**NEWSLETTER SIDE BAR FEATURES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Food for Thought (now combined w/Feeder Tips) |  |  |
| Black sunflower seed, with a high meat-to-shell ratio, high fat, and thin shell is the single best food item to attract the widest variety of birds to your feeder. You can offer sunflower in most feeders or scattered on the ground.  [*Learn more*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=9de5f66f39&e=7607851428)*...* | In late summer, fruit becomes an important part of many birds’ diets. If you don’t have fruiting trees and shrubs in your yard, this is an excellent time to plan next year’s landscaping. Meanwhile, many birds come to jelly feeders. [***Learn more***](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=9de5f66f39&e=7607851428)***...*****MAIN TEXT**The life cycles of birds are beautifully synchronized with natural rhythms. Most songbird nestlings need plenty of protein during their rapid growth stage in the nest, right when caterpillars and other soft insects are abundant in many areas. When many of these same songbirds are fledging, making their first flights and hopping about, they suddenly have higher energy requirements, which they can meet by adding more carbohydrates to their diets, right when fruits are ripening. Planting a good variety of fruit trees and shrubs in your backyard can provide valuable sources of these natural sugars for young birds. But even if you don’t have any, you can attract birds to grape jelly. One or two spoonfuls can be put in small jars, jar lids, other small containers, or into feeders specially designed to offer jelly. Never set out too much: it gets sticky and may attract bugs. Although the carbohydrates from jelly are healthy in reasonably small doses, some young birds are as tempted by sweets as children, and may spend too much time at feeders at the expense of learning how to obtain more natural food items. If you notice the same young birds at the feeder hour after hour, it may be a good idea to close shop for a day or two. PHOTOS:This Painted Restart hovers at a homemade jelly feeder on a wintry day. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/11062015785>These female Cape May Warblers are feeding on jelly. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/5473824001>Hummingbirds sometimes sip dripping juice from fruits, but also take tiny insects drawn to fruiting trees.<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/6032198735>Baltimore Orioles often visit fruit trees in summer<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/6029832905><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4934370459>Birds and insects aren’t the only ones that feed on fruits.<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4934362403> | **168 x 112 pixels**  |
| Home & Garden (replaces feeder tips)  |  |  |
| This section is for bird houses, habitat features, landscaping, gardening, planting to attract birds, wildlife in the yard, etc. It should be about the same length as Feeder Tips and Food For Thought in word count.[*Learn more*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=4a39649bf5&e=7607851428)*...* | One problem with hummingbird feeders is that they sometimes attract wasps. Any insecticide that can control them can also kill hummingbirds. What can we do to control wasps more safely? [***Learn more***](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=9de5f66f39&e=7607851428)***...***Wasps can be a nuisance for people and birds, and in some cases, especially near an allergic person, can be a serious danger. Where allergies are the issue, it’s important to not tempt fate. Where the wasps are more of an inconvenience than an actual danger, here are a few strategies that sometimes help to keep wasps away:1. Wasps learn locations of food sources from one another, and after they find one, they keep returning to the exact same spot. Sometimes moving the feeders every few days can keep them under control.
2. Some people set out a hummingbird feeder specifically FOR wasps, filled with an extremely strong sugar solution (3/4 cup sugar per cup of water or even stronger), placed in a part of the yard where people don’t spend any time. After hanging the feeder, use a paper towel or basting brush to coat the outside of the feeder with the same strong solution. That feeder may soon be crawling with wasps, but they’ll be too focused on it to bother with the weaker solutions in regular hummingbird feeders or jelly feeders.
3. If wasps are coming to a window feeder near where you spend a lot of time, sometimes you can solve the problem with a hand vacuum.

