

How to help a window collision victim

1. Contain the bird in a secure, ventilated container. A shoebox works well for most small birds.
2. When you pick up the bird to contain it, make a quick check for injuries. If you that it does have an injury, (blood in mouth, blood on feathers, a wing in an abnormal position or wings are held asymmetrical to each other, leg is abnormally bent, or bird appears unconscious), please call us back at 608-287-3235 to make an appointment to bring it in for rehabilitation right away.
3. If no obvious injuries are present but the bird does not fly away, allow it to rest in its container for 1 hour in a quiet, dark area away from people and pets.
4. Do not offer food or water to the bird while it is in the box.
5. After the hour is up, take the box outside and set the small box containing the bird into a tall container (garbage cans work well for this). The container needs to be tall enough that the bird is unable to simply hop out.
6. Open the small box once inside the tall container, and step back. If the bird can fly out of the tall container, leave it be. It will hopefully recover and survive in the wild without any further treatment.
7. If the bird is unable to fly out of the can, please contain it back in the small box, and call us back to schedule an appointment to bring the bird in for treatment. For information about safely transporting the bird once contained, please click [HERE](#).



Ideas for Preventing Future Collisions

It is estimated that up to one billion birds are killed each year from flying into windows. Birds hit glass because the reflection they see looks like the sky or vegetation, there is green habitat inside the windows that they think they can land in, or because they think they can fly through the windows when they can see out another window on the other side of the building.

Here are some things you can do to prevent future window collisions at your home or business. Start with altering the windows near bird feeders or roosting sites, or the windows with the highest incidence of collisions.

1. Mark your windows with bird tape, reflective decals, tempera paint, soap, window markers or window clings that will alert birds to the presence of glass. These markers should be close together to be most effective.
2. Mount netting or screens on the outside of your windows 2-3" from the glass.

3. Avoid putting green plants right inside of your windows.
4. Keep bird feeders within 3 feet of your window, or more than 30 feet away. Most importantly, work to make the windows near your feeders safe first as these are the ones most likely to be hit by birds.
5. Close your window blinds when you're not home, or don't need the natural light inside. If you have vertical blinds, keep them partially closed. Be especially aware of windows that line up across from each other in a room, and try to keep blinds one or the other closed to prevent the illusion that the bird can fly straight through.

Additional Resources:

[Make Your Windows Bird-Safe](#) by the Humane Society of the United States

[Glass Collisions](#) by American Bird Conservancy

Products that may reduce the incidence of window collisions:

[ABC BirdTape](#)

[The Bird Screen Company](#)

[Acopian Bird Savers](#) (Do-it-Yourself or Purchase)

[Window Alert](#)