

Creating a Bird-friendly Landscape



Connect with HGCNY at:
hgcny.wildones.org/
facebook.com/hgcny/
instagram.com/wildones_hgcny/
ourhabitatgarden.org/
wildones.hgcny@gmail.com

Native plants for birds

Native trees that support insects, which are ESSENTIAL for birds

Numbers indicate how many lepidoptera species the plant supports
Oaks (*Quercus*) 557 – e.g. white oak, red oak, black oak, burr oak, pin oak
Cherries (*Prunus*) 456 – e.g. black cherry, choke cherry
Willows (*Salix*) 455 – e.g. pussy willow (NOT non-native weeping willow)
Birches (*Betula*) 411 – e.g. river birch
Poplars (*Populus*) – 367; e.g. quaking aspen
Crabapples (*Malus*) – 308
Maples (*Acer*) 297 – e.g. sugar maple, red maple (NOT Norway maple)
Blueberries (*Vaccinium*) 294; –
Alders (*Alnus*) 255; –
Hickories (*Carya*) 235 – e.g. shagbark hickory
Pines (*Pinus*) 201 – e.g. Eastern white pine
Hawthorns (*Crataegus*) 168 –
Spruces (*Picea*) 150 –

Native berry shrubs and trees for birds:

Common serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*) also *A. laevis*, *A. canadensis*
Native dogwoods such as silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*),
pagoda dogwood (*C. alternifolia*), flowering dogwood (*C. florida*)
NOTE: The non-native Kousa dogwood is NOT recommended
Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) – need male and female for berries
Common elderberry (*Sambucus nigra* ssp. *canadensis*)
Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) – need male and female for berries

ALSO: Native herbaceous plants, such as asters, IF seedheads are left!

Audubon Plants for Birds: audubon.org/plantsforbirds/

Enter your zip code for plant list; shows birds each plant attracts

National Wildlife Fed'n: nwf.org/Native-Plant-Habitats/Plant-Native/Why-Native/

Hummingbirds

Journey North: Fascinating info about various hummingbird topics – journeynorth.org/hummingbirds/resources/

Hummingbird nectar recipe from Lab of Ornithology:

allaboutbirds.org/news/whats-the-best-recipe-for-hummingbird-nectar/ (No red dye!)

Native plants are EASIER than manmade nectar and more nutritious:

Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*) spreads, BUT easy to pull out!
Trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*) – will spread
Coral honeysuckle vine (*Lonicera sempervirens*)
Cardinal flower lobelia (*Lobelia cardinalis*)
Bee balm (*Monarda didyma*)
Summersweet (*Clethra alnifolia*)
Penstemon (*Penstemon digitalis*)
Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
Black cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*)
Turk's cap lily (*Lilium superbum*)

Landscaping for birds

Homegrown National Park homegrownnationalpark.org/

Get started planting native – practical info on getting started at homegrownnationalpark.org/get-started-planting-native/

Audubon: How to make your yard bird-friendly

audubon.org/news/how-make-your-yard-bird-friendly/

Darke, Rick and Douglas Tallamy **The Living Landscape: Designing for Beauty and Biodiversity in the Home Garden** – Practical suggestions for implementing them; useful appendices listing appropriate native plants.

Nest boxes

Cornell Lab: <http://nestwatch.org/learn/all-about-birdhouses/>

Learning about birds and bird identification

Merlin: FREE app from Cornell Lab: merlin.allaboutbirds.org/

Identifies birds by sound, photo, and description – **Excellent!**

All About Birds: Cornell Lab's website at allaboutbirds.org/ includes a Bird Guide, Birding Basics, and Living Bird.

Cornell Lab's Bird Academy: academy.allaboutbirds.org/ Free and premium content for all knowledge levels

Stokes, Donald & Lillian Field Guide to Birds: Eastern Region

Easy-to-use photographic guide

Bird conservation

Smithsonian Institution's Migratory Bird Center fact sheets:

nationalzoo.si.edu/migratory-birds/fact-sheets/ such as:

- Travel alert for migratory birds: Stopover sites in decline
- When it comes to pesticides, birds are sitting ducks
- Why migratory birds are crazy for coffee
- How birds keep our world safe from plagues of insects

Cats

American Bird Conservancy: abcbirds.org/

Cats Indoors: abcbirds.org/threat/cats-and-other-invasives/

Snags (i.e. dead trees)

The Cavity Conservation Initiative: cavityconservation.com/

Includes info on how to safely retain at least a portion of dead trees

Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife: Snags: The wildlife tree –

wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/living/snags/

Light pollution

Onondaga Audubon Lights Out CNY: lightsoutcny.org/

US Fish & Wildlife: Threats to birds – Nighttime lighting

fws.gov/story/threats-birds-collisions-nighttime-lighting/

Home windows

FLAP: Stop birds from hitting windows: flap.org/

American Bird Conservancy: - abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/

Acopian BirdSavers: birdsavers.com/ Including how to make your own!

Ex: ourhabitatgarden.org/home/creatures/birds/conservation/diy-birdsaver/

Climate change

Audubon Climate Report: climate.audubon.org/

The Birdwatcher's Guide to Global Warming:

abcbirds.org/threat/climate-change/

Pesticides

American Bird Conservancy abcbirds.org/threat/pesticides/

Coffee

Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center:

nationalzoo.si.edu/migratory-birds/bird-friendly-coffee/

All About Birds: allaboutbirds.org/bird-friendly-coffee-supports-critical-winter-habitat/

Where to buy CERTIFIED Bird-friendly coffee

Look for the Smithsonian Bird-friendly logo!

(Note: Bird-friendly is NOT the same as shade-grown etc.)

Wild Birds Unlimited (some stores)

Wegmans: Single Origin Organic Guatemalan (Note: ONLY the Guatemalan variety)

Whole Foods: Allegro Early Bird Blend

Online: Bird and Beans brand is online at birdsandbeans.com/

Search Amazon for other brands of Bird-friendly coffee

Death by pipes

US Fish & Wildlife fws.gov/story/death-pipe/ Cover your pipes and remove unused pipes

Fake spider webs

Audubon: How to have a bird-friendly Halloween

audubon.org/magazine/how-have-bird-friendly-halloween/

Community science for bird conservation

eBird: ebird.org/ - Track bird observations; easy with its app!

Great Backyard Bird Count: birdcount.org/ - Count birds one weekend in February; family-friendly and easy - make it a tradition!

Project FeederWatch: feederwatch.org/ - Count birds once a week from November through April

Nest Watch: nestwatch.org/ - Monitor nest boxes

Journey North: journeynorth.org/ Submit your sightings of birds, including hummingbirds, monarchs and other migratory creatures

Cornell Lab's Educational and home school resources:

feederwatch.org/learn/educational-and-homeschool-resources/

General resources

Tallamy, Douglas – *How Can I Help? Saving Nature with Your Yard*

Tallamy, Douglas – *The Nature of Oaks:* - The top keystone species!

Tallamy, Douglas – *Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* - (Young Readers edition available)

Tallamy, Douglas – *Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants* -

Lawson, Nancy – *The Human Gardener* and *Wildscape* – Excellent!