



Birds

Fledglings

In the spring and summer, Animal Control often receives calls for birds that are on the ground and seem not able to fly. More often than not these birds are fledglings. These are young birds that have just left the nest and have not yet learned to fly. Most birds will spend some time on the ground after they outgrow the nest, but before they fully develop and learn to fly. They may still have a downy appearance, and might appear a little smaller than a full-grown adult of the same species.

Usually the parents are around and keeping an eye on them, and they will continue to feed the babies until they finally figure out how to get off the ground. If you see a bird that appears to be a fledgling, just leave it alone and let the parents continue to raise it. It is true that a lot of birds do not make it through this stage, but that is a part of nature taking its course.

If the bird is dragging a wing, has blood on it, or in some other way appears injured, Animal Control will respond to evaluate and assist it.

Pigeons

Pigeons can be seen flying and roosting throughout the City. If you have problems with pigeons roosting and nesting on your house, the best long-term solution is to employ barrier methods to keep them out. This can involve using wire mesh or hardware cloth to screen off cubbies and corners of your home so the pigeon cannot get in there. You can also use “fingers” of wire sticking straight up on the roof or gutters to prevent the pigeon from landing without getting pricked by the wires. There are also many commercial products available on the market to exclude pigeons if you’re not up to creating your own.

