

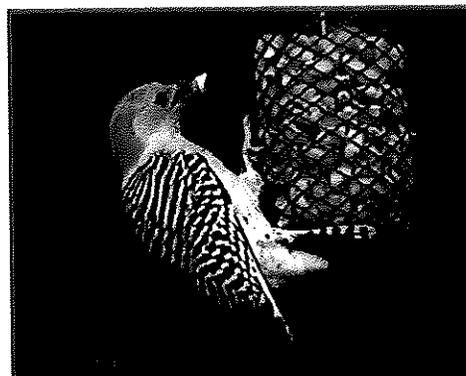
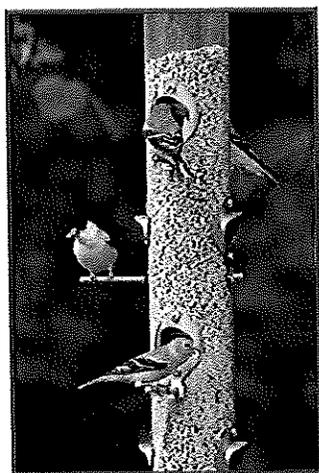


# The National Bird-Feeding Society

The ultimate resource for enhancing your wild bird-feeding experience

## NBFS Top Ten Bird Feeding Tips

1. **Bird feeding is for people who love watching birds** – Always place your bird feeders in places where you can readily and frequently see the birds you are feeding.
2. **Start with the basics** – Black-oil sunflower in a tubular feeder is a very effective combination for attracting a large number of birds to your yard.
3. **Attract more species by adding additional types of feeders and seed** – Try Nyjer® in a tube feeder, and mixtures of black-oil sunflower, hulled sunflower, and whole peanuts in hopper and platform feeders.



4. **Don't forget about alternative foods and water** – Suet, fruits, mealworms, nectar and water may attract species of birds not found at traditional offerings.
5. **The bird species in your yard change with season of the year** – The birds visiting your feeders in summer may be very different than those in winter. Provide the feeders and food best suited to your seasonal suite of birds.
6. **Make your yard bird-friendly** – Provide birds with habitat, food, water, and nest boxes so birds will use your yard year-round. Bird feeders near larger trees and shrubs often have more bird visits.
7. **Keep the birds safe** – Reduce window collisions, keep birds safe from outdoor cats, and clean your feeders. Move feeders to within 3 feet of windows, remove hiding places of cats, and keep feeders free of debris and filled only with seeds birds will eat.

8. **Use binoculars and a backyard bird guide to learn more about your birds** – Learning more about birds by using the tools of the birdwatcher provides you with a greater appreciation for your feathered friends.
9. **Take your hobby to the next level** – Explore your local, state, and national parks and refuges. You will see bird species you can't see in your yard.
10. **Enjoy feeding the birds!** – Contact the NBFS anytime you have questions about bird feeding or for assistance in enhancing your bird feeding experience!



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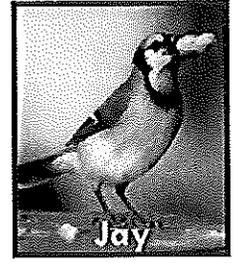
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## NBFS Wild Bird Food Preferences - Eastern North America

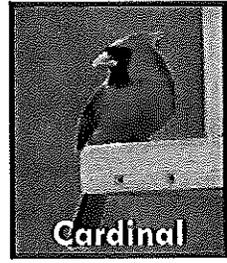
| Birds                  | Food Types          |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------|-------|--------|------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------|------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                        | Black-oil Sunflower | Cracked Corn | Fruit | Nectar | Nyjer® (Thistle) | Red Milo | Safflower | Striped Sunflower | Suet | Sunflower Hearts | White Proso Millet | Whole Peanuts |
| 1. Bluebird, Eastern   |                     |              | ■     |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 2. Bunting, Indigo     |                     |              |       |        | ■                |          |           |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 3. Cardinal, Northern  | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           | ■                 |      |                  |                    |               |
| 4. Chickadees          | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   | ■    |                  |                    |               |
| 5. Dove, Mourning      | ■                   |              |       |        | ■                |          | ■         |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 6. Finch, House        | ■                   |              |       |        | ■                |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 7. Finch, Purple       | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          | ■         |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 8. Goldfinch, American | ■                   |              |       |        | ■                |          |           |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 9. Grosbeaks           | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           | ■                 |      |                  |                    |               |
| 10. Hummingbirds       |                     |              |       | ■      |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 11. Jay, Blue          |                     | ■            |       |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 12. Junco, Dark-eyed   |                     |              |       |        | ■                |          |           |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 13. Nuthatches         | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           | ■                 |      |                  |                    | ■             |
| 14. Oriole, Baltimore  |                     |              | ■     |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    |               |
| 15. Siskin, Pine       | ■                   |              |       |        | ■                |          |           |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 16. Sparrows           |                     |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    | ■             |
| 17. Titmouse, Tufted   | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           | ■                 |      |                  |                    |               |
| 18. Towhee, Eastern    |                     |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  | ■                  |               |
| 19. Woodpeckers        | ■                   |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   | ■    |                  |                    | ■             |
| 20. Wren, Carolina     |                     |              |       |        |                  |          |           |                   |      |                  |                    | ■             |



