

Living Clean & Green!

Creating Bird-friendly Yards

Bird-friendly Yards

It's easy to create beautiful landscapes that will improve your backyard habitat, making it more inviting to both migrating birds and year-round residents.

Flowers Birds Love

Many birds are seed eaters. The following are seed-producing wildflowers (you might call some of them weeds) that will attract birds to your home.

- Thistles (*Cirsium spp*): Birds eat the seeds in summer and Goldfinches use the down to line their nests.
- Chicory (*Cichorium intybus*): Produce seeds all summer; loved by finches.
- Common Pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*): Several birds eat the blue-black fruits.
- Sunflowers (*Helianthus spp*): Seeds loved by many different species.
- Greenbriers (*Smilax spp*): Many birds eat the blue-black berries.
- Goldenrods (*Solidago spp*): Blooms in fall, produces seeds eaten all winter.
- Coneflowers (*Rudbeckia spp*): Seeds develop in late summer.
- Chickweed (*Stellaria spp*): Produces seeds early in season.
- Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*): Seeds eaten by several birds.
- Common Mullein (*Verbascum thapsus*): Flower spikes produce hundreds of seeds eaten all winter.



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Hummingbird Plants

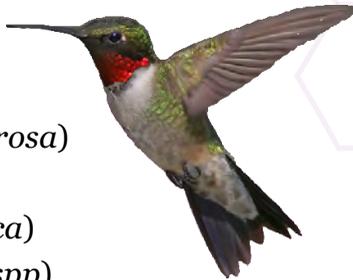
Hummingbirds love the colors red and pink, are especially attracted to tubular flowers. The following are native hummer-pleasing plants:

Vines

- Crossvine (*Bignonia capreolata*)
- Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans*)
- Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

Flowers

- Cardinal Flower (*Loelia cardinalis*)
- Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)
- Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*)
- Indian Pink (*Spigelia marilandica*)
- Bee Balm (*Monarda spp*)
- Blazing Star (*Liatris spp*)
- Fire Pink (*Silene virginica*)
- Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Blue Phlox (*Phlox divaricata*)
- Great Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)
- Wild Geranium (*Pelargonium spp*)
- Small's Penstemon (*Penstemon smallii*)



Trees

- Red Buckeye (*Aesculus pavia*)
- Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)
- Black Locust (*Robinia Pseudoacacia*)

Shrubs

- Flame Azalea (*Rhododendron calendulaceum*)

Please do not remove native plants from the wild.



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Berries Birds Love

The following is a list native plants that produce small berries or berrylike fruit. The more you can plant around your home, the more birds you are likely to see.

- Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)
- Alternate-leaved Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*)
- Red Osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)
- Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*)
- Gray Dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*)
- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*)
- Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)
- American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)
- Viburnum (*Viburnum spp*)
- Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
- Carolina Buckthorn (*Rhamnus caroliniana*)
- Winged Sumac (*Rhus copallina*)
- Smooth Sumac (*Rhus glabra*)
- Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
- American Holly (*Ilex opaca*)
- Deciduous Holly (*Ilex decidua*)
- Hawthorn (*Crataegus spp*)
- Red Mulberry (*Morus rubra*)
- Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)
- Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)
- Devil's Walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*)
- Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*)
- Eastern Redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)
- Blueberry (*Vaccinium spp*)
- Blackberry, Raspberry, Dewberry (*Rubus spp*)

WARNING! Common privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) and Chinese Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*) both produce small fruits birds eat but these two shrubs are highly invasive and non-native. They should be avoided.



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Preferred Foods

- Pigeons, Doves: Millet, cracked corn, wheat, buckwheat, sunflower seeds, baked goods
- Hummingbirds: Plant nectar, small insects, sugar solution
- Woodpeckers: Suet, meat scraps, sunflower seeds, cracked corn, peanuts, fruits
- Jays: Peanuts, sunflower seeds, suet, cracked corn
- Nuthatches: Suet, sunflower seeds, peanut kernels, peanut butter
- Titmice, Chickadees: Sunflower seeds, suet
- Wrens, Creepers: Suet, peanut butter, peanut kernels, bread, fruit, millet (wrens)
- Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Catbirds: Apple halves, fruit, berries, raisins, suet, sunflower seeds
- Robins, Bluebirds, Other Thrushes: Suet, berries, mealworms, chopped fruit, raisins, sunflower seeds
- Waxwings: Berries, fruits, canned peas, raisins
- Warblers: Suet, fruits, baked goods
- Tanagers: Suet, fruits, mealworms
- Cardinals, Grosbeaks: Sunflower seeds, safflower seeds, cracked corn, millet, fruit
- Towhees, Juncos: Millet, sunflower seeds, cracked corn, baked goods
- Sparrows, Buntings: Millet, sunflower seeds, cracked corn, baked goods
- Orioles: Halved oranges, apples, berries, grape jelly, suet, soaked raisins
- Finches, Siskins: Thistle, millet, peanut kernels, sunflower seeds
- Kinglets: Suet, baked goods



Recommended seed mix:
50% Sunflower Seeds,
35% Millet and 15%
Cracked Corn (do not use
seed containing Milo)

