



Window Strikes!

Make your Buildings Bird-Friendly

Since birds can't see sparkly clean glass surfaces, window collisions are sadly quite common. It is estimated that throughout North America each year, 100 million birds die from window collision injuries. However, there are a number of measures that you can take to prevent this from happening.



DECALS or SILHOUETTES

Arrange decals or silhouettes close together (every 2 inches horizontally and 4 inches vertically) on your window. You can use the raptor silhouette in the background of this information sheet as a template. Try cutting out more silhouettes with black trash bag plastic which will cling to window glass.



ALL a FLUTTER

Windsocks and strips of fabric that flutter in the wind can also be hung in front of a window to disrupt a reflective surface.

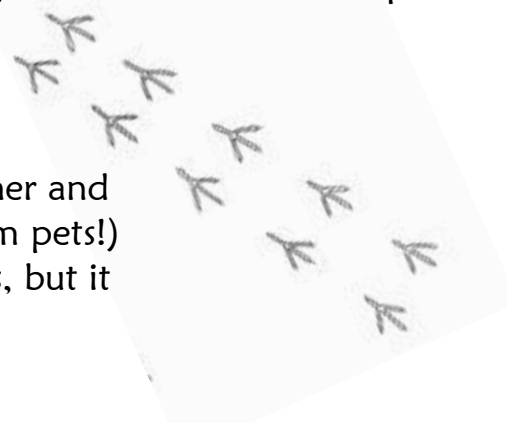


NETTING

Netting (small mesh, such as 5/8 inch, is best) or screens is a good way to keep birds from a problem-window. Remember, a slightly obstructed view for a month or so during migration is worth it to keep travelling birds safe!

If a collision occurs...

Place a stunned bird in a covered container and set this in a warm, quiet place (away from pets!) The bird should recover in a few minutes, but it may take up to a few hours.



Keep Buildings Bird-Safe

COMMUNITY-LEVEL

Help monitor and identify collision sites. You can educate others and raise awareness of those buildings with a high number of collisions in order to find an effective way to reduce them. During peak migration times, encourage a community-wide lights-out program.



LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN

When landscaping, it's best to keep a space that might be an attractive bird habitat away from your windows. Keep feeders or water fixtures within three or farther than thirty feet from windows. Set trees and shrubs close enough to windows to obscure the reflection and minimize the visibility of interior landscape (potted plants or window gardens) with shade or curtains.

BUILDING AND REMODELING

Most strikes occur at the ground level, so when building a house, limit glazing and highly reflective glass windows at the ground level. Consider glass with textures, patterns, or different materials to reduce the reflective quality of glass. At night, consider exterior lighting or simple localized lighting to reduce the amount of light trespass. You can also retrofit new glazing on a problem window to reduce reflectivity.



For more information

www.birdsandbuildings.org
www.fws.gov/birds/documents/Collisions.pdf
www.Audubon.org/bird/at_home/SafeWindows.html
www.flap.org

