

# CONTEST

# WIN A DREAM TRIP TO ANTICOSTI ISLAND

\$7,000 in prizes to win!

Nutrite, Fleurs, plantes et jardins and Fondation de la faune du Québec invite you to participate in the

# My Bird Sanctuary

# Win one of these prizes!

• 1st Grand Prize: a 2002 summer resort tour featuring a one-week stay for four at Anticosti Island. Value of \$ 2,400 (Sépaq Anticosti).

#### Other Prizes:

• Three (3) silk replicas of Jean-Paul Riopelle's "Snow Goose" silk screening, each valued at \$195.

To participate simply provide:

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- Québec logo, each the Fondation de
- conservation stamps issued by la faune du Québec, each valued at \$10.

• 100, year 2001

"Blue Jav"

and your address to:

• 2<sup>nd</sup> Grand Prize: screen

printing (limited edition)

by Jean-Paul Riopelle, the

"Snow Goose." Value of \$3,000.

• Three (3) one-year

(8 issues) to the

Fleurs, plantes et

jardins magazine,

subscriptions

each valued

at \$35.

bag\* or the bag's bar code along with your name, address and phone number

the top part of a Nutrite Sanctuaire des oiseaux seed

Available at all participating garden product retailers.

Purchasing these products supports the Fondation de la faune du Québec in its efforts to create bird habitats.

Send the section of bag or bar code

Hydro Agri Canada (Nutrite) Contest "My Bird Sanctuary" 7005, boul. Taschereau

C.P. 1000 Brossard (Québec) J4Z 1A7

(Facsimiles and manual or mechanical reproductions are not accepted).

#### End of contest:

Contest ends on November 1st, 2001 at 5 p.m. The draw will take place on November 15th, 2001. Winners will be notified in writing.

Contest rules and list of winners are available through Hydro Agri Canada (www.nutrite.com, or (450) 462-2555,

or the Fondation de la faune du Québec, www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca or (418) 644-7926











# A practical guidebook



Photo: Bruno Petrozza

Creating a bird garden in your backyard means creating a habitat consistent with the birds' needs. It is also a personal contribution to environmental conservation much like waste recycling, serving to ward off losses of wildlife habitat resulting from urbanization. A bird garden can also heighten awareness among ordinary citizens and authorities of the immense potential for wildlife habitat in privately owned and publicly maintained green spaces. Sometimes the simple presence of flowers is enough...

Since 1998 the **Fondation de la faune du Québec** and its partners have distributed some 1,300,000 brochures named "Faites la cour aux oiseaux" Volumes I, II and III free of charge to anyone interested in turning their backyard into a bird habitat. This year the Fondation de la faune du Québec, Nutrite, Hydro-Québec and the Fleurs, plantes et jardins magazine are proud to present a special edition featuring four reference tables with vital information about how to transform a green space into an inviting bird habitat.

The quidebook contains practical information about trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants and climbers, along with landscaping tips. Since flowering and fruit formation periods are short-lived in Québec and fail to meet the feed requirements of many species of birds, the brochure also contains valuable information about bird feed and feed stations.

The 2001 "Faites la cour aux oiseaux" brochure: a guidebook worth saving!

> Happy reading and pleasant gardening! Louise Laparé, Spokesperson

# PRODUCTION TEAM

2-550-37008

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Alain Hogue, Une merveille : une paruline jaune dans la vigne des rivages



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# A wildlife habitat In your own backyard

WHAT DO BIRD'S NEED?

To survive and breed, birds need food, water, shelter and nesting sites all year long.

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# Aigrating birds and those preparing to breed need

Food

## ots of energy. Insects are a vital source of food during his season. Early-flowering plants are most helpful during the spring.

# used by birds. A dip in the terrain can also do the trick.

Rain and runoff from snow

provide puddles of water

## Shelter IMPORTANT

#### Migrating birds seek shelter from freezing rain and predators. In early spring, coniferous trees offer the best protection.

## Nesting sites IMPORTANT

When the early nesters arrive, coniferous trees offer shelter for nests. Shrubs and bushes provide the nest-building materials. Nesting boxes and man-made shelters may also be used.

#### IMPORTANT

This is the laying, nesting and hatching season. Nestlings are generally fed insects and other invertebrates, or seed and fruit mixtures.

#### IMPORTANT

also do the trick

IMPORTANT

This is a season when

necessary. A birdbath

water is in short supply.

