

Hey you “Birders” out there... can you render any help for the LPI building...

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As some of you know from the Netslyder, both Chris Randall and myself had to go down to the LPI and get security badges taken as they have switched over from using a keypad system to a photo-ID system. After my photo was taken and I was invited to go tour the library until the badge was ready. When going in, I noted a fair number of these birds and thought it was odd, but when I came out after getting my badge, there were even more. They were toward the back of the building, as you face the back within the grand foyer, they were off to the left on the patio.



These pictures don't do the situation justice... all in all, I must have seen 15-20 of these things wandering around. The receptionist said they were picking at some “black stuff” and I wasn't sure what she meant until I saw it. They were picking at the black filler or insulation that sealed the windows against their aluminum casings.

Now as I've said at start of a few of my talks to the group, I'm a microbiologist/immunologist by training not an organismal biologist.



I'm hoping some of our “Birders” out there will know and can identify these birds and maybe offer an explanation as to why they seem to find the window insulation so attractive and offer an eco-friendly solution (short of tempting them with carrion of some form) to get them to be elsewhere or do something besides pick at the windows.