

## WHAT TO DO ABOUT THOSE WASKALLY WOODPECKERS

Woodpeckers can't tell the difference between your exterior cladding and dead trees in the forest so it's not uncommon for them to cause significant damage to siding, fascia boards, EIFS and especially those beautiful architectural elements created with foam.

Most people attribute this damage to woodpeckers looking for food, but that is rarely the case.

Actually there are three reasons these birds peck on your walls:

- 1. They are looking for food.
- 2. They're making a nest.
- 3. They're establishing and defining their territory.

It's usually the third reason that creates most

damage. Woodpeckers are very territorial. In order to let other woodpeckers know - this is his (or in some cases her) territory, they fly around the perimeter of their domain, usually in the morning, and initiate a series of raps on hollow trees or any other cladding that creates the right sound. And for many of us – seems our home creates just the "Right Tone". This behavior is called "drumming" and consists of two or three long brrrrrrrrrrps. The woodpecker will typically drum in one spot for a minute or so, day after day. It does not take long before a large, irregular hole appears at the drumming site.

Attempts to discourage the onslaught by woodpeckers are almost humorous - plastic owls, rubber snakes, metal window screen, Mylar strips, unsightly bird netting, even trapping and releasing woodpeckers doesn't do much good. Unless you release them many miles away, they'll just fly back to their own territory within a day or two.

As far as the government is concerned, woodpeckers are classified as migratory, nongame birds and are protected by Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. You can only exercise lethal control or nest destruction with a special permit issued by the Law Enforcement Division of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, upon recommendation of USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Service's personnel. Not likely!!!

There is finally a technology in bird deterrents that actually works. *BeakGuard* is a new "Patent Pending" concept incorporating a blend of ingredients that offer safe and effective protection

from woodpeckers. These compounds immediately communicate a warning signal to the birds, prompting them to find a more desirable location. In fact, humans and animals are very sensitive to these components. For example - taste testing has determined that people can detect our ingredients in water at 50 parts per billion.

*BeakGuard* is a Breathable Elastomeric Acrylic Finish formulated to apply like standard latex paint. Performance on the other hand far exceeds your typical latex product. *BeakGuard* offers outstanding coating durability, extended service life, provides maximum dirt pick-up resistance and weatherability in a vapor permeable, flexible membrane with exceptional color retention. Although specifically formulated for EIFS and existing acrylic finishes, *BeakGuard* ® is easily applied to virtually any exterior surface including all wood, fiber-cement, stucco, aluminum or vinyl.

BeakGuard will not harm woodpeckers or any other bird species. The ingredients in BeakGuard are found in many consumer products on the market today – even nail biting and thumb sucking deterrents for children incorporate this technology. The National Safety Council and American Medical Association recommend similar agents be used, along with other safety measures, in products defined as mild to moderately toxic.

After two years of field testing in the most prolific woodpecker areas of the country including Montana, Colorado, South Dakota and Washington, the success rate exceeds 90% in deterring further building damage.

All tests were conducted on building structures experiencing ongoing woodpecker problems:

A remodeled office building outside of Seattle, Washington with large EIFS cornices (coated foam insulation) was assaulted by woodpeckers every season. Some years the drumming resulted in more than ten holes around the building. To make matters worse, many of those holes became nesting sites

for smaller birds that hatched young inside the walls adding to the damage. And every year the owner paid to have these holes filled with spray foam, sanded and refinished in an attempt to blend the damaged areas with adjacent walls. Year after year!

Couple of years ago out of frustration the owner coated every linear foot of cornice and all other architecture elements on the façade with *BeakGuard*. Since that day not a single woodpecker has damaged the building. Not only did *BeakGuard* enhance the property by creating a bright new look, it appears the problem has been resolved and the birds are off to other locations.

Another client complained a woodpecker was drumming directly outside his bedroom window at 6:00 AM sharp every day. Not only a problem because it woke his wife and children every morning – this bird was attacking a fascia board at the apex of the roofline about 27 feet off the ground. Not an area you want to frequent too often.

After renting the extension ladder, *BeakGuard* was applied directly over the small holes and damage caused by this bird. Not having the highest level of confidence in this miracle product, he set his alarm for 5:45 AM. In the dim morning light - he just shook his head as that darn bird landed in the same exact spot as yesterday. Ironically, the bird cocked his head back and forth a few times, pecked once and flew away. The woodpeckers still frequent his backyard but not a single bird has pecked in the area coated with *BeakGuard* ®.

