



News for Immediate Release

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State Capitol Complex Annual Crow Dispersal Program to Begin on Oct. 31 Anti-Roosting Measures Promote Pedestrian Safety, Reduce Damage to Buildings

Harrisburg – As part of efforts to maintain the safety of visitors and workers on state Capitol Complex grounds, the Department of General Services will start its 17th annual crow dispersal program on Friday, Oct. 31.

“As the fall weather begins to set in, the Capitol Complex becomes a prime roosting location for crows, which can create slipping hazards for pedestrians due to the increased amount of crow waste on the sidewalks – especially in wet weather,” State Department of General Services Secretary Sheri Phillips noted. “Each year we take the necessary steps to ensure a safe environment for foot traffic in the Capitol Complex by implementing specific, non-lethal anti-roosting measures .”

DGS consulted with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to develop the anti-roosting measures where Capitol Police discharge caps /blanks and whistling devices to deter crows from roosting. The process is not harmful to people, crows, other animals or the environment.

In addition to maintaining safety on sidewalks, the crow dispersal program also helps reduce the damage that can be done by crow waste to exterior of the buildings throughout the Capitol Complex.

Capitol Police will implement the measures each evening from approximately 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., as needed, throughout the coming months.

For more information, visit www.dgs.state.pa.us and click on “Property and Asset Management,” then “Crow Dispersal Program,” or call 717-787-3893.

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