

Protect the bats! Clean your gear.

Change or clean your gear if you have visited caves, mines, or any other place where bats may roost. To clean:

1. **Remove** all dirt from footwear and caving gear.
2. **Decontaminate** them - instructions are on the back of this card.*
3. **Repeat** these steps if going to caves elsewhere.



*To clean vertical caving gear (ropes, harnesses, etc.) consult whitenosesyndrome.org



What is White-Nose Syndrome?

White-nose syndrome is a fungal disease that is killing millions of bats in North America. The fungus can travel from cave to cave on shoes, clothing and caving gear.

Decontamination Instructions

Remove dirt, then wipe or soak all caving gear (clothing, shoes, helmets, lights, cameras, backpacks, kneepads, gloves, etc.) using any of the following methods:

Method	Contact Time	Type of Gear
Hot water $\geq 131^{\circ}\text{F}$ (55°C)	Submerge at least 5 mins	Clothes, kneepads, gloves
70% isopropyl alcohol	Wipe/spray/soak Effective on contact	All caving gear
3% hydrogen peroxide	Wipe/spray/soak Effective on contact	All caving gear (Warning! May discolor fabric)
Clorox wipes, bleach, or Formula 409	Use in accordance with product label	All caving gear (Warning! May discolor fabric)
Lysol IC Quaternary Disinfectant	Use in accordance with product label	Hard nonporous items (helmet, rubber boots)