After repairing the woodpecker damage to their home, a customer from South Dakota was willing to apply *BeakGuard* ® on two sides of the house only, (of course we promised to coat the other two the following year). Soon as spring arrived the birds return as usual and needless to say, the drumming started again. But as the Homeowner said "It's the most amazing thing I've seen, you wouldn't believe it – those darn birds are destroying two sides of my house and won't touch the other, unbelievable."

Is *BeakGuard* the absolute answer to all woodpecker damage in America – probably not. But if you want to enhance the appearance and extend the service life of your building while drastically reducing the risk of woodpecker damage in an environmentally friendly way- you need to consider this unique coating system as an option in deterrents.

*BeakGuard* ® is manufactured by Novaguard Technologies, Inc. of Knoxville, TN and distributed through:

- Perma-Chink Systems, Inc. 1-800-548-3554
- Stuc-O-Flex International, Inc. 1-800-305-1045



Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker

# **BEAKGUARD®**Woodpecker Deterrent Elastomeric Coating

## STUC-O-FLEX®

#### **Description:**

"BeakGuard" is a new "Patent Pending" concept incorporating a blend of ingredients that offer safe and effective deterrent protection from woodpeckers. These compounds immediately communicate a warning signal to the birds, prompting them to find a more desirable location. In fact, humans and animals are very sensitive to these components. For example - taste testing has determined that people can detect our ingredients in water at 50 parts per billion.

BeakGuard is a Breathable Elastomeric Acrylic Finish formulated to apply like standard latex paint. Performance on the other hand far exceeds your typical latex product. BeakGuard offers outstanding coating durability, extended service life, provides maximum dirt pick-up resistance and weatherability in a vapor permeable, flexible membrane with exceptional color retention. Although specifically formulated for EIFS and existing acrylic finishes, BeakGuard is easily applied to virtually any exterior surface including wood, fiber-cement, stucco, aluminum or vinyl.

#### Color

20 standard colors, see color chart for specifics. Special colors available upon request, virtually no limit to selection; see color chart for special color formulation policy.

#### Container

48 pounds net weight / 5-gallon pail 9 pound / 1 gallon pail

#### **Environmentally Safe:**

BeakGuard will not harm woodpeckers or any other bird species. The ingredients in BeakGuard are found in many consumer products today – even nail biting and thumb sucking deterrents for children incorporate this technology. The National Safety Council and American Medical Association recommend similar agents be used, along with other safety measures, in products defined as mild to moderately toxic.

#### Use

BeakGuard is a decorative "Deterrent" coating reducing the potential of Woodpecker damage for both new and existing buildings. Also used to change the color of existing structures when maximum crack coverage and bridging capabilities are required. BeakGuard provides a durable protection barrier against the environment for most any cladding material.

#### **Advantages**

Environmentally Friendly
Will NOT Harm Wildlife
Applies like Standard Latex Paint
Plasticizer Free - Mildew Resistant
Dirt Pickup Resistant – Will not Chalk
Flexible in any Environment
Bridges Hairline Cracks

#### Adhesion

Excellent adhesion to properly prepared surfaces, EIFS, Acrylic Finishes, Existing Latex Paint, Wood & Fiber-Cement Sidings, Vinyl and all Stuc-O-Flex Finish Products.

#### Coverage

Approximately 800 square feet per 5 gallon container, depending on substrate & application method. Apply 2 coats of BeakGuard where maximum crack resistance and substrate protection is required.

#### **Surface Preparation**

Substrate must be clean, dry, and free from all loose or foreign materials prior to application.

#### **Application**

BeakGuard may be applied by brush, roller, paint pad or appropriate spray equipment. Thinning of the product is not recommended. BeakGuard should be screened prior to spray application. Back-rolling is recommended when applying over acrylic finishes or other textured substrates. BeakGuard should be applied at a minimum thickness of 16 wet mils per coat. Avoid application of different batches side by side (always box pails from different batch numbers). Check color for proper match prior to application. Ambient temperatures shall be 40°F or greater at time of installation, and will remain so for a minimum 24 hours or protection and heat shall be supplemented to ensure proper drying.

