

Bat Boxes for Stansbury Park



Youth Inspiring Youth
Through Community Service and Conservation
Presented By: Miss Stansbury, Abigail Arnell
Platform Proposal

Why This Project Matters

The Problem

- Stansbury Park has amazing outdoor spaces
- Families enjoy parks, the lake, tennis courts, and pickleball courts
- Mosquitoes and other biting insects often make outdoor activities less enjoyable
- I wanted to find a natural solution that would benefit our entire community



How the Idea Started

My Inspiration

- My family visited Florida
- I noticed bat boxes hanging on trees and poles
- I learned they provide homes for bats
- Research shows bats help control pest insects naturally
- I've learned that this technique is used all over the country and on every continent of the world (except Antarctica) to help bats and control pests



Why Bats?

Environmental Benefits

- One bat can eat over 1,200 insects per hour
- Bats help reduce mosquitoes and other pests, avoiding preferred insects that are out in the daytime (honey bees, dragonflies, butterflies, ladybugs etc.)
- They pollinate plants and spread seeds
- We already have bats here in Stansbury Park
- Many bat species are endangered and need safe habitats



Possible Concerns

Bat aggressiveness. Bats usually only attack when provoked. We can avoid that with signage discouraging people from interacting with the bats.

Lots of poop. Placement is important. Let's not put one above the restroom doors or pickleball courts. Gardeners often make special bat gardens under bat houses because the guano (bat poop) is so fertile.

House invasions. Placement is important. Don't place bat houses too close to homes. Educate people about how to release bats kindly back outside.

What if bats don't come? It's true. Bats might not come the first year, the second year or ever. After all, bats are wild animals. However, even if they don't come, we will still have had an amazing community building experience that raised the level of consciousness about the environment. The visibility of the boxes and signage will continue to educate people about alternatives to pesticides, remind people that we share the neighborhood with lots of interesting creatures and highlight that our community is one that cares.

Costs (Based on Goal of 20 Triple Chamber Bat Houses)

- **Materials: \$200/box (triple chamber kit with pole) * 20 = \$4000**
 - Wood for boxes (Cedar, Redwood, Cypress)
 - Nails/Glue/Sealant/Paint
 - Mounting Materials
- **Signage: \$100 * 20 = \$2000**
 - Plaque or sign that lets people know not to disturb the bats and tells what they are and their purpose
- **Annual Maintenance: \$100**
 - Inspect during winter when bats are gone
 - Knock out wasp nests
 - Seal any cracks

Funding

- **Sponsors: \$100 per family or business (need 60)**
 - Adopt a bat chamber (option to help assemble & paint)
 - Signage mention

Youth Inspiring Youth

Building Community

- High School Woodworking Classes could cut wood
- Kids can help build and install bat boxes
- Families can sponsor a box and work together on a community project
- Service Agency and Fire Department can supervise installation

Young people can learn that their ideas matter and that small actions can create meaningful long-lasting change



Summer Phase

Awareness, Planning, Fund Raising: July - September

- Share information about bat boxes
 - Host a learn about bats activity (library partnership)
 - Contribute to the Service Agency Newsletter
 - Write Social Media Posts
 - Booth at Stansbury Days/Handouts at Parades
 - Laminated flyers posted at parks
- Recruit volunteers
 - Families
 - Community Groups
 - School Groups
 - Service Orgs like National Honor Society and Key Club
 - Helper groups like the Woodworking Class
- Fundraising Teen Pool Party (free attendance, charge for concessions)
- Meet with Stansbury High School's Principal and Club Advisors

Goal: Build excitement and support



Fall Phase

Building Bat Boxes: September - November

- Host a community build day (Family Fun Event)
- Involve schools, youth groups, and families
- Construct and paint bat boxes and learn about the local ecosystem
- Select installation locations (1-2 per park)

Goal: Complete building all bat boxes before winter



Sample Flyer to Hang in Parks (Needs Donation Method)



Winter Phase

Installation & Education: November - February

- Instal bat boxes in approved locations
- Continue educating the community
- Document progress with photos and updates

Goal: Have bat boxes ready before bats return



Spring Phase

Welcoming the Bats: March - May

- Monitor bat activity
- Observe whether bats begin using the boxes—(it could take one, two or even five years for bats to move in)
- Continue community outreach
- Gathering community feedback

Goal: Support local wildlife and reduce biting insect populations



Vision for the Future

One Idea Can Make a Difference

- More enjoyable outdoor spaces
- Greater community involvement
- Environmental conservation
- Evaluate project impact
- Youth leadership opportunities (Box upkeep)

When young people lead, others are inspired to follow.



How the Service Agency Can Help



STANSBURY
SERVICE AGENCY

Parks and Recreation

1. Approve the Concept; provide a way to accept donations
2. Partner in promoting the project e.g. (1) hard copy laminated flyers at the parks, (2) Service Agency and Library social media and (3) newsletters
3. Provide pool for a teen pool party fundraising event
4. Provide space for family fun event where we can build bat boxes and learn about the local ecosystem
5. Identify parks and specific locations for bat boxes
6. Ongoing maintenance (annual inspection and sealing)

Thank You

Thanks for listening

Together, we can make Stansbury Park an even better place to live, play, and connect.



Sources

<https://www.batcon.org>

<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/bats/index.htm>

<https://www.fws.gov/story/bats>

<https://ask.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/UW290>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1z-flyY6idUUIAoflFaQ0rNm3t5ynBH5sTYvJyQngxl/edit?usp=drivesdk>

<https://www.wildawareutah.org/wildlife/bats/>

<https://wildlife.utah.gov/news/2026/07/14/what-to-know-about-bats-in-utah-and-how-to-prevent-conflicts-with-them>

<https://www.utahwildlifespecialists.com/utah-bat-maternity-season/>