A source of water is often

filled with warm water or

takes longer to freeze over.

Water

A source of water is often necessary as a result of high temperatures and dry periods. Continuously running water is best, but a small basin or birdbath can be sufficient

#### Nestlings and their parents need vegetation, as well as tangles of branches and rock or other protection from predators. The foliage

cool spots during hot sum-

A variety of leafy trees, bushes and shrubs and coniferous trees will attract birds for nesting. Nesting of trees and shrubs provides boxes may be required for species that prefer hollows, since there are few hollow trees in urban settings.

Several species explore

areas for the next nesting

season. Proper landscaping

can lead to their return the

following spring.

#### IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT

Birds are accumulating fat in preparation for their migration south. Fruit. nuts and seeds provide rich, essential nutrients.

This is the season when

sable.Berries still clinging

bird feeders filled with seed

and suet are instrumental

in ensuring the survival of birds present all year long.

to trees and bushes and

food is scarce. A rich source of food is indispen-

#### Rain often leaves puddles of water used by birds. A dip in the terrain can

Cold winds and rain heralding the arrival of fall force birds to expend precious energy if they lack protection from the elements. Coniferous trees and tree hollows provide shelter against inclement weather.

#### IMPORTANT

IMPORTANT

Freezing temperatures and violent winds test birds to the limit. Food sources ensuring their survival must be situated near coniferous equipped with a heating coil trees and dense shrubs.



Photo: Montréal Botanical Garden. shadblow

white spruce



Photo: Alain Hogue, Indigo bunting

## THE KEY TO SUCCESSFUL LANDSCAPING

To successfully landscape your backyard for birds, try integrating the following elements:

## Plant tiering

Some birds are ground feeders, while others feed on fruit and seeds in trees or shrubs.

#### A selection of trees and shrubs

Coniferous and deciduous trees, along with fruit and seed-bearing shrubs and plants, will lead to greater diversity in the species of birds present.

## Leave old or dead trees standing; leave dead branches in trees.

A great many species of birds, such as woodpeckers, eat insects and nest in tree hollows. Their abandoned 'holes' are occupied by other species such as chickadees, nuthatches, swallows and wrens.

## Eliminate open or grassy spaces

Eliminating them leads to attracting more garden species and decreases the likelihood of visits by less desirable species such as pigeons, seagulls and starlings.

# Use indigenous plants

These plants are better adapted to the soil, temperatures and rainfall. They require less upkeep than exotic species imported into North America. Plants introduced from other locations that can be integrated with indigenous species are also suitable. Some exotic plants particularly appreciated by birds

may be planted, as long as they do not compete with indigenous flora.

# Consider the neighbourhood

The proximity of a park, lake or waterway will have a significant impact on the diversity of species present in your backyard. If neighbouring backyards are also wooded, your landscaping will be perceived as a continuation of other yards, which will increase the potential of your site.

The table on the next page provides the characteristics of several species of trees and shrubs appreciated by birds as sources of food, shelter and nesting sites. Choose those best suited to your project and to the infrastructures present in your yard.



A selection of plants.	p		7	,7	1 0 1 1
A <b>selection</b> of <b>plants</b> .	<i>101</i> °	YOU,	and	the	Diras!

