

Bat House Installation Proposal

at Prairie Hills Community Garden in Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park

Overview:

Prairie Hills Community Garden is proposing the addition of 1) a bat house and 2) a small butterfly garden at the base of the bat house. This is a part of a long term sustainable approach to support the natural balance of beneficial species in our garden ecosystem and to contribute to Wisconsin's native bat species conservation efforts. The bat house will help with mosquito control and butterfly garden will act as both bringing beneficial species to the garden as well as a barrier to deter people from coming near bat house.

Location:

See attached map

Bat house will be installed on the south west part of the garden in a small clearing between the garden and the sumac tree line. Currently this small clearing is not mowed by parks and is maintained/mowed by garden volunteers. The location is out of the way from foot traffic and receives the necessary amount of sunlight for bat houses.

We propose trimming encroaching sumac back about 3 feet as well as a small stand that juts out into the clearing. Bat house would be placed where small sumac stand juts out. Location is approximately 15-20 feet from garden path and about 20-30 feet from back property line.

Timeline:

We have volunteers from the garden ready to install the bat house fall of 2017 or the spring of 2018 depending on when we can get materials. Installation of bat house will be complete as a part of the normal monthly garden workdays by garden volunteers. Installation of butterfly garden at base of bat house to be completed the following month on the next workday.

Materials/Cost Estimate:

Funding will come from Prairie Hills Garden Savings and/or Garden Micro-Grant (if awarded)

2 - 4x4x16 pressure treated post \$100

1 - can dark paint or stain \$15

1 - single chamber bat house kit (50-75 bats) and mount kit \$119 bat house to be purchased

<http://www.bestbathouses.com/houses.html> (see attached image)

Additional tools/supplies to be borrowed from garden members:

heavy-duty staple gun – Sarah or Dan has

utility knife – Barb, Sarah or Dan has

caulking gun – Sarah has

electric screwdriver- Barb or Sarah has

post hole digger – Bob has

heavy duty bar – Bob or Dan has?

spade shovel – Garden tool shed has

5' 2x4 (as a packing tool) – Sarah has

perennial wildflowers for butterfly garden (milkweed, coneflowers) – donated by Laurie, Laura, Sarah

Long term maintenance:

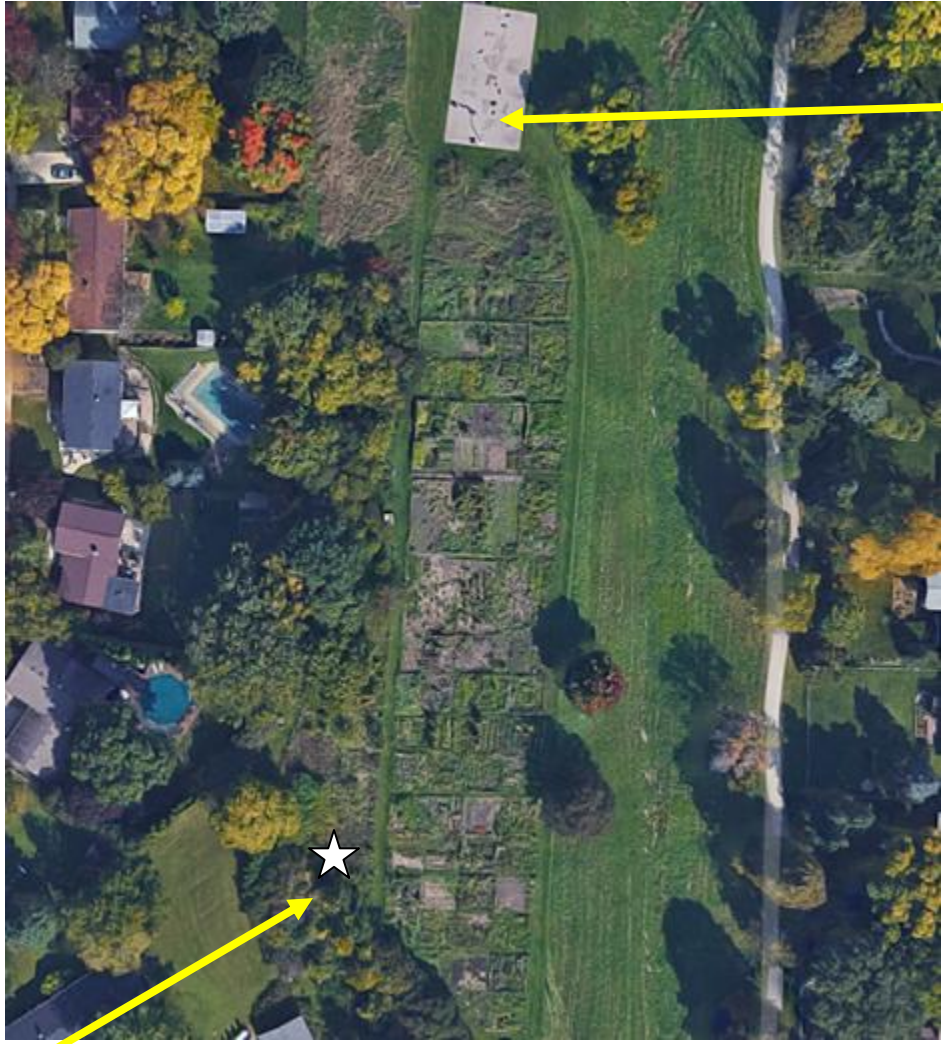
Bat house will be inspected in late fall and early spring by garden volunteer (Barb Swartz) to be sure that it is free of pests and will be re-sealed as needed.

