

General Information for Collecting Birdstrike Material

Feather Identification Lab, Smithsonian Institution

COLLECTING REMAINS

Feathers:

Whole Bird: Pluck a variety of feathers (breast, back, wing, tail)

Partial Bird: Collect a variety of feathers with color or pattern

Feathers only: Send all materials

Do not cut feathers from the bird (we need the down at the base)

Do not use any sticky substance (no tape or glue)

Place remains in a re-closeable bag

Allow remains to dry before sealing bag.

Blood / Tissue (“Snarge”):

Place dry snarge in a re-closeable bag

If need, wipe off with alcohol wipe or paper towel sprayed with 70% alcohol

Please do not use water or bleach – it is not compatible with our dna analysis

- Include copy of FAA 5200-7 report
- Include contact information

SHIPPING

Routine / Non-Damaging Cases: *US Postal Service*

Feather Identification Lab
Smithsonian Institution
NHB E600, MRC 116
P.O. Box 37012
Washington, DC 20013-7012

Priority / Damaging Cases: *Overnight Shipping*

Feather Identification Lab
Smithsonian Institution
NHB, E600, MRC 116
10th & Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20560-0116

WEBSITES

Civil Aviation: <http://wildlife-mitigation.tc.faa.gov>
Birdstrike Committee: www.birdstrike.org

Feather Lab Contact Information

202-633-0801
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* Basic safety measures and good hygiene when collecting material is encouraged. Use latex gloves, face mask and eye protection; always thoroughly wash hands after handling remains.