PHOTOS:Wasp visiting hummingbird feeder:<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14722919872><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14720834364/> | **168 x 112 pixels**  |
| Picture Perfect  |  |  |
| Birds are sort of like money—the more you have, the more you get. The trick is getting some in the first place. Attracting the first birds to a new feeding station can be challenging. We'll share some tips to help you along.[*Learn more*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=4a39649bf5&e=7607851428)*...* | Summer can be the ideal time to photograph flowers, and also the wildlife that visits flowers. If you have a smart phone camera, an inexpensive point-and-shoot camera, or a DSLR with a macro lens, start with close ups.[***Learn more***](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=9de5f66f39&e=7607851428)***...*****MAIN TEXT**Taking photographs of flowers can be fun in and of itself. Flower images are colorful, and practicing on them can help you learn more about using your camera equipment and how to compose pictures and process them with your software. Sometimes while you’re working on a close-up of a flower, an insect will fly or crawl in, making your picture even more interesting. Unfortunately, insects move about, making focusing a little trickier, and you need to make certain that the camera is trying to focus on the insect rather than something closer or further away, but digital photography allows you to throw out any pictures that don’t turn out, and flowers stick around in the exact same spot for hours, days, or even weeks, unlike birds and bugs that may fly off after just a second.Photos of flowers can help you identifying them, because you can enlarge them on your computer as you use a field guide or online resources to identify them. See how many different species of flowers, and of flower-loving wildlife, you can photograph this month!PHOTOS:Thistle flower with Great Spangled Fritillary drinking nectar<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/9440924434>Milkweed flowers with bee<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14536794689/>Hummingbird moth<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14536774170/><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14723441595/> | **168 x 112 pixels**  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Art of Birding / Young Birder’s Society |  |  |
| Birds are sort of like money—the more you have, the more you get. The trick is getting some in the first place. Attracting the first birds to a new feeding station can be challenging. We'll share some tips to help you along.[*Learn more*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage1.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=4a39649bf5&e=7607851428)*...* |  | **168 x 112-360 pixels (can vary in height)**  |
| Bird Brains (Brain Teasers) |  |  |
| Test your bird knowledge with our "Bird Brain" challenges. There are 3 of them, each with an increasing level of difficulty. If you're intermediate or advanced, also try the Bird Brain IQ Quiz (you can choose a video or audio quiz with hints to help you with the tough ones). [*Check them out here...*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=ca4c092267&e=7607851428) |  | **120 x 120 pixels**  |
| Citizen Science |  |  |
| Test your bird knowledge with our "Bird Brain" challenges. There are 3 of them, each with an increasing level of difficulty. If you're intermediate or advanced, also try the Bird Brain IQ Quiz (you can choose a video or audio quiz with hints to help you with the tough ones). [*Check them out here...*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=ca4c092267&e=7607851428) |  | **168 x 152 pixels**  |

