

DON'T EGG THEM ON:

HOW TO SPOT AND PREVENT BIRD INFESTATIONS



Birds may make nice additions to some landscapes, but when it comes to commercial properties, they're a no-go. Not only do they create extra noise but birds also are very unsanitary, leaving droppings everywhere and spreading harmful bacteria in the process.

Keep reading to learn which ones to look for, how an infestation starts and what to do to send pest birds soaring away.

THE MOST COMMON PEST BIRDS

Not sure which birds are just coasting through and which ones pose a lasting threat to your property? Keep a watchful eye out for the following bird types:



PIGEONS AND SPARROWS:

They can be found almost anywhere, and they're not picky eaters. Leave a crumb or two lying around, and they'll swoop right in for a quick snack.



STARLINGS:

A little more selective with their cuisine, starlings feast mainly on livestock feed, and their droppings can contaminate entire batches of food.



GEESE:

On average, a single goose defecates every 20 minutes — and you don't want to waddle into that. Plus, they can become territorial and aggressive, putting surrounding people in danger of attack.

THIS MAY COME AS A FLOCK TO YOU

A bird infestation starts slow, but once a population settles in, the feathered foes can leave you wondering what to do next. Birds show four levels of attachment, and with each one, they center more of their life around your property:

- 1. SOCIALIZING:** Birds gather to rest and communicate.
- 2. FEEDING:** Birds locate food and water and use your property for meals.
- 3. ROOSTING:** Birds find shelter and start spending the night.
- 4. NESTING:** Birds reproduce and make the property their permanent home.

PROTECT YOUR OWN NEST

Luckily, there are a few things you can do to shield your property from flying fiends before they set up shop.

Repellents are not fatal to birds but will make your property less attractive to them.

Common bird repellents include:

- Electronic repellent that administers a slight shock.
- Spikes along roofs to eliminate perching.

Relocation is needed when repellents are no longer effective. A pest management professional can trap the birds with mist netting or glue boards, allowing for safe transport.

Exclusion is necessary when a building's structure is suitable for birds and when bird pressure is high. These solutions typically involve blocking areas with netting.

WHAT'S YOUR FLIGHT PLAN?

While controlling bird populations can be a challenge, it's important to remember that birds should never be harmed during the process. Call Orkin Canada today to learn how we can help safely control bird populations on your property.