

Turkey Vulture

AKA: Turkey Buzzard, Buzzard, Vulture, Carrion Crow, Carrion Buzzard, etc.

Scientific Classification: Animalia, Chordata, Aves, Incertae sedis (disputed), Cathartidae; Cathartes; C. aura.

Bird Size & Markings: Adult Turkey Vultures can be 32" long, stand 30" high and have 6 foot wingspans. Males and females have brownish-black body plumage, silvery-gray flight feathers, bare red heads and a short yellow hooked bill. Turkey Vultures have very limited vocalization; it can only hiss or grunt.

Habitat: The Turkey Vulture is the most abundant vulture in the Americas. It is commonly found in open and semi-open areas throughout the Americas from southern Canada to Cape Horn. It is a permanent resident in southern US States, though northern birds may migrate as far as South America. It prefers to roost on tall dead trees or high bare cliffs. It will roost on man-made structures such as water towers, skyscrapers, billboards and other structures of sufficient height.

Nesting/Dens: There is little or no construction of a nest; eggs are laid on bare surfaces in protected locations such as a cliff, cave, burrow or inside a hollow tree. They lay 1 or 2 eggs for each brood. Chicks fledge 9 to 10 weeks after hatching. Family groups stay together until fall.

Food: Turkey Vultures prefer to feed on fresh carrion ranging in size from small mammals and dead fish to dead cattle and other grazers. They prefer fresh carrion and avoid rotting carcasses. When carrion is absent, they can feed on melon crops, live insects, discarded food, animal grease, pet food, etc.

Impact on Human Health: Turkey Vultures roost and nest on a wide variety of man-made structures. As carrion eaters, they have been accused of carrying Anthrax, Hog Cholera and other harmful organisms associated with decomposition. They often harbor parasites like mites, ticks, fleas and lice. Their droppings are acidic and often harbor disease carrying organisms.

Impact on Architecture: Turkey Vultures often roost and or nest on man-made structures. They produce large volumes of droppings which can be acidic. If left undisturbed, these droppings can deteriorate any type of surface.

Turkey Vulture Control Methods:

Bird Spikes: *Premium Nixalite Bird Spikes.*

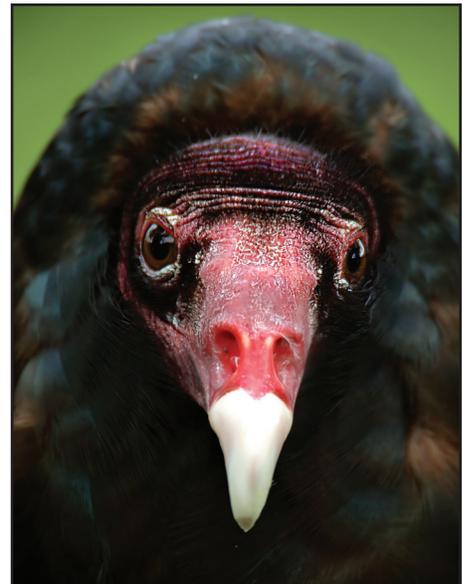
Bird Netting: *K-Net HT Bird Netting, Bird-Net Bird Netting, PollyNet Bird Netting, EnduraNet Bird Netting, Welded Wire Mesh.*

Area Dispersal: *Propane Cannons.*

Additional Products: *Bird-Zap Shock Track, Roof and Vent Screens and Guards.*

NOTE: Turkey Vultures 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.



A Turkey Vulture's primary method of defence is the projection vomiting of semi-digested carrion. This deters most attackers (No doubt!).



The wing spread stance serves multiple functions; to dry the wings, warm the bird and bake off the bacteria often left on the bird after feeding on carrion.



While awkward on the ground, Turkey Vultures are superior soaring birds. They use thermals to stay aloft and rarely need to flap its wings.

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



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