

Birds crash into windows more often than you think

Most bird collisions happen at windows on residential homes, not tall buildings.

Homes with bird feeders or green space nearby are especially likely to experience bird-window collisions.

A single building could kill 2-10 birds per year on average. Most collisions are not noticed by people because the bird may fly away injured or be eaten.



Birds matter in London, ON

Birds have declined overall by 29% in North America since 1970.

Simple actions help conserve birds!



Northern Cardinal
is London's official
City Bird

London, ON is a Bird-Friendly City

*We need your help to conserve
birds and nature*



This photo shows 232 gathered birds that were killed by windows on 40 buildings in London, ON within one year.

Up to **1 Billion birds** are killed each year by flying into building windows in Canada and the United States.

23 bird species that are listed as at risk of extinction in Canada are threatened by collisions with windows.



To reduce bird collisions, it is critical for people to take action by retrofitting windows on homes and other buildings.

Actions to help conserve birds:

- Keep pet cats indoors.** If pet cats go outside, keep them contained or walk cats on a leash.
- Add visual markers to windows & glass railings.
- If you feed birds, keep feeders clean and placed within 1.5 feet of untreated windows.
- Turn off excess lights at night, avoid pointing lights up into the sky or into natural areas.
- Follow rules listed on signs in natural areas.
- Plant native species of flowers, shrubs & trees.
- Reduce or eliminate use of pesticides.
- Do not use rodenticide / rat poison.
- Do not use sticky / glue traps.
- Leave fallen leaves, grasses and flowers over winter. Rake only after frost passes in May.
- Prevent litter birds may accidentally eat like cigarettes, or become tangled in like masks, holiday decorations or fishing line.
- Participate in programs offered by Nature London and Birds Canada.
- Report birds or other wildlife in trouble to Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre by calling 519-264-2440
- Contribute photos and records of birds to community science using eBird or iNaturalist.



Visit birdfriendlylondon.ca
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There are many solutions for preventing bird-window collisions



Feather Friendly DIY Tape



Curtain of strings or cords



Draw or paint on windows

Why do birds fly into windows?

Birds do not understand reflections on glass.

Birds see reflections of trees and open space in glass windows and may try to fly to them, or birds fail to detect glass that is transparent (e.g., glass railings) and try to fly through it.

Most collisions happen at homes, at or below the height of trees, not at tall buildings.

Bird collisions with windows *can be prevented* by modifying glass so it appears as a visible barrier to birds.



Appropriate marker spacing prevents birds from squeezing through gaps.

To be effective, markers on windows must:

- Be applied on the outside of the window.
- Be spaced no wider than 5 cm / 2 in apart.
- Be applied to entire window, edge-to-edge.
- Provide high contrast against background.

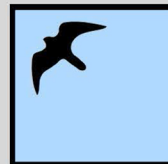


Large building windows can be made safer for birds using retrofit film or custom glass.

Windows at home can be retrofitted with do-it-yourself (DIY) materials such as:

- Feather Friendly DIY tape (white/black dots)
- Tempera paint or paint markers
- Tape, stickers
- Netting or screens
- Strings or cords hung from above window

Single visual markers such as bird silhouettes are **not effective** for preventing collisions.



UV/ultraviolet markers are **not** recommended.

For more information about how to prevent bird collisions visit

www.birdsafe.ca

For information on birds in London including where to buy window retrofit materials visit

www.birdfriendlylondon.ca

Help preserve dark skies

Artificial Light at Night is a form of pollution that negatively impacts wildlife, including birds.



Migratory birds depend on the stars and light in the night sky to navigate. When birds fly over cities at night, they are drawn to and disoriented by lights and may crash into windows. Light pollution has other harmful effects on the environment and human health.

Light pollution in London is severe enough to be seen from space!



Turning off unneeded lights at night reduces energy consumption and shrinks your environmental footprint.



Tips for reducing light pollution

- Limit outdoor lighting to where it's needed.
- Use only downward-directed light fixtures with full cutoff to prevent light from spilling.
- Use warm temperature lighting; avoid blue.
- Turn off lights at night, especially during bird migrations from March to June and from September to November.