

BIRD COLLISION CORPS

A Madison-based bird and window collision monitoring program | swibirds.org/bcc

Bird Collision Corps began in Spring 2018 in response to community interest. UW-Madison, Southern Wisconsin Bird Alliance, and Dane County Wildlife Center created a program to examine which buildings on the UW-Madison campus posed greatest risk for bird-window collisions and work to remedy those problem areas. Since then the program has expanded to additional areas in the greater Madison area. Through this program, we are working to create a safer environment for birds.

PROTOCOL

- Volunteers survey assigned buildings each week
- Each survey period 6 weeks long, during spring and fall migration
- Data collated in iNaturalist, downloaded and cross-checked by program coordinators
- Results & recommendations shared with sites

Data collected by BCC volunteer citizen scientists influenced the creation of the first Bird-safe Glass Ordinance in Wisconsin, passed in Madison in 2020 and Middleton in 2024.

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Did you know window collisions kill up to 1 billion birds every year in the United States alone?

Almost half of those collisions happen at homes, and most of the others happen at low-rise buildings like offices and apartments. We can change that!

1 Find out if birds are hitting your windows at home

In most cases, just one or two windows are problematic for birds. Listen and watch for where birds are hitting windows.

3 Install your window treatment or hire someone to do it

Many window treatments can be done by ordering a product and installing it yourself, or you can find a list of contractors in southern Wisconsin you can hire to do it for you at swibirds.org/prevent-collisions.

2 Find a window treatment that works for you

Dots, paracord curtains, bird tape, insect screens... the options are abundant! Visit swibirds.org/prevent-collisions to get ideas.

4 Tell your friends, family, and neighbors!

Window treatments are great bird conservation tools, and great conversation starters. Share with your friends and neighbors how they can save birds at their houses too. Encourage your legislators to adopt bird-safe glass ordinances in your town.

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