A bird may reach high speeds when flying, with some species capable of reaching speeds over 100 miles per hour. Many combination of factors influence the frequency of bird collisions:

- Window size, angle, amount and type of vegetation surrounding the area, feeder placement, sex and age of the bird, local or migrants, etc.

- Birds do not perceive windows as a solid barrier and either see the reflection of sky and scenery or the area through the windows.

- Birds are able to see in both the visible and ultraviolet spectrums and therefore UV paint and tape are available as deterrents for bird strikes that may be applied to a window surface.

- LEED accreditation is available for buildings reaching a bird friendly standard.

Bird deaths resulting from window collisions are responsible for over 1 billion deaths annually and are ranked the number one threat to bird populations across the country.

50% of the birds upon impact die and 50% are stunned - vulnerable to predation, especially by cats.

A bird may reach high speeds when flying through a space no larger than 2” by 4”.

Many combination of factors influence the frequency of bird collisions:

- Window size, angle, amount and type of vegetation surrounding the area, feeder placement, sex and age of the bird, local or migrants, etc.

- Birds tend to strike under five stories (residential) buildings more often than skyscrapers.

- Formed a protocol for surveying a selected number of buildings on campus.

- Collaborated with Bret Mossman in forming GIS images of the buildings to be surveyed.

- Worked with Oklahoma State University graduate student Corey Riding in formulating a collaborative procedure to collect comparable data.

- Recruited volunteers.

Background

- Surveying six selected buildings and two walkways to establish a control for bird collisions on campus.

- Identifying problem landscapes or architectural designs.

- Learning when (seasonal and daily differences) and which bird species are more likely to strike windows.

- LEED accreditation is available for buildings reaching a bird friendly standard.

References:


