

DEB Notice 041508**Effective Date: 04/15/08**

Add the following to the Construction and Professional Services Manual:

Section 910.1 Nuisance Bird Control

When dealing with nuisance birds, it is important to minimize the risk of affecting non-target species. The use of an integrated wildlife damage management plan, where multiple methods are implemented to reduce or eliminate damage is recommended. These methods can include harassment (loud noise, distress calls, visual frightening devices), chemical deterrents (repellents, roost inhibitors), physical barriers (netting, anti-perching devices, structural repairs), and habitat modification (vegetation management, eliminating sources of food and water). Control methods should be chosen as appropriate for the treatment area and to selectively control the target species. Some methods may be impractical, illegal, or aesthetically undesirable in some locations, so alternatives should be considered in these circumstances. If considering any methods of nuisance bird control, please contact your local office of the United States Department of Agriculture or the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for advice.

When using sticky, polybutene-based roost inhibitors to deter pigeons from roosting, the designer should be aware of the product's effect on the target species and if there are any residual effects to other species or the environment. The designer should be aware of nearby sources of food and cover that may attract migratory birds to the treatment area. The designer may reconsider the use of the product or take additional steps to ensure that smaller, non-target birds do not become entangled in or harmed by the product. The product should be used in such a manner as to target the intended species only and applied in areas where the risk of affecting non-target species is minimal. Physical exclusion devices such as netting or porcupine wires may be used instead of or in addition to chemical repellents in these areas.