



# ersatz eggs

HELPING PUT YOU BACK IN CONTROL

## New Trial to Tackle Nuisance Seagulls Leiden, Netherlands

The Municipality of The Hague is launching a new trial to help reduce the problems caused by nesting seagulls in the city. The trial will see Ersatz imitation seagull eggs being used to replace real eggs in the Benoordenhout and Belgisch Park Districts.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has granted exemption from the Flora-en Faunawet (Wildlife and Countryside Act) in order to make the trial possible. The trial started in April 2011 and residents of this year's trial areas (Benoordenhout and Belgisch Park) will be asked permission for a specialist company to access their roofs if necessary to replace the eggs.

The Municipality is asking all of its residents, within the replacement trial areas and those where no action is taking place to report problems associated with Seagulls, in order to monitor the effectiveness of the replacement eggs as part of its wider set of measures to tackle the nuisance caused by seagulls.

In addition to the egg replacement scheme residents are being given extra strong garbage bags to put their rubbish in and the Municipality is using underground rubbish containers to store household waste, to ensure that seagulls and other animals cannot get access to the rubbish.

The scheme is in its second year following on from the initial trial last April where eggs were replaced in the Scheveningen, Escamp, Centrum and Haagse Hout districts. The Municipality is hoping to build on its success from last year where residents reported fewer complaints about the birds screeching, pecked rubbish bags and mess.

