



Crow Nesting Season & Fledglings

Frequently Asked Questions

May 2023

When is crow nesting season?

Springtime to early summer, April to July, is crow nesting season.

Why are crows dive-bombing me?

Crow nesting season means anxious bird parents are out in full force protecting their young. Get too close, and you may be dive-bombed

Nesting season is a vulnerable time for babies and parents, with eggs and young chicks at high risk of predation. Fledglings rely heavily on their parents to keep them safe as they hop around on the ground, unable to fly.

Once baby crows leave the nest, they spend the first couple of weeks building up their muscles and flight skills while their vigilant parents watch over them.



Fledgling Northwestern Crow in care at Wildlife Rescue.

How can I protect myself from dive-bombing crows?

- Alter your travel routes! Keep your distance from known nest sites.
- Post warning signs letting others know about nest sites!
- Carry an umbrella! This works work as a portable visual barrier and to add a little extra distance between you and the concerned parents.



Fledgling Northwestern Crow in care at Wildlife Rescue.

What do I do if I see a baby crow on the ground?

- You see a baby crow on the ground – young fledgling crows will spend approximately 1-2 weeks on the ground as they go through an essential learning process with their parents.
- Is it in immediate danger? During this time, they are exposed to many dangers. If it is in immediate danger, it is okay to gently pick it up and place it in a nearby bush or tree.
- Is the nest nearby? Parents are extremely protective of their babies during this time, leading to behavior such as dive bombing. Watch for parents feeding the baby for 2-4 hours.
- Is it orphaned or hurt? If the crow is not yet fully feathered, has an obvious injury or there are no signs of the parents within 4 hours, give our Wildlife Helpline a call.

If you find a fledgling crow, leave it be! Fledgling crows are fully feathered and should be able to stand up on their own. If the fledgling is in immediate danger, it is okay to gently pick it up and place it in a nearby bush or tree. If you are concerned the baby is orphaned, watch for parents feeding the baby for 2-4 hours.

If the crow is not yet fully feathered, has an obvious injury such as a drooping wing or blood, is covered in flies or there are no signs of parents in 4 hours, give our Wildlife Helpline a call at (604) 526-7275.



Fledgling Northwestern Crows in care at Wildlife Rescue.

Need more help?

Call your local wildlife rehabilitator for assistance.

Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia
5216 Glencarin Drive, Burnaby, BC V5B 3C1
Support Centre: (604) 526-7275
wildlife@wildliferescue.ca

[If you are not located in the Lower Mainland, please contact your nearest wildlife rehabilitator.](#)



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