



1 *Billion* Birds Are Lost
Annually In Collisions with
Building Glass

AERIAL HABITAT NEEDS CONSERVATION TOO



Because we have this:

We have this:

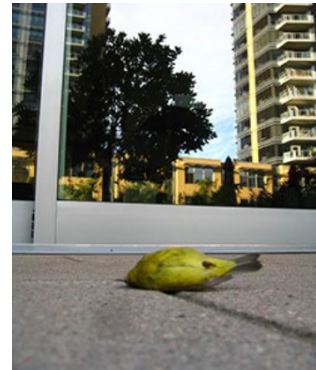


A tall skyscraper is shown at night, illuminated by warm yellow lights from its windows. A construction crane is visible on top of the building. Two powerful blue spotlights shine down from above, creating a dramatic effect against the dark sky. The overall scene suggests a modern urban environment at night.

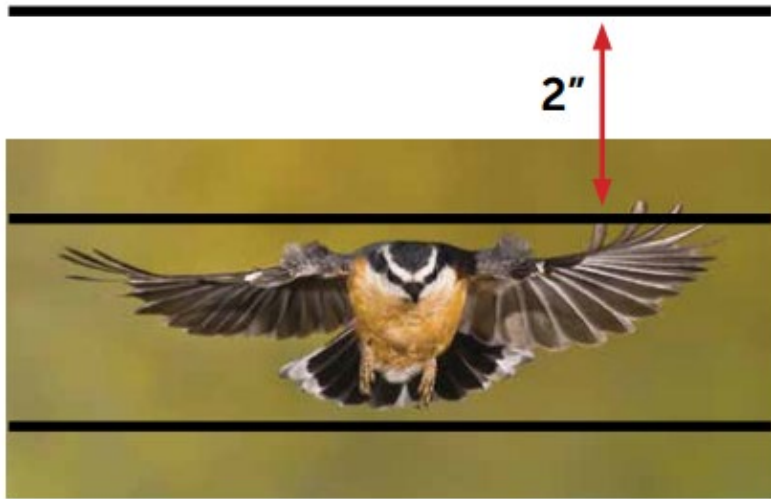
Artificial Nighttime Lighting Attracts Migrants

29% Fewer Birds in US than in 1970

- Migratory – long range neotropical migrants
- Healthy – good body weight score
- Breeding condition
- Lost prior to completing migration – no chance to reproduce
- Face the threat twice per year – spring and fall
- Fall migration includes fledgling deaths
- Numbers are increasing due to increases in use of glass and lighting

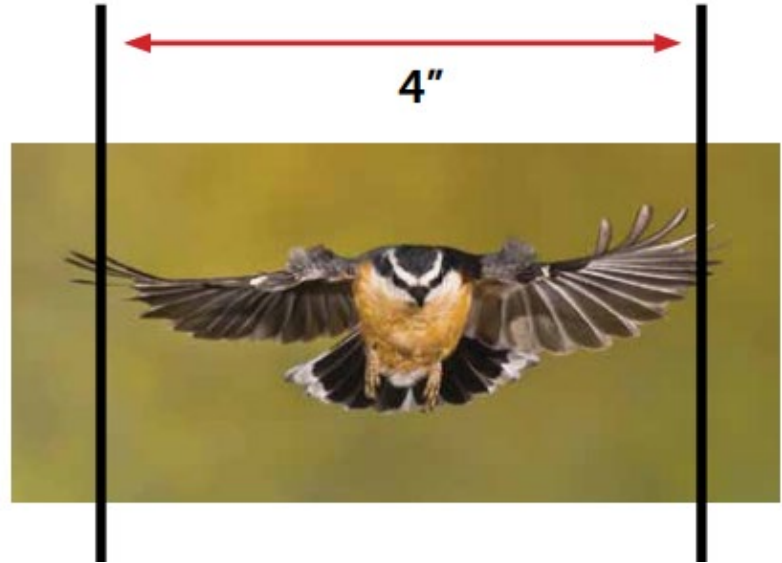


Horizontal lines with a maximum spacing of 2 inches



Red-breasted Nuthatch. Photo by Roy Hancliff

Vertical lines with a maximum spacing of 4 inches



Solution = 2x4 Rule

Many Architectural Solutions



Number of glass buildings is growing exponentially

- Glass buildings lose energy and contribute to climate change
- LEED pilot credit 55 is cost neutral in cost but saves money over time through less air conditioning
- Many buildings are retrofitting to become LEED Platinum, including National Aquarium in Baltimore, DNR Tawes, and Javits Center in NYC



95% Less Bird Deaths at Javits



25% Less Energy Used

Federal Bill

Bird-Safe Buildings Act of 2021

HR 1986

U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL)

Passed U.S. House twice in
2020 attached to larger bills



State and Local Bills

Minnesota 2013 law

Illinois 2021 law

21 local jurisdictions

Maryland may be next state law



Howard County Passed Bird Safe Building Law in July 2020



Council Bill 11-2020

Requiring certain projects to document that the project meets specified bird-friendly design standards

Local
Maryland
Legislators
considering

Bird Safe
Building Bills



Anne
Arundel
County –
Lisa Rodvien



Wicomico
County –
Josh
Hastings



Frederick
County –
Kai Hagan



Montgomery
County –
Tom Hucker

Maryland Sustainable Buildings Acts of 2019—2022

Passed State House 4 times
and State Senate 1 time in
last 4 years





Maryland Sustainable Buildings

- **HB 433** Department of General Services
Conserving Standards (Maryland
Buildings Act of 2022)
- Provides for all new and substantial
buildings with 51% state funding
standards per LEED Pilot Credit

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Bill Provisions

- **LEED Pilot Credit 55 includes calculating the Threat Factor (likelihood of bird collision) for every material, glass and non-glass, on a building envelope**
- **Glass may be used anywhere desired if it includes a pattern of dots or line (or UV or screening) that birds can see (but is rarely noticed by people)**
- **Facade on the lower four floors (where birds most often collide) must be 90% bird safe, while higher up on the same building must be 60% bird safe**
- **Lighting overnight is reduced, from midnight to dawn, during spring and fall migration**
- **Monitoring requirement of LEED 55 is not included in HB 43**
- **Buildings shall meet LEED 55 “to the extent practicable and within budgetary constraints”**



Let's Pass Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act in 2023