

Domestic pigeon & Ring billed gull classification and details

Classification of Domestic pigeon:

Scientific classification	Common names: Domestic pigeon & Ring billed gull
Kingdom: Animalia	
Phylum: Chordata	
Class: Aves	Scientific Name: Pigeon: <i>Columba livia</i>
Order: Columbiformes	Ring billed gull: <i>Larus delawarensis</i>
Family: Columbidae	
Genus: Columba	
Species: <i>C. livia</i>	Overall length: Pigeon: 34cm (13.5 in)
Subspecies: <i>C. l. domestica</i>	Ring billed gull: 45-50cm (18in-20in)
Binomial name	
<i>Columba livia domestica</i>	

Colour: Pigeon: Bluish- grey with narrow black wings bands and white ram. Adult ring billed gull: Silver-grey on back, white on head, tails and underparts, black tipped wing



(A) Ring billed gul



(B) Domestic pigeon

Reasons for controlling birds including pigeons & ring billed gulls.

Bird such as pigeon, starling and house sparrow thrive well in buildings, they in the process of eating and roosting leave their droppings on food (grains), water resources, park benches, ledges, balconies, rooftops and air vents.

When birds flock together in large number especially in the urban setting they become a major nuisance in our cities. Birds pose a serious health risk to human when they contaminate our food, drinking water sources as well as air vents to homes.

The airborne particles contain dormant fungi and bacteria, when these disease causing pathogens are breathed into the lungs, the infested person can become very ill. The moist lining of the lungs provides a breeding ground for the infectious agents. Symptoms of infection are flu like in nature, coughing, high temperature, limited breathing, body fatigue sometimes may take place in the infested person for days.

Large numbers of Ringed-billed gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) for example could pose serious risk to aircraft; hence they need to be controlled. Their dropping defaces park benches, sidewalks and cars in parking lots. Gulls are scavengers and are often found in areas of landfills, dumps, and garbage areas and usually prefer to nest on island such as the Toronto Island where they number about 850,000 (possibly contamination the lake water with their droppings). They are also very noisy to neighborhood resident.

List of some problems caused by birds including pigeons.

- Pigeon dropping deface and speed up the deterioration of buildings. and statues.
- They cause serious loss to grains on farms.
- Contaminate foodstuff and spread disease to humans.
- Feral pigeon carry pigeon ornithosis (psittacosis), New castle disease aspergilosis, pseudotuberculosis, pigeon coccidiosis, toxoplasmosis, encephalitis, and salmonellosis many of which can be transmitted to humans.
- Histoplasmosis and cryptococosis can infest man when cleaning dust containing pigeon manure.
- Pigeon have ectoparasites (live on skin) such as bugs, fleas, ticks and mites which can cause disease.
- Welts and skin infections result from mite bites.
- Pigeon nest contain ectoparasites such as Northern fowl mite and often invade homes.
- Pigeon nest harbour numerous body (ectoparasites) and dermestid beetles.

Please call us if you see the following situation prevailing in your residential of commercial property, we will be happy to assist you. We do everything very humanely and professionally according to Ministry of Environment guidelines!

1. Birds feeding, nesting, leaving large amount of droppings in enclosed spaces.
2. Birds nesting inside or near air vents of homes, restaurants, food processing facilities, near silos, balconies of apartments, homes, hospitals just to name a few need to be controlled.

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