

WINDOWS & BIRD STRIKES

Every year **billions of birds** die from hitting glass. It is by far the **Number 1 killer** of birds.



WHY DO BIRDS FLY INTO GLASS?

Birds don't see glass, they see a reflection of sky or trees which looks like a clear but deadly flight path. Over half of the birds who hit windows die from their injuries or are killed by a predator while stunned.



NIGHT-TIME STRIKES

Most migrating birds travel at night and many fly into lighted windows, especially in cities. Belize sits on a key migration path for hundreds of species, and artificial lights and glass buildings are a growing threat. Close blinds or curtains and turn off unnecessary lights. Shield exterior lights from above so they don't confuse night-flyers.

WHY DO BIRDS ATTACK GLASS?

Birds aren't attacking the glass, they are attacking their own reflection, thinking it's a mating or territorial rival. It can be annoying to us, and exhaustingly stressful for the bird. Most window strike remedies can help to solve this issue.

MAKE YOUR WINDOWS BIRD-SAFE

Simple remedies greatly reduce the risk. The key is to make the birds see the window as a barrier.

Ribbon, string or cord: Hanging vertically on the outside of the window, spaced around 4" apart across the entire window. You Tube has many tutorials on making bird-safe "Zen Window Curtains" which don't interfere or adhere to the glass, making them a popular solution.

Decals: Use any shape or design, but they must be installed on the outside and form a dense pattern around 6 inches apart.

Privacy Window Films: An adhesive sheet of frosted or decorative window film that won't reflect the surroundings.

UV liquid or tape: Birds see UV light so these products make highly visible deterrents. Fix the tape or liquid markings 6 inches apart.

Adhesive stripes: 1/8" window-safe white tape stuck on the outside of the window spaced about 6 inches apart.

Water soluble poster paint or soap: An inexpensive alternative, mark the outside of the window in a 4 x 2 inch grid, or get creative with dots, patterns or artwork.



A BIRD HAS HIT MY WINDOW - WHAT DO I DO?

- 1 Gently cover and catch the bird with a towel and place him in a paper bag or cardboard box (with air holes) and secure the container.
- 2 Put the bird indoors, in a quiet, warm, dark place, away from activity and safe from ants and domestic predators
- 3 Contact Belize Bird Rescue at **610-0400** for advice and assistance. Message on WhatsApp with a photo if possible.

If the bird recovers very quickly, he may be okay to release. After a few minutes, open the container outside and see if the bird flies away. If he doesn't fly off successfully, recapture and take him back inside, he probably needs more help.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Free Advertising, energy-saving solution

Perforated Window Film: creates an opaque surface on the outside of the glass which looks like a solid barrier to birds. From indoors looking out, the thousands of small perforations in the film allow a clear view. These products come in a wide variety of colors and can be custom-printed with images. Benefits of Perforated (mesh) vinyl, apart from aiding against bird strikes:

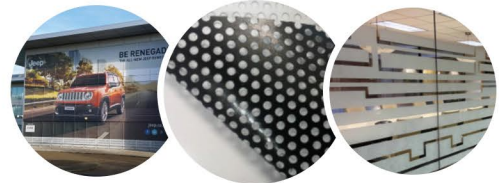
- 1 Reduces sun rays coming into office buildings by 40%, reducing AC usage and electricity bills
- 2 Increased privacy without compromising views
- 3 Revenue opportunity from marketing or paid advertising

BIRD-SAFE CONSTRUCTION

Install glass panels or windows with a slight downward-facing vertical tilt. The window surface reflects the ground, rather than the sky and the trees. The tilt is subtle enough that people don't notice it.

UV patterned glass is a glazing treatment that birds can see but humans cannot, which keeps your windows transparent and helps with energy efficiency.

Acid-etched glass obscures the transparency of the windows for both humans and birds. A chemical is used to etch a pattern or full opaque treatment onto the window, acting like permanent film.



WHAT HAPPENS TO BIRDS THAT HIT WINDOWS?

Often the bird dies. Even those temporarily stunned may fly away and die later from internal bleeding or head trauma.

Injuries include head trauma, fractures in the breast, wings or legs and beak or eye injuries, all of which require medical attention. Warning signs are unusual head or wing position, blood in the mouth or nostrils, inability to stand.



ANY DOUBT AT ALL -GIVE US A CALL 610 0400



BELIZE BIRD RESCUE

Roaring Creek, Cayo District
www.belizebirdrescue.org
info@belizebirdrescue.org
610 0400 (phone, text, WhatsApp)
Facebook/Instagram @belizebirdrescue