Species* Name SHRUBS		arac Har	cterist Sun	iCS** Soil	Spr	Fru	Dur	/	goditi s	ARROW NO	A HERMAN	E CHINCH	Sept. 18	it it	Sulle BY	CLERED	SEIM. HALE	archalt.	of the contract of the contrac	SPECIAL SE	ROT NO	DO COMPANY OF THE PROPERTY OF
Green alder (Alnus crispa)	$\Box$	1	0	VM	+	Aug/Oct	•															
Speckled alder (Alnus rugosa)	D	2	0	VM	+	Aug/Oct	•				•										•	•
Chokeberry (Aronia melanocarpa)	D	4	0	M	+	Aug/Nov	•															
Alternate-leaf dogwood (Cornus alternifolia)	D	3	•	M		Jul/Sep	•			•				•					•			
Yellow-twigged dogwood (Cornus stolonifera)	D	1	0	M	+	Jul/Oct																
Hawthorne (Crataegus spp.)	D	3	•	M		Sep/Oct								•								
Holly (Ilex verticillata)	D	3	0	VM	+	Aug/Oct	•															
Honeysuckle (Lonicera spp.)	D	2	•	M		Jul/Nov			•		•			•					•			
Sweet gale (Myrica gale)	D	2	0	M	+	May/Jun	•															
Bayberry (Myrica pensylvanica)	D	2	0	D		Apr/Jun			•								•	•	•		•	
Common ninebark (Physocarpus opulifolius)	D	2	0	D		Jul/Sep	•															
Staghorn sumac (Rhus typhina)	D	3	0	D		Aug/Sep			•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•		•	
Rosebush (Rosa spp.)	D	4	0			Jun/Sep	•															
Raspberry, blackberry (Rubus spp.)	D	3	0	D	+	Jul			•					•				•				
Currant (Ribes spp.)	D	3	0	D	+	Jul																
American elder (Sambucus canadensis)	D	3	0	M	+	Jul/Sep			•	•				•			•	•				
European red elder (Sambucus pubens)	D	3	0	M	+	Jul/Aug																
Weeping willow (Salix spp.)	D	3	0	M	+	May							•									
Meadowsweet (Spirea latifolia)	D	2	0	M	+	Sep/Oct																
Low bush blueberry (Vaccinium spp.)	D	2	0	M		Jul/Sep					•							•	•			
Hobble-bush (Viburnum alnifolium)	D	3	•	M	+	Aug/Oct	•															
Withe-rod (Viburnum cassinoides)	D	2	•	M		Aug/Oct	•															
Highbush cranberry (Viburnum edule)	Ø	1	0	M	+	Aug/Oct	•															
Nannyberry (Viburnum Lentago)	$\Box$	2	0	M		Aug/Oct	•															
American cranberrybush (Viburnum trilobum)	D	2	0	M	+	Aug/Oct	•															
Common juniper (Juniperus communis)	*	2	0	D	+	Sep/Nov	•															
TREES																						
Shadblow (Amelanchier canadensis)	D	3	0	M	•	Jun/Aug																
Alleghany serviceberry (Amelanchier laevis)	Ø	4	•	D	•	Jun/Aug				•	•			•		•		•			•	
Grey birch (Betula populifolia)	D	3	0	D	•	Sep/Oct	•															
Common hackberry (Celtis occidentalis)	Ø	4	0	M	•	Sep/Nov	٠			•				•		•			_			
Red ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica)	Ø	3	0	M	•	Sep/Oct	•															
Apple and crabapple (Malus spp.)	Ø	3	0	M	+	Aug/Sep	•	•		•				•	_			•				
Wild pin cherry (Prunus pensylvanica)	۵	2	0	М	•	Jul/Sep					•					•						
Black cherry (Prunus serotina)	<i>p</i>	4	0	М	•	Aug/Sep			•	•			•	•	•	•		•	•			
Chokecherry ( <i>Prunus virginiana</i> )	۵	3	0	М	•	Jul/Oct																
American mountain ash (Sorbus americana)	۵	2	0	М	•	Aug/Nov	•						•					•				
Red cedar (Juniperus virginiana)	*	4	0	D	•	Sep/Nov	•															
White spruce (Picea glauca)	*	1	0	M	•	Aug/Nov	•						•									
White pine (Pinus strobus)	*	3	0	M	+	Aug/Nov	•															
Arborvitae (Thuya occidentalis)	*	4	0	M	Ŧ	Aug/Nov	•										_					
Canadian hemlock (Tsuga canadensis)	*	4	•	IVI	-	Aug/Nov	•															

\*Species All plant species listed are indigenous.

# \*\*Characteristics

type of tree: (□): deciduous or (\*): coniferous

plant hardiness: from (1), very hardy to (4), less hardy

sunlight: (○): sunlight, more than 6 hours/day; (◆): semi-shade, 4 to 6 hours/day; (◆): shade, 2 to 4 hours/day

soil moisture (VM): very moist, (M): moist, (D): dry Soil

small (+), not more than 6 m high and 5 m wide; may be planted near or under power lines; medium (\*), not more than 13 m high and 7 m wide; plant at least 3 m from power lines; big (♠), between 15 to 25 m high and up to 15-20 m wide; plant at least 10 m from power lines;

fruit formation e.g.: (Agu/Oct): August to October

duration of fruit/seeds: (•) : persistent

All species are resistant to glaze ice except for staghorn sumac, weeping willow and grey birch.



Under power lines, plant trees that do not grow too much in height or in breadth.





