



Pigeons: Prevention Tips

Pigeons and the messes they leave behind can contaminate surfaces, damage equipment, increase safety risks, and result in bad reviews. Avoid costly disruptions and reduce liability risks by maintaining a bird-free business. Get started today with our prevention tips.

Where you might see them

- Pigeons will congregate anywhere food is available.
- They'll gather on ledges or roof edges to maintain a "birds-eye view."
- Trash areas, including dumpsters and outdoor trash cans.
- Loading docks offer food, shelter, and warmth. They also make great lookouts for watching nearby dumpsters.
- HVAC units on rooftops. NOTE: Because these units suck in air, harmful bacteria, feathers, or droppings could filter into the facility through air intakes.
- Pooling water provides a drinking and bathing source for pigeons.

Tips for prevention

- Educate employees and guests not to feed the birds. Signs can help.

- Cover all trash receptacles. Don't allow dumpsters to remain open. For smaller, public-area trash cans, use self-closing lids.
- Clean up trash. If you have an area that is prone to people littering, use signs encouraging clean up. Have a daily trash pick-up plan.
- Remove standing water. This includes cleaning gutters and resurfacing uneven pavement.
- Perform quarterly roof inspections. Look for signs of bird activity, such as droppings or feathers around HVAC units and on ledges.
- Wherever possible, exclude or eliminate protected areas where pigeons may nest and hide, such as under loading dock overhangs.
- Although pigeons are not a protected species in North America, your pest control expert can suggest a variety of humane and effective solutions.



ID and biology

- The common pigeon (rock dove), has a grayish-blue body, with black stripes on the wings, and purple-green iridescent coloring near the neck and head.
- The average pigeon is 10 - 14 inches in size and weighs slightly less than a pound.
- Pigeons are voracious eaters and eat about 10% of their body weight in a day.
- Pigeons breed year round, but spring and fall are the most active season for producing young.

Experience pest-free. Call 866.483.5166 for a FREE consultation or contact us online at rentokil.com/us

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