# Nixalite® Project Case History

# **Project Case History**

Name: Beaumont Hospital Location: Royal Oak, MI

Installer: Beaumont Services Corp

**Purpose:** To protect hospital facilities from the droppings and refuse created by pest birds. The bird control envelope includes the 10 story main building along with several parking garages and auxiliary structures.

### **Problem:**

For 26 years Frank Sorentino has managed the outside structures and grounds of the Beaumont Hospital 106 acre complex in Royal Oak, Michigan. Seventeen separate buildings occupy the site with the main building just over 10



Frank Sorentino Beaumont Services Corp

stories high. In addition 3 parking decks are also located around the facility, providing parking and enough nesting sites for more birds than you can imagine.

Bird control is an ongoing project for Sorentino and his crew. "Birds have been a problem since day one," says Sorentino. "Back in 1988 with the first parking structure, we encountered an enormous bird problem. It was a mess. Pigeons, starlings and sparrows

had found that the 4 story structure made a perfect bird house. Their droppings were all over the walls and floors; it was obvious to every hospital visitor and patient. Talk about first impressions! Obviously, bird control had become a priority for me right from the start."

## Solution:

Sorentino researched various forms of bird control, including sticky gels, solar devices, balloons, and finally, pigeon spikes. Sorentino said he also has used some other devices to help control the birds, such as 3-D birds with moving eyes and plastic owls and hawks. Finally, Sorentino installed Nixalite's Premium bird spikes. "This was back in 1988 and we've been ordering bird spikes from Nixalite every year since. In many areas of the complex, we are dealing with smaller birds such as starlings and sparrows, which are able to nest between the larger pigeon spikes. So we always order the Premium Nixalite because the spikes are closer together and point in different directions, preventing the pigeons as well as the smaller birds from roosting."



Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak Michigan. 115 acre, 17 building facility.

Vegetation also has to be considered, according to Sorentino. "No matter how much we keep the birds off our structures, they love trees and other vegetation. We've had to re-think what kinds of trees we use in our landscaping near the hospital buildings. For instance, fruit trees and fragrant trees really attract the birds and we end up with droppings everywhere. We have had to refrain from planting Crab Apple and Bradford Pear trees because they are such favorites of the birds."







From parking garages, hospital entrances and exterior signs, Premium Nixalite has met or exceeded the expected results.

Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) ducts on rooftops are another important consideration for bird control, especially at hospitals. Sorentino said; "The pigeons go to the air handlers (the HVAC vents on the rooftops). When dried bird droppings turn to dust and get sucked into the HVAC system, you're dealing with the potential for spreading more than 60 diseases throughout the hospital. It's just not an acceptable risk. We've used Nixalite spikes around the HVAC ducts where there are concentrations of birds."

### **End Results / Summary:**

With a facility this large, bird control remains an ongoing project. To date, all efforts and installations have met or exceeded the expected results. Through the combined efforts of Beaumont Services Corp and Nixalite of America Inc, the Beaumont Hospital will have the right bird control solution, in the right place at the right time.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Nixalite of America Inc



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