# Le bon arbre au bon endroit.

La plantation urbaine de chênes, d'érables à sucre, de frênes ou de tout arbre atteignant de grandes dimensions à maturité nécessitera d'importants travaux d'élagage en vue de dégager les fils de distribution d'électricité.

La meilleure manière d'éviter les contacts avec les fils reste encore de choisir des arbres qui n'atteindront qu'une petite dimension à maturité. Aussi, lorsque l'on désire planter des arbres plus grands, le choix de l'emplacement par rapport aux fils devient extrêmement important.

Plus la cime présentera un diamètre important à maturité, plus l'arbre devra être tenu éloigné du réseau électrique afin que les branches n'atteignent pas les fils. Si en croissant, un arbre s'approche trop près du réseau électrique, Hydro-Québec n'aura pas d'autres choix que de l'élaguer. Cette intervention demeure

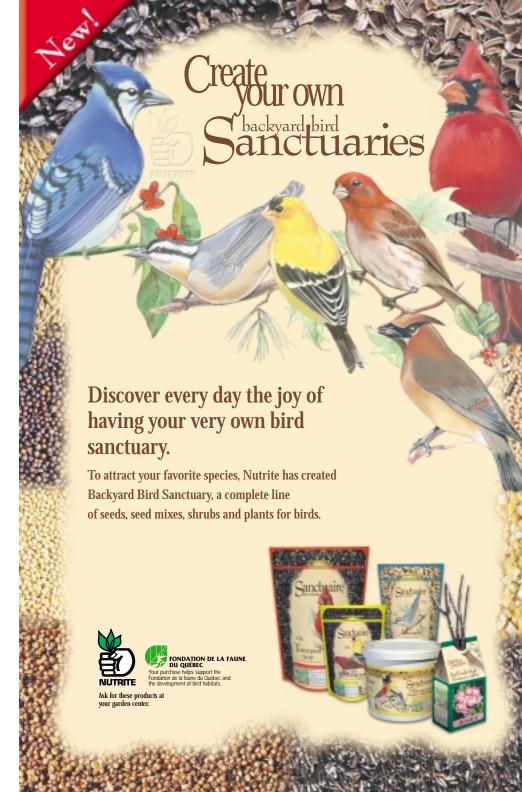
toutefois une mesure temporaire puisque les branches repousseront tout naturellement.

La meilleure prévention reste encore la planification. En d'autres termes, il est préférable de planter le bon arbre au bon endroit!

Pour mieux guider sa clientèle dans le choix ou l'emplacement d'un arbre ou d'un arbuste par rapport au réseau de distribution, Hydro-Québec a produit un ouvrage de référence : le Répertoire des arbres et des arbustes ornementaux.

Hydro-Québec vous offre ce répertoire au prix spécial de 29,95 \$ incluant taxes, frais de manutention et d'expédition. Vous trouverez un bon de commande sur internet au www.hydroquebec.com/boutique/. Pour plus d'information, composez le 1 800 Énergie.





# Use of <u>herbaceous plants</u> and <u>climbers</u> American goldfinch on knapwe

When laying down flowerbeds or locating herbaceous plants, choose perennials over annuals, as they will ensure a sustainable environment on which the birds can rely. However, some annual plants provide an abundance of food for birds and should not be overlooked.

#### PLANNING PLANT LAYOUT

Plan for flowerbeds at least three metres wide if you wish to attract ground-nesting birds such as sparrows, which seek tranquility and protection.

Plant beds of perennials around the yard at the base of trees or near shrubbery. These areas are usually undisturbed or harder to reach, affording peace and quiet for the birds.

Mix plants that flower and run to seed in the spring and fall in order to provide an abundance of food during the entire nesting period. Allow flowers to go to seed so that birds may feed in the fall, even winter.

Organize beds of plant species that flower successively all summer long in order to ensure a source of nectar for nectar feeders such as hummingbirds.

Surround flowerbeds with a mulch of dead leaves for birds such as sparrows, juncos and thrashers that feed on insects, larva and other invertebrates.

# TAKING ADVANTAGE OF STRUCTURES ON THE PREMISES (PAVILLION, PERGOLA, ARBOR, TERRACE, BALCONY, FENCE, ETC.)

Climbers provide exceptional settings for winged wildlife and gardeners seeking to create intimate or lush settings.

Feeders, nesting boxes and a birdbath can add that natural look to smaller gardens. Simply locate them in the least frequented area of the grounds to prevent disturbing the birds.



