



Lithgow Environment Group Inc.

PO Box 3081 Bowenfels, NSW 2790

Incorporated Association No. 9892192

Preserving the Balance of Nature

EUTHANASIA INFORMATION

CONTROL OF INDIAN MYNA POPULATION

IN THE LITHGOW LGA

The method used for disposing of trapped birds is to be quick, painless and stress free.

Lithgow Environment Group recommends that gassing with carbon monoxide be used. This is carried out by petrol engine car exhaust (not diesel) – **the engine must be cold**. Place the containment chamber with the trapped birds in a **near airtight** bag or box, connect a hose of 4 metres to the car exhaust (this length hose will prevent heat stress) and the other end to the bag or box and run the cold engine for (we recommend) a total of between 2-5 minutes. Tests show a lawnmower or whipper/snipper engine can also be used.

Wait for another 20 minutes before disturbing the hose into the chamber. While the birds should be unconscious within 9-11 seconds and their last movement be within 1 minute, leaving the set up in tact for another 20 minutes will prevent any possibility of birds remaining alive. If this occurred, they would have to be dealt with by cervical dislocation, which we do not recommend unless carried out by qualified professionals and then is to be instantaneous, with minimal handling of the birds.

The traps have two chambers which can be disconnected so the second chamber can be used for the euthanasia process. A towel can be placed over the holding chamber to keep birds calm during transportation or enclosing in chamber or bag.

Dead birds are to be disposed of in a hygienic and environmentally sound way. **Use gloves when handling live or dead birds.** Clean the trap after capture and disposal of birds.

The above results were published by CSIRO in 2009 – **Practicality of humaneness of euthanasia of pest birds with compressed carbon dioxide (CO₂) and carbon monoxide (CO) from petrol engine exhaust.**

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