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# Bird-Friendly Development Rating System and Acknowledgement Program

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City of Toronto

# Bird-Friendly Development Rating System and Acknowledgement Program

Companion document to the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines



The City of Toronto wants to prevent the needless deaths of migratory birds, many species of which are threatened and endangered, and thereby reduce the impact our urban area has on surrounding ecosystems. This Bird-Friendly Rating System outlines for developers, building owners and managers what options and strategies need to be incorporated into a new or existing development in order to be acknowledged by the City of Toronto as:

'bird-friendly'

**Please refer to the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines** (the companion piece to this document) **as you work through the following checklist.** (available in pdf format at [www.toronto.ca/lightsout/guidelines.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/lightsout/guidelines.htm))

The Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines are a component of the City of Toronto's Green Development Standard, which requires the "Minimum" of the Bird-Friendly Rating System. Also, the City encourages innovation in the application and implementation of the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines. Possibilities exist for developments to successfully address some objectives of City Planning's Public Art Program by incorporating the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines.

Finally, if you plan to apply for LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) accreditation, incorporating the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines could qualify a development for LEED "innovation" credits.

## The Bird-Friendly Development Rating System is colour-coded:

**Minimum: Yellow** indicates strategies that must be incorporated into a project in order to be rated a bird-friendly building.

**Preferred: Green** indicates strategies that must be incorporated in addition to the minimum strategies in order to be rated a "Preferred" bird-friendly building.

**Excellent: Blue** indicates strategies that must be incorporated into a project in addition to both the yellow and green strategies in order to be rated an "Excellent" bird-friendly building.

Please indicate the strategies used in your development.

### 1. GLASS TREATMENTS:

**Extent of glass treatment applications** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 8-9)

- First 12\* metres above grade (\*refer to page 9 in the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines for exceptions)
- More than first 12 metres but not entire building
- Entire building

**Type of glass treatment** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 10-18)

Strategies to create Visual Markers or Mute Reflections or a combination of the two approaches can be used to meet the Bird-Friendly Standard. Visual Markers must be in a density pattern with a minimum of 28cm or less with 10cm or less being the optimum.

- Treat glass with a density pattern between 28-10cm apart. **Must be applied in combination with 3.2** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 10-16) **and/or**
- Strategies used to Mute Reflections. (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 17-18) **Must be applied in combination with 3.2**
- Treat glass with a density pattern of less than 10cm apart
- Innovation is encouraged. Please describe any creative strategies used to apply the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines. (Examples: Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 16)

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**2. EXTERIOR BUILDING AND SITE LIGHTING:** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 19-26)

- Efficient shield lighting installed for all exterior lighting fixtures, including decorative, advertising and security lighting, focusing light downward, eliminating direct upward light and reducing spill light
- Spot lighting on building and rooftop lighting eliminated

**3. BUILDING OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT:** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 27-31)

**3.1 Interior Lighting** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 29)

- Motion sensor lighting in linkways, walkways and corridors **and/or**
- "Zone capable" interior lighting system
- Light switches/motion sensor lights in individual offices
- Task lighting and blinds at individual work stations
- Cleaning operations during daylight hours

**3.2 Internal Greenery** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 31)

- Internal greenery located a distance from glass relative to density pattern of adjacent window treatment
- Not required if adjacent window treatment has a density pattern of less than 10cm apart

**4. SITE DESIGN:** (Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines, pg. 35-37)

- Ground level ventilation grates with a porosity of less than 2cm x 2cm
- All ventilation opening grates with a porosity of less than 2cm x 2cm or capped **and/or**
- Supplementary buildings and glass features on site treated (e.g. windbreaks, solariums, greenhouses)

**City of Toronto Bird-Friendly Development Acknowledgement Program**

The City of Toronto offers an acknowledgement program to give incentive to developers and building owners and managers to implement the Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines. Once a development has been verified by City staff as "bird-friendly", building owners and managers may market their building as such. A bird-friendly designation could give these buildings a competitive advantage by identifying these features to an increasingly environmentally concerned and aware marketplace.

A letter will be sent to the applicant expressing the City's appreciation for taking steps to improve the environment for all who visit, work and live in Toronto.

Please fill in the following information:

**Type of development:**

- Existing (retro fit)
- New

**Strategies used to create Visual Markers** (Check all that apply):

- Patterned/fritted glass
- Film
- Decals
- Fenestration
- Grilles and/or louvers
- Artwork

**Strategies used to mute reflections** (Check all that apply):

- Angled glass
- Internal screens
- Awnings & overhangs
- Sunshades

To request verification that bird-friendly strategies have been implemented in a development, mail this completed form to: Bird-Friendly Development Acknowledgement Program, Metro Hall, 55 John Street, 22nd floor, Toronto, Ontario M5V 3C6 or fax to: 416-392-3821 or complete online at: [www.toronto.ca/lightsout/guidelines.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/lightsout/guidelines.htm)

Property owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Property owner mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Address where bird-friendly guidelines are being implemented (MUST BE LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF TORONTO)

\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of the City of Toronto Act, 2006, s. 136, and By-law No. 1083-2007. The information is used to administer the Bird-Friendly Development Rating System and Acknowledgement Program, and for aggregate statistical reporting. Questions about this collection can be directed to the Planner, Environmental Policy, City Planning Division, Metro Hall, 22nd Floor, 55 John Street, M5V 3C6 or phone 416-392-4787. For more information email: [sustainablecity@toronto.ca](mailto:sustainablecity@toronto.ca)

The City of Toronto would like to thank the following participants in developing the Bird-Friendly Development Rating System and Acknowledgement Program:

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