What will the City do?

- Continue providing normal City services such as solid waste disposal, street sweeping, mowing of greenbelts in areas affected by rookeries.
- Provide additional street sweeping and power-washing of public right of ways that are affected.
- Help identify if eggs are present in nests to determine if scare tactics can take place.
- Legally remove eggs or dead or injured birds that have fallen to the ground.
- Coordinate informational meetings for residents regarding the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.
- Provide updates and information to the community.

Contact Information

To report bird sightings or other migratory bird issues visit **https://www.thecolonytx.gov/Migratory-Birds**

For questions and general information regarding migratory birds:

Pam Nelson, Community Services Director
pnelson@thecolonytx.gov or (972)624-3958, or
David Swain, Recreation Manager
dswain@thecolonytx.gov or (972)624-3959.

To report dead or injured birds (24 hrs./day):

The Colony Animal Services Department, (972)370-9250, or The Colony Police Non-Emergency, (972)625-1887.

For additional information contact:

Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. Urban Wildlife Biologist at (972)293-3841

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Division of Migratory Bird Management at (817)277-1100, or U.S.D.A. Wildlife Degradation Permit Application Info at (817)978-3146.

Common Migratory Birds

Cattle Egret
Breed late February - October

Yellow-Crowned Night Heron
Breed March - July

Snowy Egret
Breed March - August

Great Blue Heron
Breed March - July

Great Egret
Breed March - August

Little Blue Heron
Breed March - July

Migratory Birds In Our Community

THE COLONY
City by the Lake

Migratory Birds: What can YOU do?

BEFORE NESTING SEASON BEGINS: (December - February)

- Be on the lookout for "sentry" birds. They are the first to arrive looking for good nesting places. Report sightings to your neighbors and to the City by contacting Pam Nelson, Community Services Director, at (972)624-3958 or pnelson@thecolonytx.gov.
- Familiarize yourself with the variety of birds found in Texas. Each species has a different breeding period. Be on the lookout for these birds beginning at these times - February: Yellow-Crowned Night Heron; March: Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret.
- Nesting season is typically March - October. Pre and post nesting season is typically November - February.
- Do not kill, harass, relocate, move or attempt to scare away the birds by any means during nesting season.

WHEN BIRDS FIRST ARRIVE: (January - April)

- Use a combination of scaring devices before birds lay eggs.
- As soon as you see birds on or near your property, begin using scare tactics.
- Use noisemakers, water spray or shine lights at night.
- Hang "scare eye" balloons or other moving objects in trees.
- Use long poles, tennis balls or water hoses to disturb early nesting material - BEFORE EGGS ARE LAID.
- After presence of eggs have been verified, all scare tactics must cease.
- Do not harm birds or eggs. These birds and eggs are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

IF A ROOKERY IS ESTABLISHED: (March - September):

- Continue normal maintenance of your property (mowing, weed-eating, edging, watering, etc.)
- Power wash or spray down your sidewalks, lawns, landscaping, home, etc. to dissipate bird waste.
- Call The Colony Animal Services at (972)370-9250 or The Colony PD Non-Emergency at (972)625-1887 (24 hours a day) to report fallen eggs, injured, or dead birds. Animal Services will pick them up.
- DO NOT attempt to handle birds, and DO NOT do anything to intentionally disturb the birds or their nests!

AFTER NESTING SEASON ENDS: (October - January)

- Remove any old, abandoned nests.
- Get your trees trimmed! Remove deadwood, and thin tree canopy to allow sunlight between limbs and other trees. Keep them trimmed and thinned- the birds like nesting in thick canopied trees.
- Be a good neighbor and help those who may have special needs and/or team up with your neighbors when hiring a tree trimming service and ask for discount rates for group service.
- Be watchful and report these bird arrivals anywhere in your neighborhood in late winter/early spring to the City. They may not be your problem at the time, but that can change quickly!