

Bats



Leisler's bats (*Nyctalus leisleri*, Ger.: Kleine Abendsegler) in a nesting box

There are 16 bat (Ger.: Fledermaus) species at USAG Ansbach and **all are strictly protected** under German Environmental Law. Twelve species are on the Red List of Threatened and Endangered Species.

Bat intrusions into homes or offices are a normal seasonal occurrence associated with swarming behavior at the end of the breeding season. To keep bats from entering a building, "bat proof" your home or office by keeping windows closed in the evening (especially between August and October). Installing fly screens on the windows can offer additional protection.

If one or more bats do get into your home or office, contact the environmental division and keep one or more windows open. The bats will eventually fly out on their own.

While infections are very rare, bats can potentially transmit rabies. Avoid handling bats. Wear sturdy gloves if handling is absolutely necessary. In the unlikely event that you get bitten or scratched by a bat, immediately see a doctor.

Important Points of Contact

Feel free to contact the Environmental Management Division during office hours (Natural Resources Manager: Mr. Jürgen Stöhr) if you have any questions or concerns.

Monday-Friday 08:00-15:30

Closed on US Federal Holidays

Visit the Environmental Management Division website for more information.



<https://home.army.mil/ansbach/index.php/my-fort/all-services/environmental>

Ansbach Army Health Clinic

CIV: 06371-9464-3600 DSN: 590-3600

24 Hour Nurse Advice Line

CIV: 0800-4759-2330

Ansbach Hospital

CIV: 0981-4840

DPW Pest Control (Mr. Markus Rose)

CIV: 09641-70-587-1629 DSN: 587-1629

Veterinary Clinic Katterbach Kaserne

CIV: 06371-9464-3777 DSN: 590-3777

POCs (Issue Registration)

<https://dpw.armymaintenance.com/arma>

USAG ANSBACH

DPW Environmental Mgmt. Division

Wildlife Hazard Education



USAG Ansbach
DPW Environmental Mgmt. Division
Natural / Cultural Resources
DSN: 314.587.1674 CIV: 09641-70-587-1674



The European hornet is the largest eusocial wasp native to Europe

Hornets

Hornets (Ger.: Hornisse) belong to the family of wasps (Vespidae). The only indigenous species in Germany is the **strictly protected** European hornet (*Vespa crabro*). Hornets hunt and eat other insects but also feed on nectar and sugar-rich plant foods such as overripe fruit. Hornets are often considered dangerous and aggressive. In truth, European hornets are less aggressive than other wasps and their sting is no more dangerous than any other wasp sting but workers will vigorously defend their nest if provoked.

Avoid quick or sudden movements, don't attack hornets and don't destroy their nest (**nests are strictly protected as well**). Keep trash cans and dumpsters closed and clean. Be careful when eating outdoors and distract the insects with other food/drink such as a glass of apple juice at a safe distance. Normal sting symptoms include pain, swelling, redness and itchiness.

Seek medical attention if you have been stung multiple times or have difficulty breathing or experience dizziness and nausea.

Ticks



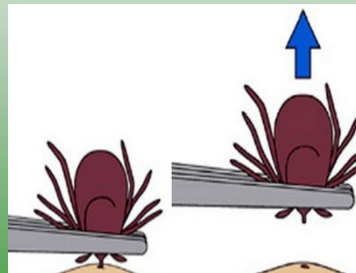
Ticks may carry harmful diseases

Ticks are ectoparasites distributed widely around the world that feed on the blood of mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. They lurk in grass, bushes, leaves and brush, and are increasingly present in urban parks and gardens.

Due to their size, the bite itself is not dangerous, but ticks can carry bacteria or viruses that may result in serious infection or illness. Primarily in Bavaria, there is a high potential to get infected with **Lyme disease** (borreliosis bacteria) or **tick-borne encephalitis** (TBE).

Upon discovery, a tick should immediately be removed as a whole with tweezers or a special tick card placed close to the skin and carefully and gently pulled out of the skin without squeezing its body. See a doctor if there is inflammation even after weeks from being bitten.

Tick bites can not completely be avoided but there are several precautions you can take: Wear



Remove ticks carefully with tweezers

(Ger.: Zecken) are distributed widely around the world that feed on the blood of mammals, birds, reptiles, and

long clothes on a forest walk, search yourself for ticks afterwards and use insect repellent. You can get a vaccination against TBE at your local German clinic.

Oak Processionary Moths



„Procession“ of caterpillars on oak

The oak processionary moth caterpillars (*Thaumetopoea processionea*, Ger.: Eichenprozessions-spinner) can affect the health of oak trees, people and animals. These caterpillars have thousands of tiny hairs that contain a protein causing skin and eye irritation, allergic reactions, often accompanied by a severe rash, dizziness, fever, sore throat and even breathing difficulties.

The very fine hairs can be easily broken and spread further by the wind, typically by the start of May/June. As the thin hair can stick to the underbrush, it is not necessary to have direct contact with the caterpillar. The toxins persist in the hair of the shed skin and can still be **harmful for months or even years**. Even contact with dead caterpillars and old nests can be dangerous for humans. In case of contact take a shower promptly and wash all clothing. For severe exposure see a doctor.

Never approach or touch the nests or the caterpillars. Report any nests or caterpillars to DPW Pest Control at 587-1629.



Typical nest of caterpillars