

# Crows/Ravens

**AKA:** American Crow, Fish Crow, Northwestern Crows. Common Raven.

**Scientific Classification:** Animalia, Chordata, Aves, Passeriformes, Corvidae, *Corvus* (*corvus* includes crows, ravens, magpies and jays).

**Bird Size & Markings:** Ravens and Crows often inhabit overlapping territories and it can be difficult to tell the difference between them. Ravens are larger with 46" wingspans and 55 oz. body weights. Crows are smaller with 36" wingspans and 25 oz. body weights. Both have black plumage, strong bills and legs. The bird's call is the most reliable method to identify the species of individual birds.

**Habitat:** In the wild, they inhabit fields, open woodlands, and forests. Urban birds can be seen at parking lots, athletic fields, city parks and refuse collection sites. Both crows and ravens are recognized as very intelligent animals. They are tool makers and users. They can identify and remember individual people.

**Nesting/Dens:** Wild crows and ravens nest in trees or on naturally occurring ledges. Urban birds nest on power poles, building ledges, billboards, bridges, etc. Their nests usually consist of heavy sticks, branches and twigs lined with a softer insulating layer of mud, grass, trash, etc. A couple times a year, both species lay between 3 and 9 eggs. Each brood fledges after 3 to 4 weeks.

**Food:** Crows and Ravens are bold and opportunistic, eating almost anything they can get hold of. They eat carrion, eggs, insects, scorpions, fish, grains, berries, pet food and any type of human food they can steal. Both species have problem solving intelligence and use it to get any kind of food it can.

**Impact on Human Health:** Both species are highly susceptible to West Nile Virus and infestations of bird mites and other parasites. Their waste can contain up to 60 transmittable diseases. The habit of nesting in the same location year-after-year creates conditions favorable to the growth of unwanted organisms.

**Impact on Architecture:** While crow and raven droppings are a concern, it is their inexplicable and sometimes delinquent behavior that is the more common complaint. For some unknown reason, both species peck at weatherproofing seals, seams in single ply roofs, reflections in windows, roof vents, chimney caps and more. This is the primary complaint.

## Crow & Raven Control Methods:

**Bird Spikes:** *Premium Nixalite Stainless Spikes.*

**Bird Netting:** *K-Net HT Bird Netting, Bird-Net Bird Netting, PollyNet Bird Netting, Bare-Hand Crop & Vineyard Netting, Welded Wire Mesh.*

**Dispersal:** Fogging with *Fog Force Bird Fogging Repellent, Bird Hazing* with aerosol generators, *Acoustic Dispersal* with HyperSpike acoustic hammers.

**Additional Products:** The *Air Crow Moving Scare Crow*, the *ScareCrow Motion Activated* sprinkler, *CopperBlocker Access Control, Vent & Chimney Guards*, etc.

**NOTE:** Both Crows and Ravens are protected by the US Migratory Bird Treaty Act. **It is your responsibility to check local, state and federal regulations regarding the control of bird and/or animal species.**

Simply purchasing the best control does not guarantee success. Best results come from a thorough knowledge of both the species and the product or method you employ. If you have any questions, please contact Nixalite of America Inc and speak with a bird control product specialist.



*Of the two species, the Raven (shown) is the larger of the two. Both Crows and Ravens are considered to be highly intelligent birds.*



*Crows gather in large numbers in winter to sleep in communal roosts. There can be as many as 2 million crows in one roost. Serious problems arise when roosts move into cities.*



*A flock of crows are a "murder". A flock of ravens are an "unkindness". This hints at the history crows and ravens have had with humans.*

*Note: factual content from Wikipedia, Audubon, US Center for Disease Control, US Federal Register Codebook, and others.*



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