**NEWSLETTER BODY FEATURES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Bird of the Month |  |  |
| Our November Bird of the Month is one of the most endearing birds in the world: the chickadee. Chickadees are tiny, plump, and big headed, giving them a baby-like shape that probably contributes to our sense of their “cuteness.”But their adorableness comes from more than mere appearance. More than most wild birds, chickadees pay close attention to us and quickly learn to associate us with our bird feeders. They look us in the eye, and many can even learn to take sunflower seeds and special treats like mealworms, right from our hands.The Black-capped Chickadee is the state bird of Maine and Massachusetts.  Learn more about the [*Black-capped Chickadee*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=a35faa2191&e=7607851428)*...* | Most songbirds begin nesting within days of arriving after spring migration, but our bird of the month bides its time. American Goldfinches don’t start to nest until late June or July. If they lose their eggs or young, they may renest, allowing us to see fledglings as late as September. We can enjoy goldfinches in open areas and in backyards over most of the United States on and off, year-round, though their movements are somewhat unpredictable. Their favorite plants, thistles, lure them in during summer, but they also visit feeders. The American Goldfinch is the state bird of Washington, Iowa, and New Jersey. [***Learn more about American Goldfinches***](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=a35faa2191&e=7607851428)***...***FULL TEXT:Most songbirds begin nesting within days of arriving after spring migration, but one of the most popular backyard songbirds bides its time. American Goldfinches don’t start to nest until late June or July. If they lose their eggs or young, they may renest as late as early September.American Goldfinches are essentially strict vegetarians, feeding on a variety of seeds and virtually no insects or other animal-based foods. They focus on fairly small seeds, visiting feeders year-round for sunflower seeds (especially the soft-shelled black oil type) and nyger, also called thistle. In summer, they gravitate to the downy seeds on such plants as thistle and milkweed, not just for food but also for nesting materials, forming the nest cup from the silky down. Although goldfinches sometimes pair up during spring, they wait until mid-summer to start nesting.Goldfinches never nest in birdhouses; they build their nest in a shrub or sapling. They like open areas rather than forests, but seldom nest in backyards unless a good supply of favorite plants are available. Their favorite plant of all, thistle, is not quite so popular with most homeowners because it’s so prickly, but goldfinches also eat seeds from asters, purple coneflowers, sunflowers, zinnias, black-eyed susans, bachelor buttons, and salvias. Most fruit- or seed-eating songbirds feed their young caterpillars and other high-protein foods, but goldfinches feed their young the same thing the adults eat, seeds, only in regurgitated form. This diet, exactly what baby goldfinches need to thrive, is too low in protein for nestlings of other species. Indeed, when a cowbird lays her egg in a goldfinch nest, the baby cowbird never survives through fledging. Male goldfinches live longer than females, and in most populations outnumber females about 3 to 2. Goldfinches are different from other species in other ways, too. They’re one of the only birds that replace all their body feathers (molts) twice a year, growing brilliant yellow plumage in early spring, and then growing new drab feathers in fall. During the time they’re molting, they can look rather Molting new feathers is extremely energy-intensive. It appears that producing eggs soon after molting, and then molting all over again soon after the young fledge, is harder on females than males, which may explain why males live longer. Goldfinch migration is not well understood. Some individuals wearing US Fish and Wildlife Service bands have later been trapped again over a thousand miles away, but they can be found throughout the winter wherever the low temperature isn’t colder than 0 degrees Fahrenheit, and small groups may be found all winter even when the temperature is colder than that over many nights. People lucky enough to have goldfinches in winter know spring is coming when a patchwork of brilliant feathers starts showing through the drab winter plumage. Pleasant as these hardy birds are in winter, American Goldfinches are their most brilliant during the season of abundance, summer, when watching them can make us feel as rich as if their plumage was real gold.Goldfinches are so popular that they’ve been chosen as the state bird of three states spanning the continent: Washington, Iowa, and New Jersey. Female (front) and male, molting in spring, at nyger feeder. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14717414562/>Adult male, molting in spring, at nyger feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14531055589/>2 males in spring—one in front is done molting, one in back still in process, at nyger feeder.<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14717695515/>Female (front) and 2 males in spring molt at sunflower feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14737550113/> Adult female, molting in spring, at sunflower feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14737566433/>Adult female molting in spring<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14717404812/><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14714520891/>Immature goldfinch in winter at nyger feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14715302824/>Immature goldfinch in winter at sunflower feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14737556603/>Adult male in winter, at sunflower feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14531015360/>Adult female and young bird in autumn<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14717679955/>Adult male in thistle<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14531036109/><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14714506031/>(video of male in thistle)<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3257317828>Mated pair in summer<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/14531236307/>Male in breeding plumage<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/7339724286><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3256330245><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4698100920><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4762920968><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4762284519><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3257160704><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/7339727610><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/7154524079/><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/7154525217><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3783362030><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/7654531124><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3783370096><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3783362644><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/6057031653>Female at Nyjer feeder<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/6262467701>Male getting banded<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4677268660><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4677269014>“Levitating” male: he’s just taking off.<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/4697469241>Male in breeding plumage, wearing a leg band, scratches his face<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3783364076><https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3783363548>Male in breeding plumage, wearing leg band<https://www.flickr.com/photos/lauraerickson/3782549201> | **Two Bird of the Month photos:*** **110 x 110 pixels**
* **360 x 180 pixels**

