

Help Bats Help Austin



**Congress Avenue bats
attract millions of
tourist dollars &
eliminate tons of
pests**



Emergences Pre-2000

More Columns & Lasted Twice as Long

1987

1995

Emergences-Post 2000

2017

Congress Avenue Emergences still spectacular and popular, but declining—Fewer early, smaller in size, and shorter duration.

Cause for concern



Threats to Bats

Obstacles: Vegetation Beneath Bridge, Light Cords





1987

Threats to Bats & Tourism



2017

Vegetation Blocking Visitor Views & Bat Access. Problem removed in 2021. Requires periodic management.

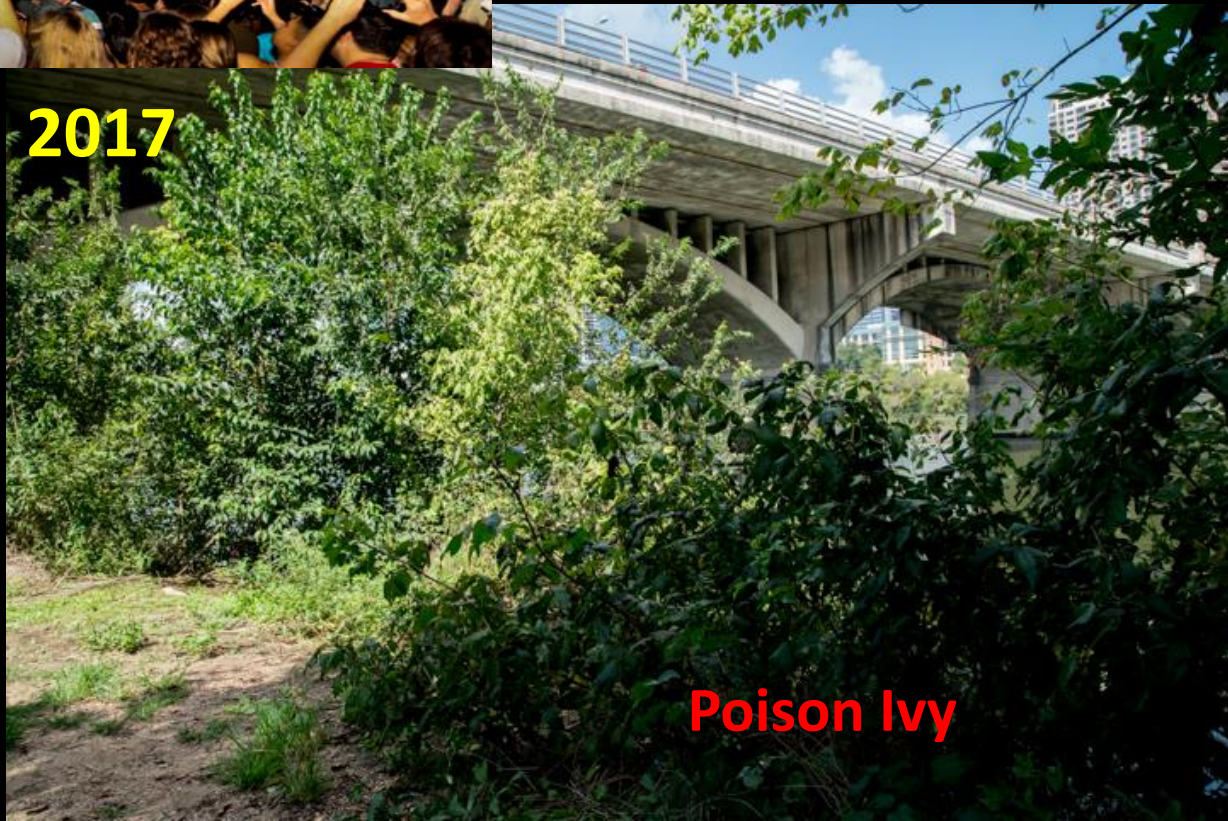


2013

Tourists
photographing bats
prior to weed over-
growth

Weeds blocking
view & photography

2017



Poison Ivy

Visitor Views

**Note ease of viewing
In 1987**

1987

**Viewing opportunities
decreased by 2017**

2017



Obstructions to North Side Viewing as of 2019



Possible Viewing Solutions



Behind Radisson Hotel

Brush trimming and
landscaping along river walk



Behind Four Seasons Hotel

Dock Viewing Options

Neglected deterioration of former dock viewing site

- **Restoration**
- **Solid Docks**
- **Floating Docks**



**Emergences still spectacular, but declining—
Could be far better!**



August, 2016

Website Needs

- Photo and Video documentation of best emergences
- Brazilian free-tailed bat information
- Advice on trip planning
- Map of viewing sites
- Links to local vendors



Threats to Bats



**Loud Noises: Bands on bridge,
4th of July Fireworks too loud &
too near**

Batfest Bands



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