

## BIRD DROPPING/EXCREMENT REMOVAL CHECKLIST

Adequate procedures for preventing the accumulation of bird droppings on structures and machinery, and for assuring safe and healthy work practices by employees engaged in the removal/clean-up of droppings, are necessary to preclude environments that support the proliferation of harmful disease organisms, to prevent unnecessary corrosion, to minimize unpleasant odors, and to impede human activities.

A number of illnesses, to include cryptococcosis, histoplasmosis, and psittacosis are associated with dry bird droppings, primarily those from pigeons and bats. Arizona has been fortunate in that we have had no confirmed cases of human disease associated with bird droppings. The primary mode of transmission of these diseases to humans is via inhalation of the disease causing organisms when dry bird droppings are disturbed and become airborne.

The means of assuring that bird dropping related diseases do not become an Arizona problem can be accomplished. Bird proofing systems (i.e. electrical shock devices, bird “spikes”, hawks, etc) provide a means of minimizing birds from roosting in human populated areas which will minimize the accumulation of droppings. Some bird proofing systems have proven to be effective and some have questionable results. In addition, an effective and systematic protocol for the cleanup and removal of bird droppings is necessary. Cleanup is normally done by professional contractors or by properly qualified, trained, and equipped facility maintenance staff. The following checklist may be used to assist in assuring safe, healthy, and proper cleanup. The checklist should also be used to develop a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) for cleanup and removal of bird droppings.

Routine sampling and analysis for disease organisms in bird droppings are not recommended and is unnecessary if the cleanup precautions outlined in this checklist are followed. If sampling is determined to be necessary based upon a qualified medical diagnosis, the Risk Management Loss Prevention Industrial Hygiene Unit should be contacted for additional assistance and guidance.

Identification of Potential Bird Dropping Problems*	YES	NO	N/A
Have you incorporated a requirement within your periodic “Safety Inspection” program to visually assess for the presence of accumulated bird droppings on or near occupied structures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is special attention given to air handling system fresh air introduction locations to minimize the potential for bird droppings and other potential contaminants to create an indoor air quality issue for building occupants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do facilities maintenance and custodial staff assess for bird dropping as a part of their normal inspection and preventive maintenance activities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Reference the Risk Management Loss Prevention Manual, “Safety Inspections” R2-10-207 5 for safety inspection information and the “Maintenance Program”, R2-10-207 7 for agency requirements for agency controlled resources, located at internet site, <http://risk.az.gov/>. Select the Loss Prevention section then click on Online Loss Prevention Manual for these two programs.

## BIRD DROPPING/EXCREMENT REMOVAL CHECKLIST

<b>Written Documentation **</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Has a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) been developed for cleanup and removal of bird droppings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have affected employees been trained via the JHA?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have affected employees been trained on the required items of personal protective equipment (PPE)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has PPE training been documented as having been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are affected employees included within the agency's respiratory protection program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- \*\* Reference the Risk Management Loss Prevention Manual section on Personal Protective Equipment and Job Hazard Analysis (R2-10-207 k) at internet site, <http://risk.az.gov/> and the section on Respiratory Protection (R2-10-207 11I) at internet site, <http://risk.az.gov/>. Select the Loss Prevention section, click on Online Loss Prevention Manual then Industrial Hygiene for these two programs.

<b>Employee Protection from Infective Organisms ***</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Are employees required to wear NIOSH approved HEPA filtered respirators (minimally a N100 or N95)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are employees required to wear protective eye protection (i.e. goggles)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are employees required to wear disposable coveralls, gloves, boots, and hats?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are disposable items of PPE removed and placed into plastic bags prior to respirators being removed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are goggles disinfected (a 10% bleach solution) after the work shift?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*\*\* Note: The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard applies to this section and employees engaged in tasks involving the use of hazardous chemicals must be included within the scope of this program. Reference the Risk Management Loss Prevention Manual section on Hazard Communication (R2-10-207 11a) at internet site, <http://risk.az.gov/>. Select the Loss Prevention section, click on Online Loss Prevention Manual then Industrial Hygiene for this program.

<b>Cleanup and Disposal Procedures ****</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Is a low velocity water mist spray used to saturate accumulated droppings prior to commencement of cleanup?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is bird excrement removal done only during other than normal building occupant working hours, on weekends, or periods of minimal building usage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the air handling system for the building shut down and all affected fresh air intakes sealed off prior to the work commencing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are barricades and signage used to keep the public away from the work area during all operations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are bird droppings and contaminated disposable items of PPE placed into securely closed double plastic bags and then placed into dumpsters for transport and landfill disposal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are all tools used in the clean up procedure disinfected (10% bleach solution) after the task has been completed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

\*\*\*\* Note: Simple hosing with water is normally adequate to remove small amounts of recently deposited droppings from sidewalks and pavement.)

## **BIRD DROPPING/EXCREMENT REMOVAL CHECKLIST**

Note: This checklist is to be used as a “tool” to assist in determining if the basic requirements of a proper program are in effect. The checklist is not necessarily all inclusive but does provide procedures and practices to protect employees from biological hazards which may be associated with the clean up and disposal of bird droppings.

The Risk Management Loss Prevention website, <http://risk.az.gov/> and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, [www.cdc.gov/other.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/other.htm), may be referenced for additional information on this, and other, loss prevention issues.