

BIRD HAVEN

CREATE INVITING BIRD HABITAT IN YOUR GARDEN



Most would agree that Portlanders are lucky to live in a city with so much green space. Our combination of rivers, parks and mild climate allows Portland to host a vast array of birds and wildlife, and many will visit or even nest in local yards with a few easy changes.

Invite avian wildlife to your yard by:

- Creating cover
- Providing Food
- Providing Water

COVER

Birds tend to appear in places that make them feel secure. Security, from a bird's point-of-view, is all about good vantage points from which to survey for predators (domestic cats and hawks for example).

Descending from a high point, birds like to maintain cover, so the creation of a tiered, multi-level environment will be very inviting.

- Tall trees – 25 feet or higher
- Dense eye-level shrubs – 6-12 feet
- Low shrubs – 1-4 feet

Including a broad variety of plants will in turn draw a wider variety of birds to your yard

Conifers – Cypress, Hemlock, Pine, Juniper

Broadleaf Evergreens – Azaleas, Camellias, Daphne, Hardy Gardenia, Holly, Leptospermum

Deciduous shrubs – Abelia, Beautyberry, Cotoneaster, Leycesteria, Viburnum

Perennials & annuals – Echinacea, Monarda, Salvia, Verbena, Petunia, Zinnia

Vines & Groundcovers – Honeysuckle, Jasmine, Kinnickinick, Vinca

FOOD

Birds eat a varied diet of berries, seeds, nuts, grains, insects and nectars depending on their seasonal needs. For instance, some will want sugary berries during nesting season and fatty nuts toward winter. Your yard will be more habitable if you provide a variety of foods year round.

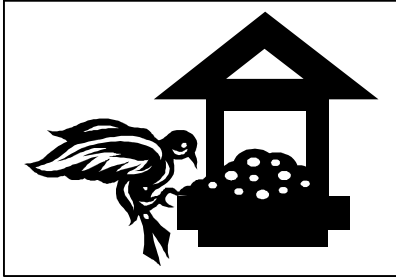
Plant trees and shrubs that will provide berries, nuts & seeds

DOGWOOD – CRABAPPLE – OAK - SUMAC HEPTACODIUM – ARONIA - BARBERRY HOLLY –
COTONEASTER – SUNFLOWER

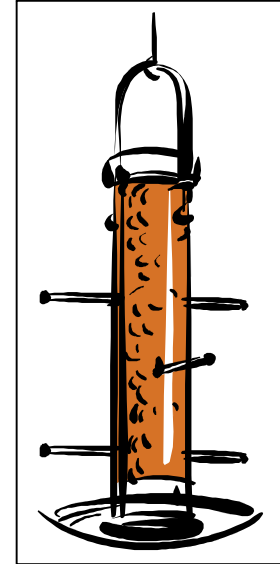
Plant flowers to provide nectar

HONEYSUCKLE – TRUMPET VINE – DAYLILY
HOSTA – PENSTEMON – SALVIA

Install feeders for several different kinds of seeds, grains and fruits

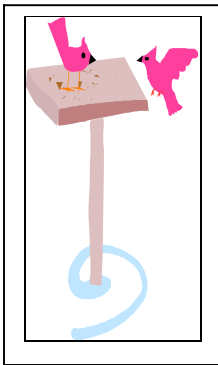


STANDARD HOUSE FEEDER
FOR LARGE SEEDS LIKE SUNFLOWER & SAFFLOWER



TUBE FEEDERS

WORK FOR THISTLE AND SMALL SEED MIXES AND ARE AVAILABLE WITH WIRE MESH FENCING TO KEEP SQUIRRELS OUT



TRAY OR PLATFORM FEEDERS

ARE FOR FRUIT, CORNCOBBS, AND OTHER LARGE TREATS

INCLUDE A NECTAR FEEDER TO ATTRACT HUMMINGBIRDS ALL YEAR

Seed buying guide

Cracked Corn – Jays, Woodpeckers

Fruit – Apples for Robins, Orange slices and dried fruit for Western Tanagers

Small grains & Seed Mix – Blackbird, Towhee

Suet – Chick a dee, Jay, Warblers, Woodpeckers, Spotted Towhee

Sunflower – Chick a dee, Finches, Jays, Woodpeckers

Thistle – Finches

Unsalted Nuts – Chick a dee, Junco, Woodpecker, Jay

Nectar – 1 part sugar to 4 parts boiling water cooled completely for Hummingbirds, year round – food coloring is unnecessary & never substitute honey for sugar. Clean feeders **every** time they are refilled.

