



Canker is also known as trichomoniasis or frounce. Finches are reported frequently, but potentially any bird can be infected, in particular pigeons, doves and some birds of prey. The infection is spread as birds feed each other with regurgitated food during the breeding season and through food and drinking water contaminated with regurgitated saliva. Saliva can also contaminate a birdbath. Trichomoniasis causes lesions in the throat of the infected bird, which makes it progressively harder for the bird to swallow and eventually to breathe. Birds will also show signs of lethargy and fluffed up plumage, drooling saliva and regurgitated food. This is what you can do to help:

- Use feeders with drainage holes to avoid moisture building up
- Use more than one feeding site and rotate feeders to reduce the number of birds in one place and to prevent build up of infection on the ground underneath
- Clean and disinfect feeders and water baths regularly, rinsing thoroughly and allowing to air dry completely
- Sweep up droppings, spoiled or old food and dispose of it carefully in an outside bin
- Change the water in baths frequently
- You may want to consider the use of water sanitisers like CitroSan or apple cider vinegar



How to prevent canker



Wild Bird Aid

If you find a bird suffering of canker, and are able to catch him or her, bring the bird to a wildlife rescue, as this disease is curable when detected early enough.

Thank you very much!