Photo: Robert Morin, Canada lilv and hummin



hoto: Robert Morin, Morning glory on a trellis

Most climbers produce brightly coloured fruit that attract hummingbirds and provide an inviting feast for a number of species of birds.

Winter grape and Virginia creeper vines are the most popular species because their fruit and dense foliage attract over fifty species of birds. The bark of winter grape is used as nesting material by a number of birds, while the Virginia creeper is favoured by many as a nesting site.



The table on the next page presents a list of plants beneficial to birds.

Use original species or older cultivars. Some newer cultivars have undergone so much genetic transformation that they produce sterile flowers and, consequently, no food for the birds.

# Selection of seed-producing perennials

that attract several species of seed-eating birds at different times of the year, including the American goldfinch, the song sparrow, the chipping sparrow, the American tree sparrow, the slate-coloured junco, the house finch, the purple finch, the mourning dove and the superb indigo bunting.

NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ORIGIN	HARDINESS	HEIGHT	LOCATION	SOIL	MOISTURE	FLOWERS	SEEDS	
Yarrow	Achillea Millefolium	Ind.	2	30-60	0	L	D	Su, white	F	
Wild columbine*	Aquilegia canadensis	Ind.	3	30-40	$\circ \bullet \bullet$	S	M	S,Su, red	Su,F	
Heart-leaved aster	Aster cordifolius	Ind.	3	30-100	0 1	S	D	Su,F, blue, violet	F	
Late aster	Aster simplex	Ind.	3	60-250	0	S	Н	Su, white	F	
Little bluestem	Andropogon scoparius	Ind.	4	30-40	0 1	L	D	Su, green	F	
Bugleweed	Ajuga reptans	Exo.	4	15	$\circ \bullet$	H,S,L	Н	S, blue	Su	
Harebell	Campanula rotundifolia	Ind.	3	20-30	0	L	D	Su, blue	Su,F	
Snow-in-summer	Cerastium tomentosum	Exo.	3	15	0	S,L	D	S,Su, white	Su	
Canada thistle	Cirsium arvense	Int.	3	50-100	0	H,S,L	D	Su, purple	Su,F	
Globe thistle	Echinops ritro	Exo.	3	100	0	S	M	Su,F, blue	F	
Tickseed	Coreopsis grandiflora	Exo.	3	75	0	S	M	Su, yellow	F	
Tufted hairgrass	Deschampsia caespitosa	Ind.	4	20-100	0	S	Н	Su, green	F,W	
Purple coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	Ind.	3	70-90	0	S	M	Su, rose	F,W	
Fireweed*	Epilobium angustifolium	Ind.	1	50-200	0	S	D	Su,F, rose-violet	F	
Indian grass	Sorghastrum nutans	Ind.	4	100-240	0 1	S	Н	Su, green	F,W	
Blanket-flower	Gaillardia grandiflora	Exo.	3	50	$\circ$ $\bullet$	S,L	M	Su,F, yellow/red	F	
Dame's rocket	Hesperis matronalis	Int.	4	50	0 1	S	M	Su, white, violet	Su,F	
Common flax	Linum perenne	Exo.	5	40	0	L	D	Su, blue	Su,F	
Japanese silver grass	Miscanthus sinensis	Exo.	4	150-200	0	S	M	Su,F, green	F,W	
Perennial sundrops	Oenothera perennis	Ind.	4	50	0	S,L	M	Su, yellow	Su	
Stonecrop	Sedum spectabile	Exo.	3	60	0 1	S,L	M	Su,F, rose	F,W	
Switchgrass	Panicum virgatum	Ind.	3	70-200	0	S	D	Su, green	F,W	
Oriental poppy	Papaver orientale	Exo.	4	50	0	H,S	D	Su, red	Su,F	
Sheep sorel	Rumex acetosella	Int.	1	30	0	L	D	S,Su,F, reddish	Su,F	
Summer phlox*	Phlox paniculata	Ind.	3	100	0	S	Н	Su, red/white	Su,F	
Delphinium	Delphinium grandiflorum	Exo.	3	35-80	$\circ \bullet$	S	M	Su, blue-violet	Su,F	
Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia fulgida	Ind.	3	30-100	0	S,L	M	Su,F, yellow	F,W	
Sage*	Salvia sp.	Exo.	4	40	0 •	L	D	Su,F, violet	F	
Sunflower	Helianthus annuus	Ind./Int.	Annual	100-300	0 1	S	M	Su, yellow	F,W	
Alpine wallflower	Erysimum pulchellum	Exo.	5	40	$\circ \bullet$	S	M	Su, rose-orange	Su,F	
Goldenrod	Solidago canadensis	Ind.	3	30-150	0	L	M	Su,F, yellow	F	

<sup>\*</sup> a plant that also attracts the ruby-throated hummingbird.