Typical dry time is 24 hours, depending on climate. Drying time can be greatly affected by low temperatures and/or high humidity. Do not allow product to freeze or allow exposure to rain while drying. Allow additional time during humid and/or cold temperatures.

**Note**: BeakGuard has over 150% elongation characteristics. The thicker the material is applied, the greater the ability to bridge cracks in the existing substrate.

#### **Physical properties**

<u>TEST</u>	METHOD	<u>RESULT</u>
ELONGATION % (FINISH)		150 PERCENT
WATER VAPOR TRANSMISSION	ASTM-E96	10 GRAINS PER HOUR / SQ. FT. (AVERAGE)
SALT SPRAY RESISTANCE	B-117	300 HOURS NO DELETERIOUS EFFECTS
ACCELERATED WEATHERING	G-23-81	2000 HOURS NO DELETERIOUS EFFECTS
ABSORPTION FREEZE THAW	60 CYCLES	NO CRACKING, CHECKING
TENSILE BOND	ASTM C- 297	127.9 PSF
WATER PENETRATION TEST	ASTM-E- 331	NO WATER PENETRATION OCCURRED ON SUBSTRATE
WATER RESISTANCE TEST	ASTM D- 2247	NO CRACKING, BLISTERING, PEELING OR COMPROMISE
MILDEW / FUNGUS RESISTANCE	810 B	NO MOLD OR MILDEW GROWTH DURING TEST
WIND DRIVEN RAIN		NO DELAMINATION, NO WATER INTRUSION
FIRE TESTING TUNNEL TEST	ASTM E-84	FLAME SPREAD < 25 SMOKE DEVELOPED < 450 CLASS "A" FIRE RATED

#### **Storage**

Protect from freezing. Store in a cool, dry area out of direct sunlight in a tightly sealed container. Recommended storage temperature between 40-90°F.

#### Clean-up

Water soluble when wet. Clean tools and equipment with water immediately after use. Dried material is very difficult to remove. See BeakGuard Handling Instruction!

#### **Proper Handling & Precautions**

### Educating new BeakGuard users to the **EXTREMELY** unpleasant taste!

- 1. Ingredients in BeakGuard® have an incredibly repulsive taste but also have a 50-year safety record in consumer products around the world.
- 2. Chocolate is the only thing we know that helps reduces the horrible taste.
- 3. BeakGuard is Safe: The ingredients are even used in children's products to stop thumb-sucking and nail-biting, in toys and cosmetics to stop ingestion. Even State and Federal regulations as outlined below:
  - a. FDA- use as ethanol denaturant for cosmetics in US and 40+ other countries.
  - b. State Laws: compliance antifreeze ingestion deterrent agent laws.
  - c. EPA- approved additive used to prevent pesticide ingestions.
  - d. OSHA required in respirator fit testing for nurses, firemen, first responders.

#### **To Reduce Potential Mouth Exposure:**

Follow these Recommendations Below:

- 1. Extremely Unpleasant if gets inside Mouth!!!
- Chocolate will help lessen the taste.
- 2. Use disposable gloves.
- 3. Do not touch anything else before clean-up.
- 4. Handle very carefully to avoid unpleasant taste.
- 5. Clean up by washing hands with soap & water.
- 6. Rinse hands with 3% Hydrogen Peroxide, which destroys BeakGuard.
- 7. Use 3% Hydrogen Peroxide to wipe down exterior of containers, any contact surfaces or items that may have come in contact with BeakGuard

#### **See MSDS for Additional Precautions**

#### Limitations

- Ambient and surface temperatures must be above 40°F during application and drying period.
- 2. BeakGuard should never be used on horizontal surfaces (exceptions ceilings, soffits, etc.).
- 3. Product performance is directly related to substrate integrity.
- 4. BeakGuard is a vertical wall coating.
  Small areas can be sloped; those surfaces shall be minimum 4 in 12 pitch.
- 5. Never cover BeakGuard with solvent based materials.

#### Shelf Life

One year, if protected from direct sunlight and freezing temperatures.

#### **Distributor:**

Stuc-O-Flex International, Inc. 17639 NE 67th Court Redmond, WA 98052 1-800-305-1045 1-425-885-5085 1-425-869-0107 Fax Info@stucoflex.com (E-mail) www.stucoflex.com (Web page)