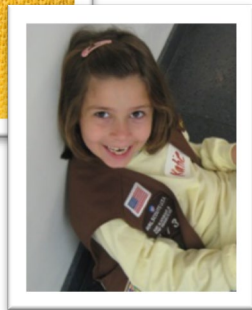




Katie Wilson

Kansas City, Missouri



Bringing Back the Bats

Katie Wilson has been a Girl Scout for 13 years and is in Troop 473 in Service Unit 611. She is currently a senior at Liberty North High School.

Katie's Gold Award project addressed the issue of a decreasing bat population and the impact that has on the ecosystem. To combat this issue, she created an educational presentation, an original design for bat boxes and built boxes to help the bat population in her community. Katie installed the bat boxes at Martha Lafite Nature Sanctuary and found that during her time there, patrons would ask about the project and she was able to educate the wider public through interest in the boxes. She presented the educational portion to patrons of the sanctuary and raise awareness for the devastating consequences of a declining bat population.

Katie worked with Marth Lafite Nature Sanctuary to install bat boxes to help the local population thrive as well as educate the public. By offering the presentation to patrons, she was able to spread awareness about the ecological benefits of a healthy, strong bat population. It's her hope that this will not only inspire them to act to protect the population, but to share with friends and family to make a real impact on the local ecology.

Because of Girl Scouts, I met many of my best friends. I found a love of camping and the outdoors. I learned leadership skills that I will use in college and beyond. I developed a life-long passion for community service.