Nesting season is a good time to remove, clean and repair your feeders. Adults will bring their fledged young back to your feeders in late summer.

It should be noted that plants grown to provide fruit and berries for human consumption will also be attractive to birds. Protect these plants with bird netting, reflective bird scare tape or motion sensing sprinklers.

WATER

A third useful feature in your habitat garden would be a source of water for drinking and bathing. Bird baths should be placed among low-level cover plants.

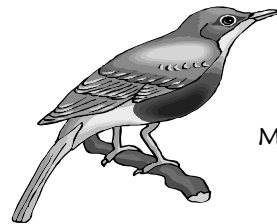
Birds can misjudge the depth of water, so ponds should have wire mesh placed just below the surface. A protruding rock or driftwood will also provide a safe landing spot.

The Birds of Portland Nursery

The five acres of comparatively undeveloped land that make up Portland Nursery provide an unusually diverse plant community which serves many local birds as prime habitat. We host roughly 60 species in, near or flying over the nursery every year. Here is a list of some we have seen and heard.

Canada goose
Wood ducks
Mallards
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron - standing on our tables!
Turkey Vultures - overhead
Osprey - flying between the two rivers
Bald Eagles - cruising high overhead
Cooper's Hawk - regular hunter here
Red-Tailed Hawk - in tall trees surrounding the nursery
Sharp-shinned Hawk
American Kestrel - no longer as plentiful
Sandhill Cranes - in V formation overhead
Killdeer - trying to nest but wisely giving up
Rock pigeon - introduced old-world species
Band-tailed pigeon - in the tall conifers to the southeast of the nursery
Common Nighthawk - a rare visitor on summer evenings
Vaux's Swift - summer, especially at dusk
Anna's Hummingbird - year round
Rufous Hummingbird - migrating in spring
Belted Kingfisher - obviously headed to the pond at Laurelhurst Park
Downey Woodpecker - in our tree section
Hairy Woodpecker - also in the tree section
Northern Flicker - usually loudly calling in the tall trees around the neighborhood
Flycatchers and Pewees - several, but too hard to tell them apart
Cassin's and Warbling Vireos - usually in our tree section
Stellar's Jay - in the large conifers to the south
Western Scrub Jay - often in the junipers on back of the building
American Crow - almost every where!
Tree Swallow - early spring over the nursery
Violetgreen Swallow - most common summertime swallow
Barn Swallow - trying to nest in the warehouse in summer
Black-capped Chickadee - winter and spring
Chestnut Backed Chickadee - early spring
Red Breasted Nuthatch - heard in the tall conifers south of greenhouse 3

Bewick's Wren - a late winter singer in trees behind the fruit tree section
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - winter feeder in the shade tree section
American Robin - gathering in the tall deciduous trees prior to mating
European Starling - common introduced old-world species
Cedar Waxwings - in flocks, sometimes with the robins
Bushtits - resident in droves
Warblers:
Orange Crowned, Yellow Rumped, Townsend's, Wilson's - mostly behind fruit tree section
Western Tanager - summer sightings
Spotted Towhee - spring singer in the brambles south of the share house
Song Sparrow - resident year round; nests are often parasitized by cowbirds
White Crowned Sparrow - late winter, migrating through
Golden Crowned Sparrow - late winter, but stays longer than the White Crowned Sparrow
House Sparrow - introduced old-world species, nests in our greenhouses
Dark-eyed Junco - winter and early spring
Brewer's Blackbird - briefly in summer
Brown-headed Cowbird - common in late spring and summer, very tame
House Finch - on phone wires singing in spring
Lesser Goldfinch - late winter through summer; nests here
American Goldfinch - occasionally in summer, becoming more common
Evening Grosbeak - in tallest deciduous trees surrounding the nursery; spring and summer



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