

Lights Out Portland

Many birds migrate at night to minimize predation, maximize daytime foraging, and use celestial cues to guide them. Artificial lighting disorients birds and can lure them into the city. This may result in impact with lit buildings. Reducing unnecessary overnight lighting not only helps minimize window strikes, but also reduces light pollution – a phenomenon that impacts circadian rhythms and predator-prey relationships in birds, mammals, amphibians, insects, and humans!

Turning off lights also reduces electricity use and the release of greenhouse gases. Turn off your lights and you can help the City of Portland reach its goal to reduce carbon emissions by 40 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050!

Participate in Lights Out Portland! Turn off any unnecessary outdoor lighting from dawn to dusk during migration seasons: August 25 through November 15 and March 15 through June 7.



Mary Coolidge

BirdSafe Portland is a collaborative effort between Audubon Society of Portland, City of Portland, US Fish and Wildlife Service, architects, developers, and other key stakeholders to raise awareness and develop solutions for window strike hazards.

Documentation

- **2012 Resource Guide for Bird Friendly Building Design Guidelines** (audubonportland.org/files/hazards/bfbdd)
- **2015 Green Building Policy** adopted by City of Portland requiring all city buildings to incorporate bird-friendly design.



Audubon Society of Portland

5151 NW Cornell Road • Portland, OR 97210

Wildlife Care Center

Hotline: 503-292-0304

9am-5pm – 7 days a week • 365 days a year

BirdSafe products are available at:

Nature Store: 503-292-9453

10 am to 6 pm, Mon-Sat • 10am – 5 pm, Sun



Mary Coolidge

Birds and Windows

Up to 1 billion birds die every year
in the United States
due to collisions with windows.

Here's what you can do.

Birds and Windows

In the Portland area, nearly 70 native bird species have been found injured or dead from colliding with windows.

As Portland grows, risks to birds increase. With your help, we can minimize these hazards and ensure that Portland is a bird-friendly city.

Why Birds Hit Windows

Birds do not perceive windows as a barrier. They see a reflection of trees, shrubs, and sky as continuation of habitat and fly into it. Most window strikes occur within the first 3-4 stories of a house or building.

Birds may attempt to fly through an area the size of an average handprint. Visual markers spaced every 4 inches on windows deters strikes. A single decal is not enough to eliminate the strike hazard.



Jennifer Thompson (USFWS), courtesy of Portland Parks and Recreation



Mary Coolidge

Top. Golden-crowned sparrow killed from hitting a window. Right, a small sampling of birds killed each year as a result of window strikes, collected by volunteers in Toronto.



Kenneth Herdy

Tips To Prevent Window Strikes

- Position feeders within 3 feet or more than 30 feet away from windows.
- Apply decals or artwork to the outside of windows every 4–10 inches.
- Apply string, mylar tape, raptor silhouettes, other moving deterrents to the outside of windows (e.g. birdsavers.com).
- Affix screens or netting several inches in front of windows (e.g. birdbgone.com, birdscreen.com).
- Apply window film to the outside of windows (e.g. collidescape.org).
- Natuescape to block reflections by positioning plants in front of and within 3 feet of windows.
- Turn outside lights off and close drapes during migration season: from August 25 through November 15 in the fall, and from March 15 through June 7 in the spring to minimize the luring of migrants into cities.



J. Donaldson

If a Bird Strikes Your Window

Window strikes may result either in death or injury. If a bird is stunned, place it in a small box lined with a towel. The box may be placed halfway on a heating pad (low heat). Do not give food. Place the box in a warm quiet place and check the bird in an hour. If it is alert, active and able to fly, release it immediately. If the bird is still having trouble, call the Wildlife Care Center (information on back panel of this brochure.)