Origin: indigenous species (Ind.), introduced (Int.) or exotic (Exo.). Hardiness: hardiness rating of plants to minimum winter temperatures

(2a: -46 °C, 2b: -43 °C, 3a: -40 °C, 3b: -37 °C, 4a: -34 °C, 4b: -32 °C, 5a: -29 °C, 5b: -26 °C, 6a: - 23 °C).

Height: vertical height of the plant in centimetres.

Location: (O): sunlight, more than 6 hours/day; (♠): semi-shade, 4 to 6 hours/day; (♠): shade, 2 to 4 hours/day

Soil: plant requiring heavy soil (H, more than 40% clay) sandy loan (S, more than 50% loam) or light soil (L, more

than 60% sand).

Seeds:

Moisture: plant requiring moist soil (H), semi-moist (M) or dry soil (D).

period during the plant flowers (spring (S), mid-April to mid-May; summer (Su) June to August; fall (F)

September and October; winter (W) starting in November).

period during which the plant runs to seed (spring (S), mid-April to mid-May; summer (Su) June to August;

fall (F) September and October; winter (W) starting in November).

Rediscover the pleasure of your bird sanctuary every day, thanks to Backyard Bird Sanctuary products.



# Selection of perennials

# that produce fruit

that look a lot like berries attracts several species of fruit-feeders at various times of the year, including the American robin, the brown thrasher, the grey catbird, the blue jay, the northern flicker, the common grackle and even the white-throated sparrow.

NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	ORIGIN	HARDINESS	HEIGHT	LOCATION	SOIL	MOISTURE	FLOWERS	FRUIT/SEED
Foxberry	Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea	Ind.	2	5-25	0 0	S,L	M, H	Su,F, white	F,W, red
Blueberry	Vaccinium angustifolium	Ind.	2	30-60	0 1	L	D	S,Su, blanc	Su, blue
Black crowberry	Empetrum nigrum	Ind.	4	7-10	0	S	M	S.I.	Su,F, black
Bunchberry	Cornus canadensis	Ind.	1	10-15	•	S	Н	S,Su, white	Su,F, red
Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster dammeri ou adpressus, etc.	Exo.	3	30-60	0 0	S	M,H	S.I.	Su,F, red
Virginia strawberry	Fragaria virginiana	Ind.	4	30	$\circ \bullet$	S	M	S, white	Su, red
Wintergreen	Gaultheria procumbens	Ind.	4	15	00	S	M	Su, white	Su,F,W, red
Juniper	Juniperus horizontalis	Ind.	3	15-30	0	S	D	S.I.	F,W, blue
Squaw vine	Mitchella repens	Ind.	3	15	•	H,S	Н	S.Su. white	Su, red
Bearberry	Arctostaphylos uva-ursi	Ind.	2	30	0	S	M	Su, white-pink	F,W, red

**Selection** of *Climbers* that attract more than fifty species of birds, including the northern cardinal, the American goldfinch, the ruby-throated hummingbird, the blue jay, the cedar waxwing, the American robin, the grey catbird, the brown thrasher, the yellow warbler, the downy woodpecker, etc.

American bittersweet	Celastrus scandens	Ind.	3	8-10 m	0	S,H	D	S.I.	F,W, red
Honeysuckle*	Lonicera sempervirens (ou x brownii)	Ind.	3	6 m	0	S	Н	S,Su, salmon	Su,F, red
Virgin's bower*	Clematis virginiana	Ind.	4	10 + m	0 0	S	M	Su, white/rose	Su,F, seeds
Trumpet vine*	Campsis radicans	Ind./Int.	5	3-4 m	0	S	M	Su,F, orange	F, seeds
Moonseed†	Menispermum canadense	Ind.	4	3-4 m	$\circ \bullet \bullet$	H,S	M-H	S,Su, white	Su,F, black
Bittersweet nightshade†	Solanum dulcamara	Int.	3	1-3 m	<b>0 ●</b>	S	Н	S,Su,F, purple	Su,F, red
Greenbrier	Smilax rotundifolia	Ind.	5	9 m	0	H,S	Н	S.I.	F,W, blue/black
Boston ivy	Parthenocissus tricuspidata	Exo.	5	10 + m	•	S	M	S.I.	Su,F, black
Frost grape	Vitis riparia	Ind.	3	10 + m	0 0	H,S	Н	S.I.	Su,F, blue/black
Virginia creeper	Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Ind.	4	10 + m	$\bigcirc$ $\bigcirc$ $\bullet$	H,S,L	Н	S.I.	F,W, blue

