



# Bald Eagles are nesting *in this neighborhood!*

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The recovery of our national symbol, the **Bald Eagle**, is considered one of the greatest conservation successes of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. From an all-time low of 44 nesting pairs in the state in 1977, at least 700 pairs currently breed in Maryland. The Chesapeake Bay region today hosts the largest concentration of Bald Eagles in the lower 48 states.



The pesticide DDT decimated populations of Bald Eagle, Osprey, Brown Pelican, Peregrine Falcon, and other species in the 1960s and 1970s. Once the EPA banned DDT in 1972, populations of these species slowly recovered over the next several decades. The Bald Eagle and these other species are once again thriving!

**Please help us celebrate the return of nesting Bald Eagles throughout Maryland.** Businesses and citizens in the area can help support a successful nesting attempt. Here are 4 ways to help!

1. Be cautious about the use of poisons for rodent control and other uses. Eagles are scavengers and will eat dead animals, including those killed by poisoning. Adult eagles may even feed these animals to their young, which usually kills the eaglets.
2. Give eagles plenty of distance. The *Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act* specifies staying a *minimum* of 100 yards from an active nest. Watch the behavior of the eagles – they will let you know if you are too close!
3. Avoid the use of drones and UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) near nests or perched birds. Eagles perceive these as a threat and may abandon their nest. If you see someone harassing an eagle or a nest, please report it to the tip line below.
4. Talk with the trained volunteers who monitor these eagle nests. They would love to answer your questions and tell you about Bald Eagle nests and nesting behavior.

**Thank you** for helping to protect our national symbol, the Bald Eagle!

To learn more about the **Maryland Bald Eagle Nest Monitoring Program**, visit <https://marylandbirds.org/bald-eagle-nest-monitoring/>



To report a wildlife crime against a Bald Eagle, call 1-844-FWS-TIPS (1-844-397-8477).

Inquiries concerning regulatory issues related to Bald Eagle nests should be directed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Permit Office, (413) 253-8643.

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## Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership

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