

Seagulls

AKA: While there are many 'seagull' species, the most commonly reported as a pest is the Ring-billed Gull. Herring and California Gulls are common as well.

Scientific Classification: Animalia, Chordata, Aves, Charadriiformes, Laridae; Larus; L. delawarensis (there are several subspecies).

Bird Size & Markings: An adult Ring Billed Gull is about 20" long, stands 18" high and can have a 46" wingspan. They can weigh up to 24 ounces. Adults are clean gray above, with a white head, body and tail; their black wing tips are spotted with white. They have yellow legs and a yellow bill circled by a black band.

Habitat: Ring Billed Gulls often congregate around humans, at garbage dumps, parking lots, and freshly plowed fields. While the species is common on coastal beaches, many Gulls lead inland lives, never setting eyes on the sea.

Nesting/Dens: In the wild, Ring Billed Gulls build nests of grass and twigs on naturally occurring ledges. In urban settings, they build nests on flat roofs, ledges, and in vacated buildings. A mated pair incubate 2-4 eggs for 4 weeks and help feed the hatched young. The young fledge at about 5 weeks after hatching.

Food: Ring Billed Gulls are highly adaptable feeders that take advantage of a wide range of prey. This includes fish, marine and freshwater invertebrates, insects, rodents, eggs, carrion, offal, reptiles, amphibians, plant seeds and fruit and even other birds. It is however their preference for human food or human discards and garbage that makes them the pests that they have become.

Impact on Human Health: More than 60 diseases have been identified in bird droppings. By returning to the same roosts, year after year, seagulls create conditions ideal for the growth of unwanted organisms, disease and parasites. Most seagull species harbor bird mites and other parasites.

Impact on Architecture: Bird droppings are hazardous to your property. Left untouched, acidic droppings can corrode or deteriorate all types of building material. It corrodes steel, rots wood, deteriorates concrete. The sheer weight of droppings created by a flock of gulls can destroy roofs, canopies, bridges, etc.

Seagull Control Methods:

Bird Spikes: *Premium Nixalite Stainless Spikes, E-Spike Economy Stainless Spikes* and *Composite or Plastic Pigeon Spikes*.

Bird Netting: *K-Net HT Bird Netting, Bird-Net Bird Netting, PollyNet Bird Netting, EnduraNet Bird & Bat Netting, BareHand Crop & Vineyard Netting, Net-Zooka Net Launchers, Welded Wire Mesh*.

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

Additional Products: *Bird-Zap Shock Track, FliteLine Post & Wire, Live Capture Bird Traps, PiGNX, Tanglefoot*, and *4-The-Birds* repellent pastes.

NOTE: Gulls are one of the 1,007 bird species 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.



Seagulls equate humans with food and shelter. They are often found in shopping store parking lots waiting for food to be dropped.



Even immature seagulls can be aggressive when it comes to food. They are known to steal food right off of the table while people are still eating. They are bold and determined.



Left to themselves, gulls can make a big mess in a small amount of time. For long lasting control, use a stainless steel bird barrier spike.

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



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