<sup>\*</sup> a plant especially attractive to the ruby-throated hummingbird

† fruit can be poisonous

# **Selection** of **perennials** especially attractive to the ruby-throated *hummingbird*

Wild columbine	Aquilegia canadensis	Ind.	3	30-40	000	S	M	S,Su, red	Su,F, seeds
Wild bleeding heart	Dicentra eximia	Ind.	3	20-50	$\circ \bullet$	S	M	S,Su,F, rose	S.I.
Fireweed	Epilobium angustifolium	Ind.	1	50-200	0	S	D	Su,F, rose-purple	F, seeds
Marsh mallow	Althaea rosea ou officinalis	Int.	5	60-120	0	S	Н	Su, rose	S.I.
Coral bells	Heuchera sanguinea	Exo.	4	30	0 0	S	Н	Su, scarlet	S.I.
Cardinal-flower	Lobelia cardinalis	Ind.	3	45-80	<b>○</b> ●	S	Н	Su, red	S.I.
Bee balm	Monarda didyma	Ind.	3	45-90	0 0	L	M	Su, crimson	S.I.
Foxglove beard-tongue	Penstemon digitalis.	Ind.	5	100	0	S	M	Su, white-crimson	S.I.
Summer phlox	Phlox paniculata	Ind.	3	100	0 0	S	Н	Su, red/white	Su,F, seeds
Sage	Salvia sp.	Exo.	4	40	0 1	L	D	Su,F, purple	F, seeds

Origin: indigenous species (Ind.), introduced (Int.) or exotic (Exo.). Hardiness: hardiness rating of plants to minimum winter temperatures

(2a: -46 °C, 2b: -43 °C, 3a: -40 °C, 3b: -37 °C, 4a: -34 °C, 4b: -32 °C, 5a: -29 °C, 5b: -26 °C, 6a: -23 °C)

vertical height of the plant in centimetres

(○): sunlight, more than 6 hours/day; (●): semi-shade, 4 to 6 hours/day; (●): shade, 2 to 4 hours/day Location: plant requiring heavy soil (H, more than 40% clay) sandy loam (S, more than 50% loam) or light soil (L, more

plant requiring moist soil (H), semi-moist (M) or dry soil (D).

period during the plant flowers (spring (S): mid-April to mid-May; summer (Su): June to August; fall (F):

September and October; winter (W): starting in November).

Fruit/seeds: period during which the plant runs to seed (spring (S): mid-April to mid-May; summer (Su): June to August;

fall (F): September and October; winter (W): starting in November). S.I.:

the flowers, fruit and seeds of this plant are of little interest because they are not very noticeable, lack colour or are unattractive to birds; however, other parts of the plant, such as leaves and bark, can prove useful to birds.





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\*Visa International/La Confédération des caisses populaires et d'économie Desjardins du Québec and la Fondation de la faune du Québec, authorized users



hoto: Robert Morin, Black-capped chickadee on a Black-eyed susan

# Food and water

#### OFFERING FOOD

Until your backyard landscaping grows to maturity, you may have to compensate for garden shortcomings by using feed stations, nesting boxes and birdbaths to meet the needs of birds.

## Locating feed stations

#### The birds need

Protection from prevailing wind: coniferous trees nearby are helpful

Perches, trees or shrubs nearby to shell seeds in peace

A three-metre clear zone to guard against possible predators

#### You need

A view of the feeders from your home

Easy access to feeders all year long (they have to be filled, even in inclement weather!)

Not having to clean up the premises around feeders

#### When to install a feed station

An extra food source from fall until spring, especially in winter, provides much needed energy for birds.

Maintaining feeders in the summer adds little to the birds' comfort because food is plentiful. Instead, plant trees, shrubs, climbers and perennials that will become additional food sources for the birds.

