure rabies vaccinations.

According to health experts, including the CDC, it is virtually impossible to tell if you've been bitten by a bat so if you find one in the area in which you sleep, it needs to be tested so you can be protected. If you are unable to capture it, you need to get medical attention. Rabies is a fatal disease. Post exposure Rabies vaccination is no longer the lengthy and painful ordeal it used to be. Four to five vaccinations are given in the arm.

For more information on safely capturing a bat for testing and what to do if you find one in your sleeping area, in your home, or behaving erratically, print off the excellent brochure developed by the CDC (Center for Disease Control) at http://www.cdc.gov/RABIES/docs/brochure-bats_and_rabies-full.pdf .