

## Eurasian collared dove

### *Streptopelia decaocto*

#### Description

Introduced to the United States via dispersal of young individuals over long distances.

#### Identification

Mostly gray with white upper body, black collar on the back of its neck, slender black bill, deep red iris of the eye; broad, squared tail with black base and dark red legs and feet.

#### Habitat

Native to Asia, Europe and Northern Africa. Found on farmlands, open country, and wood edges in suburban and urban areas. They appear to thrive in areas with a combination of open ground and trees.

#### Reproduction

#### Impact

Populations spread rapidly and compete with native species. Eurasian Collared Doves are considered a pest in agricultural areas, especially in areas that grow grains. This species can carry West Nile





Virus.

### **Similar**

Mourning dove, which is smaller in overall size, no black collar, blue ring around eyes, black spots on back, pointed tail.

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Hunting can be effective in managing their population.

### **Credits**

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