



Monk Parakeet

(Myiopsitta monachus)



Monk Parakeet

Instant ID

- A small parrot, 12 inches long with a wingspan of 20 inches
- Body and wings are bright green, bill is yellow and flight feathers are a deep blue to black in color
- Face, throat and chest are gray
- Calls with metallic or rasping squawks and screams

Hijacked Habitats

- Native to eastern South America from Bolivia to central Argentina
- Escapes and releases of pet birds documented in the 1960s
- First confirmed nest reported in 1969
- Most common to peninsular Florida, but has been reported throughout the state and in 20 other states
- Frequents areas around development, often nesting on powerline poles





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Favorite Foods

- Eats seeds and nuts
- Also eats fruit, unlike most other parrots

Critter Characteristics

- Only parrot species to build a nest, others species use cavities (holes)
- One of over 20 species of invasive parrots confirmed breeding in Florida
- Form large colonies (group of a species living together)
- Also known as a Quaker parrot

Population Prevention

- Do not release pets into the wild
- Avoid putting out birdfeeders if parakeets are using them
- Remove invasive plants from your yard as parrots may disperse (spread) invasive plant seeds through waste

