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CLEAN UP BIRD DROPPINGS **BEFORE INSTALLATION**

The first step before installing anti-perching deterrents, such as bird spikes, bird wire, or gel repellents in a pest bird site, is to clean the area of bird droppings and nest debris. Cleaning is not only necessary to provide a reliable installation surface, but also to protect the health of technicians doing the work.

When working around accumulated bird droppings, there may be a risk of fungal diseases depending on how long birds have been roosting at the site, the age and amount of droppings, and whether there is soil contact. The respiratory diseases can be acquired when fungus spores from accumulated infected droppings become airborne and are inhaled.



1. Conduct a quick risk assessment of the site, not only for potential disease transmission, but also for worker safety if working on roofs and ledges.
2. Select personal protective equipment based on the perceived risks at the site. Protection from fungal diseases should include a respirator.
3. Lightly wet the droppings with a fine spray of 10% bleach solution to reduce dust (and airborne spores). If the droppings are deeper than 3cm, also use an enzyme cleaning product.
4. Shovel the dampened droppings into double-bagged, heavy-duty garbage bags. Use the same disposal procedure for nests, dead birds, and other debris. Seal and dispose of bags in a landfill or other approved manner.
5. Wash the area with hot, soapy water and a household disinfectant, and a scrubbing brush.
6. If necessary, treat the installation site with an insecticide to kill nest ectoparasites such as mites, ticks, and fleas.
7. Install bird deterrents as soon as possible after the area has dried and before birds can re-soil the area.

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