#### Which feeder to choose

Whether you decide to purchase or build you own, certain items merit consideration:

- **Durability:** check the hanging device and openings for sturdiness.
- Feed storage: feed must stay dry. Drainage holes or a screen bottom are important features; otherwise, wet seed could become stuck and contaminate the feed supply.



- Easy to fill and clean: a large opening and a cover that is easy to open and close are practical features.
- Number of birds feeding at the same time: the feeder should have several perches and at least two openings to allow several birds to feed at the same time.
- Desirable species: decide which species you want to attract and then choose feeders and seed accordingly.
- Food visibility: make sure that the birds can see the seeds. At the same time, you should be able to see when the feeder requires refilling.

## Maintaining a feeder

Feeders need to be cleaned regularly to eliminate bird droppings and seed husks. A hummingbird feeder should be cleaned three times a week, while a feeder filled with seed or suet should be cleaned monthly. Use soapy water with a bit of Javel water for best results.

Photo: Ghislaine St-André



### **OFFERING WATER**

Birds need water. A source such as a pond, a basin or even a birdbath will attract many more species of birds than any feed station or nesting box, especially if you add a water bottle equipped with a drip dispenser.

### Why install a source of water?

Water is often hard to find in dry locations such as cities; it is also often inaccessible when in the form of ice or snow. Birds need water to drink, but also to bathe and to remove dirt and parasites from their feathers.

#### What to do in winter?

One efficient and practical way of pre-

venting water from freezing is to place a light bulb in a clay flowerpot and install a ceramic dish filled with water on top. The water is warmed from beneath and won't freeze. You can also purchase a birdbath equipped with a submersible water heater.

For more information, please contact the Fondation de la faune du Québec. E-mail: ffq@riq.qc.ca Website: http://www.fondationdelafaune.qc.ca

for different species of birds. control El Out Put HELDROX compatibodifination callady attended to FRUIT BE HRING THE TENTE T SHELT AND ONS\*\* CalSHED COM\*\* REMUI BUTER FEED STATIONS CAMPASEED **SPECIES** Crossbill Sparrow Rose-breasted grosbeak Northern cardinal Goldfinch Pine grosbeak Blue jay Grey jay Ruffed grouse Brown creeper Evening grosbeak Waxwing Slate-coloured junco American robin Chickadee Mockingbird, catbird, thrasher Northern oriole Yellow-rumped warbler Grey partridge Woodpecker Kinglet Finch Nuthatch Redpoll Mourning dove **UNWELCOME SPECIES** \* Red-winged blackbird Starling House sparrow Rock dove Common grackle Brown-headed cowbird



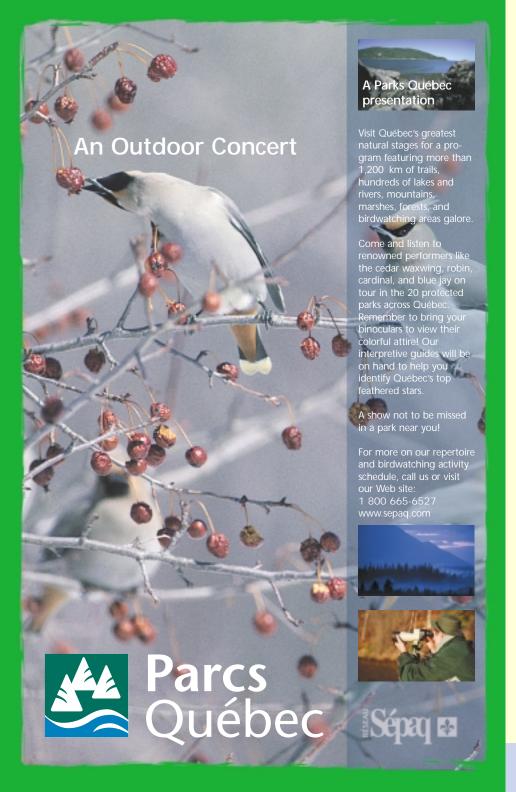
Food and feed stations





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<sup>\*\*</sup> This type of feed also attracts unwelcome species to feeders





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Diffusée sur les ondes de Radio-Canada à compter du dimanche 1er avril a 14 h pour l'Est du Québec et en reprise sur le grand réseau de la SRC dès le samedi 7 avril à 16 h 30.

Réalisation : André Boulianne



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