

At the most recent HOA Board meeting a rather lengthy discussion was had by members of the Board and those in attendance and as a result the HOA Board requests that residents and renters stop feeding with seeds, both in bird feeders and blocks. We must act as a community to decrease the presence of large flocks of pigeons in the Springs to protect the health of our neighbors and integrity of our buildings.

As was reported in the October/November newsletters and from numerous homeowners, flocks of pigeons have taken up residence in the Springs. Pigeons are year-round nesters, non-migratory and considered the number one pest bird. Pigeons have taken up roosts on the rooftops of several of our homes, leaving large amounts of droppings and other waste products. Homeowners and retail air-conditioning companies reported that pigeon droppings are extensive on many roofs in our neighborhood and that pigeons are roosting under the heat pump units. Pigeon droppings are acidic and may cause damage to roofs and machinery; and dried waste contains fungal spores that cause disease. Air borne fungal spores from pigeon droppings and debris can cause Cryptococcosis and Histoplasmosis in humans. Similar to other fungal diseases such as Valley Fever, Cryptococcosis and Histoplasmosis can be serious in immune-compromised and older individuals. Some of our heat pump units may have fresh air intake vents so the potential for spreading the fungal spores exist.

The primary control method recommended by the Humane Society is to "Stop Feeding the Pigeons" both intentionally and unintentionally. Many of us still have bird feeders in our yards. Perhaps pigeons don't frequent your feeder but they will feed on the seed dropped on the ground by other birds. Bird feed that drops to the ground also attracts mice and rats, which can attract snakes.

Your cooperation and concern is welcomed.

Feeding is addressed in the Springs CC&R's 10. 3.7:

"There shall be no feeding, capturing, trapping, or killing of wildlife within the Property, except in circumstances posing an imminent threat to the safety of persons using the Property."
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