 |
| Bird Saying of the Month  | Saying: “In order to see birds it is necessary to become a part of the silence.”  |  |
| Meaning:  This phrase is used as an endearment, as someone might say “sweetie” or “cutie pie.”  Etymology:  An actor named W. C. Fields used to call women “my little chickadee” in his movies. The phrase is fun to say and funny to hear. In 1940, Fields and Mae West made a movie comedy called “[My Little Chickadee](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=cd0ae53943&e=7607851428).” | **Meaning:** To be aware of all the birds around you, you must be still and quiet, drinking in all the sights and sounds around you.**Etymology:**  Robert Lynd was a writer who lived in Ireland from 1879 until1949, and was very knowledgeable about nature. He knew what he needed to do to make careful observations! | **No picture** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| On the Fly News |  |  |
| As days shorten and cooler temperatures descend into North America, it’s time for one of our favorite features of the Autumn — Ron Pittaway’s Winter Finch Forecast. [*Continue*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=98f67824ae&e=7607851428)*...* |  | **200 x 140 pixels**  |
| On the Fly Review / Entertainment |  |  |
| What is a Big Year?You might remember a 2011 movie that starred Jack Black, Steve Martin and Owen Wilson. The comic icons played three birders on a quest to see as many bird species as they could in a year for the "Birder of the Year" crown. Big Years (and Big Weeks, Big Days, etc.) are real phenomena, birders adventuring to see, hear, and photograph as many different species as they can in given time period. And, all those recordings can contribute to citizen-science too. We give the movie two "wings" up and we hope it inspires you! |  | **150 x 220 pixels**  |
| Q&A Did You Know |  |  |
| DID YOU KNOW?Chickadee calls are complex and language-like, communicating information on identity and recognition of other flocks as well as predator alarms and contact calls. The more *dee* notes in a *chickadee-dee-dee* call, the higher the threat level. The oldest known wild chickadee was a tween in human years, having lived 12 years and 5 months. | **DID YOU KNOW?**Scientists put bands on birds to track them. One adult male American Goldfinch that was banded in 2004 was caught in a bander’s net in 2013, when it was at least 10 years 9 months old. One banded in Guelph, Ontario, was found 8 months later in Olla, Louisiana. Goldfinches are one of the most frequently banded of all birds. | **No picture** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Q&A Did You Know |  |  |
| ASK THE LABYOU ASKED...Q. How often should I clean my bird Feeders?A. In normal circumstances, most bird feeders are fairly low maintenance. To keep seed fresh and safe, we shouldn’t offer more than birds can finish in a few days, and shouldn't allow seed to stand for long after being soaked.If we're using a large tube or hopper feeder and don't have enough birds to empty it frequently, we should empty it entirely once a week.  If the seed is still dry, we can scatter that for ground-feeding birds. And we should brush off platform feeders every few days, too, so that shells and uneaten seeds don't collect beneath fresh seed. As long as the seed is fresh, feeders don't usually require any more cleaning than simply emptying them or brushing them out. Once a year or so, it can be a good idea to thoroughly wash feeders. | ASK THE LABYOU ASKED**Q. I found a baby bird! What should I do?****A.**  If you find a baby bird that is a helpless nestling, try to return it to its nest. If it is hopping about on the ground, its parents are almost definitely nearby. Baby birds need much more than food to thrive, and people, including licensed rehabbers, can’t give them all the benefits their wild parents would. Wildlife rehabilitators try to restore baby birds to their own nest or the nest of another bird family of the exact same species with young at the same state. This web page may help you find the nearest licensed rehabber: http://www.nwrawildlife.org/content/finding-rehabilitator**Q. Birds were singing so much in spring. Why do they quiet down so much in summer?****A.**  In spring, most bird song is to help males defend a territory and attract a mate. By summer, these jobs are done and now most male songbirds are working with their mate to raise the young. At this point, the quieter they are, the less likely it will be that predators find their young.  | **168 x 112 pixels** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Beginner Activity |  |  |
| Make Your Own Pinecone FeederThis feeder fun and easy to make, and a way to provide another nutritious food for your backyard birds, especially during the winter months.  You'll need: * 1 pinecone
* 1 oz. peanut butter
* ¼ cup of sunflower seeds
* 1 foot of string or twine
* 1 butter knife or spoon
* 1 piece of wax paper about 18” square