Support received from:

1. Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association: bat house was proposed by Sarah Kirk at July 24th meeting and was approved. Letter of support attached
2. Alder Matt Phair – letter of support attached
3. Prairie Hills Garden Members
4. Neighbors backing up to garden and proposed bat house location (Dan Parker contacted neighbors)

Attachment 1

Map of Proposed Location

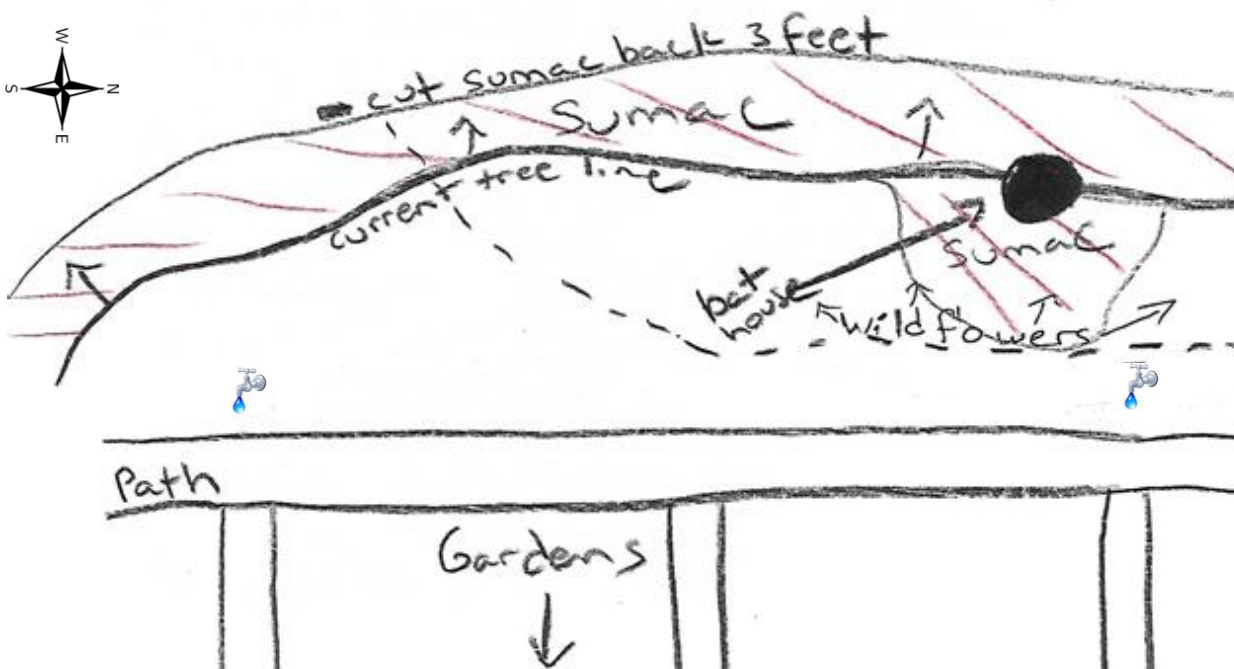


Basketball court



South to Raymond
West to Frisch

Proposed bat house location



Proposed Bat House to Purchase:

SINGLE CHAMBER — \$119.00

[View Cart](#)

Wall mounted.

HOLDS APPROXIMATELY 50-75 BATS

A great starter bat house that will last for years. It's a perfect size for small to average size lots/acreage. For best results, buy two or three and place around your yard for increased coverage.

EXTERIOR DIMENSIONS:

27" tall x 24" wide x 1-5/8" deep

3/4" chamber

Roof: 4" x 28"

[Add to Cart](#)



Letters of Support:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Phair, Matthew** <district20@cityofmadison.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 2, 2017 at 3:38 PM

Subject: Re: Fw: Bat Houses at Lucy Lincoln Heistand Park Community Garden?

To: dan parker <dantparker10@gmail.com>

Hi Dan,

This is my current email, sorry for not getting back to your first note sooner. I think a bat house sounds great, can't think why I'd be against it!

Hope you're well,

Matt



Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association
18 Starr Court, Madison, WI 53711 www.prairiehillsna.org

August 4, 2017

Board of Park Commissioners
City of Madison

Dear Commissioners:

The Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association supports the installation of bat houses in Lucy Lincoln Hiestand Park. As you probably know, the number of mosquitoes has greatly increased this year and they have become an annoyance to all who use the park. This includes those who tend the community gardens, those who play basketball, those who try to enjoy picnics and the kids using the outdoor equipment. Having bats is an environmentally-friendly way to control the mosquito population.

In addition, we also know that the bat population seems to be decreasing, along with butterflies and bees. So, installing bat houses would have a result--fewer mosquitoes and more bats. So, the board of directors of the Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association is happy to support this project and thank those involved for their work on this effort.

Sincerely,

Gloria Meyer, president
Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association