Stuffing a pinecone with peanut butter and sprinkling with birdseed is a fun and easy way to build a bird feeder. Pinecone feeders attract chickadees and nuthatches. Sometimes even a Blue Jay will join in!  Click "Get Started" below to learn more. | **Make Your Own Brush Pile** Some songbirds, such as wrens and sparrows, spend much of their lives near the ground. Sometimes they need a safe place to duck into when they spot a hawk or other predator. A brush pile can be ideal for this.A brush pile is exactly what it sounds like: a pile of branches on the ground. These branches may have fallen from trees during storms, been trimmed during pruning, or left after cutting down a tree or shrub. Crisscross them a bit so that there are lots of little spaces for birds to hide.Brush piles don’t have to be unsightly, but most people place theirs in an out-of-the-way spot in the back of their yard. Setting one behind your birdbath gives you a view of the bathing birds while giving them an excellent escape in a dangerous situation. | **110 x 162 pixels** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Intermediate Activity |  |  |
| Create A Recycled Perch FeederIf you've mastered the Pine Cone feeder or looking for something a little more challenging, try building this perch bird feeder out of recycled materials around your home or easily attainable. Click on "Get Good" to learn more.  You'll Need:* 1 Clean 1-liter soda bottle
* 1 Craft knife (adult use only)
* 2 wooden dowels
* 1 Small eye screw
* 1 Twine/string for hanging

 For a more challenging DIY bird feeder that's earth-friendly, try making a perch feeder out of recycled materials around the house or easily attainable. Click "Get Good" to learn more. | Collect insulating Materials for Roosting BirdsBirds grow extra down feathers in fall and early winter in order to improve their insulation against frigid winter nights, but those that roost inside tree cavities and other crevices get some additional insulation from the walls of their roost. They can improve the quality of their roost even more by adding insulating materials. Before winter, gather several types of these materials for them. Stuffing the materials into a clean suet cage makes them both accessible and visible to birds. When bits of soft materials flutter a bit, birds are more likely to notice them.Never offer dryer lint. It feels perfect—thick and soft—but when it’s exposed to moisture, it not only shrinks but hardens into thin crust. In spring, incorporated into nesting materials, dryer lint can compromise the structure of a nest with the first rainfall, and in a roost, the shrinking after it gets moist will destroy its insulation value.Excellent offerings include:1. clumps of dog or cat fur collected during brushing
2. cotton balls or wads of quilt batting. Natural fibers are better than synthetics.
3. if you happen to know a poultry farmer, see if you can collect small body feathers and down feathers. Humans have been making down quilts and jackets for a long time because of the excellent insulative value of feathers.
4. Many milkweed plants have well-developed seed pods by August. If you don’t have milkweeds in your own yard, collect a few seed heads on public land where it is legal or on private land where you have permission. When the seed head dries and bursts open, you’ll have a nice clump of downy seeds perfect for winter insulation. And these seeds may perform double duty. When birds leave their roost, sometimes tiny fibers adhere to their feathers. When milkweed down blows away, it may germinate into an extremely valuable plant for Monarch butterflies.

  | **110 x 162 pixels** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Advanced Activity |  |  |
| Build A Backyard Bird Wood Ground-Feeder Many ground-feeding birds, such as doves, sparrows, and juncos, prefer feeding on or near the ground. They perch in trees to rest, sing, or look around, but are most comfortable eating when their feet are on flat ground. You'll need:* 8’ of 1”x3” dimension lumber
* 1/8” mesh aluminum screen—12” x 20”
* Flat-headed wood screws (rust-resistant, preferably stainless steel)
* Eight 1½ - 2” wood screws
* Twelve 1¼” screws
* Staple gun with staples

Click more details with full work plans of this special project by clicking "Get Expert" below. | Build a Roost Box for WinterSome wintering songbirds spend their nights in tree cavities that were dug out by woodpeckers or formed by rotting branches. Many of them will use a roost box as a safe alternative. A roost box is just a little different from a nest box, and birds may nest in the exact same box for nesting and for winter roosting. But in general, the entrance hole of nest boxes is set higher, so the young won’t be exposed to direct drafts and won’t be likely to fall out of the entrance before they’re old enough to fledge. The entrance hole on roost boxes is set low, with perches set on the upper part of the inside wall to trap rising warm air within the box. Often some insulating material such as Styrofoam is attached to the ceiling to ensure that this warm air doesn’t leak out. Chickadees virtually always roost alone, but some birds that space themselves widely during nesting season gather to roost together in winter, including bluebirds, swallows, and Brown Creepers. If you’re trying to provide for these species, you may want to set multiple perches in the back of the nest. For more information, along with a link to plans for building a root box, try this: http://www.allaboutbirds.org/page.aspx?pid=1144#roost | **110 x 162 pixels** |
| Special Offers and Exclusives |  |  |
| Sounds of the natural world can evoke all kinds of feelings - from scary to mysterious. These 15 sounds from the Macaulay Library are a fun way to test whether you can tell what's a scolding crow or an arctic seal. See if you can guess what kind of animals are making the 15 sounds in this set, then check to see if you are correct. Find more interesting sounds in our archive of animal sounds from around the world. [*Download the sounds!*](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=752a19b4f3&e=7607851428)Listen to Samples:[02 Barn Owl](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=6e9d8b0018&e=7607851428) [07 Gray Wolf](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=00d6ac9896&e=7607851428)[12 Ringed Seal](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=eaf99daea7&e=7607851428) |  | **Pixel size will vary.** |

**WEBSITE HOME PAGE BLURBS & PHOTOS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Template Space - Guide, do not alter | New Issue Feature Copy  | Photo(s) |
| Food for Thought (now combined w/Feeder Tips) |  |  |
| When weather is cold, the best bird food choices are ones that contain a lot of fat for burning into energy.  | When baby songbirds leave the nest, they’re close to full sized and suddenly much more active. This is when they start needing more carbohydrates in their diet. Fruits and jelly are great for providing this![***Learn more***](http://wildbirdclub.us7.list-manage2.com/track/click?u=6d22a278edbe3402bbd978556&id=9de5f66f39&e=7607851428)***...*****MAIN TEXT** | **120 x 120 pixels** File needs to be named **food-thought.png** |
| Home & Garden (replaces Feeder Tips) |  |  |
| What are the best food choices to help birds discover your yard and attract the widest variety of birds?  | What safe alternatives might there be to pesticides for protecting my hummingbird feeders from wasps? | **120 x 120 pixels** File needs to be named **feeder-tips.png** |
| Picture Perfect  |  |  |
| Taking photos of birds at window feeders is the easiest way to start through-the-window photography. Get some tips from our experts at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.  | Flowers are fun to photograph, and more cooperative than birds, staying literally rooted in place. And sometimes, a flower draws in a butterfly, bee, or other interesting critter. | **120 x 120 pixels** File needs to be named **Picture-perfect.png** |
| Bird of the Month  |  |  |
| Taking photos of birds at window feeders is the easiest way to start through-the-window photography. Get some tips from our experts at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.  | The American Goldfinch, tinier in length than a chickadee and weighing just a little more, is the state bird of 3 states. Learn about some interesting ways it differs from other songbirds. | **120 x 120 pixels** File needs to be named **botm.png** |
| Citizen Science  |  |  |
| Citizen science is a way for you to learn about birds, science, and conservation by participating in real scientific studies in a partnership between the public and professional scientists. Be counted!  |  | **120 x 120 pixels** File needs to be named **citizen.png** |

**WEBSITE FEATURES**

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**HOME & GARDEN**

**PICTURE PERFECT**

**ART OF BIRDING**

**BIRD BRAINS**

**CITIZEN SCIENCE**

**BIRD OF THE MONTH**

**ON THE FLY: News from the Birding World**

**Did you know?**

**CORNELL Q&A: Ask the Lab**

YOU ASKED

**Q.**

**A.**

**Q.**

**A.**

**BIRD SAYING OF THE MONTH**

 **Saying:**

**Meaning:**

**Etymology:**

**ACTIVITIES:**

 **Beginner activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Intermediate Activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Advanced activity: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**SPECIAL OFFERS & EXCLUSIVES:**