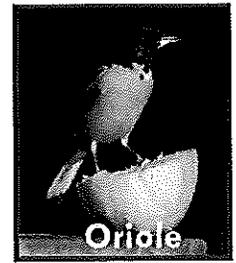
Bluebird



Jay



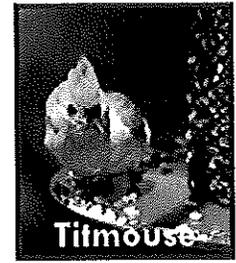
Cardinal



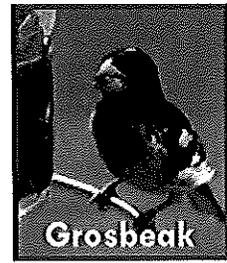
Oriole



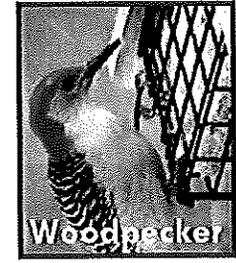
Goldfinch



Titmouse



Grosbeak



Woodpecker

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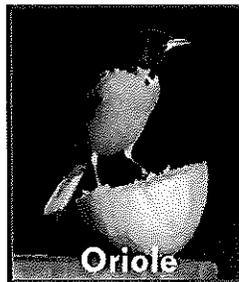
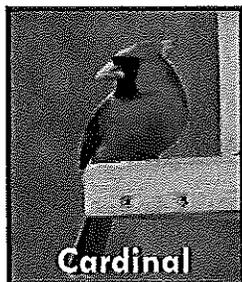
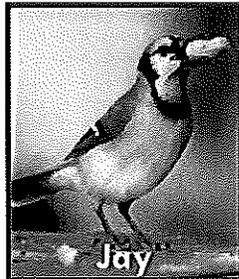
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## NBFS Wild Bird Feeder Preferences - Eastern North America



| Birds                  | Feeder Types |        |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|----------|-------|-----------|--------|------------------|--------|------|
|                        | Tube         | Hopper | Platform | Fruit | Mealworms | Nectar | Nyjer® (Thistle) | Peanut | Suet |
| 1. Bluebird, Eastern   |              |        |          | ■     | ■         |        |                  |        |      |
| 2. Bunting, Indigo     | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 3. Cardinal, Northern  |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 4. Chickadees          | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        | ■    |
| 5. Dove, Mourning      |              |        | ■        |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 6. Finch, House        | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 7. Finch, Purple       |              | ■      |          |       |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 8. Goldfinch, American | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 9. Grosbeaks           |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 10. Hummingbirds       |              |        |          |       |           | ■      |                  |        |      |
| 11. Jay, Blue          |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  | ■      |      |
| 12. Junco, Dark-eyed   |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 13. Nuthatches         | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  | ■      |      |
| 14. Oriole, Baltimore  |              |        |          | ■     |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 15. Siskin, Pine       | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        | ■                |        |      |
| 16. Sparrows           |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 17. Titmouse, Tufted   | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  | ■      | ■    |
| 18. Towhee, Eastern    |              | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  |        |      |
| 19. Woodpeckers        | ■            | ■      |          |       |           |        |                  | ■      | ■    |
| 20. Wren, Carolina     |              |        |          |       | ■         |        |                  |        |      |

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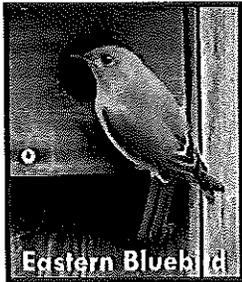
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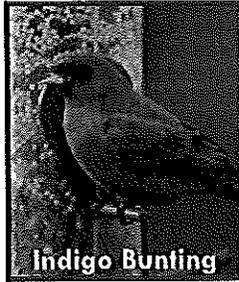
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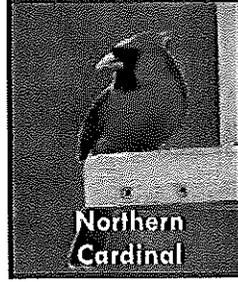
## NBFS Common Backyard Birds - Eastern North America



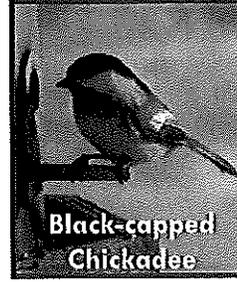
Eastern Bluebird



Indigo Bunting



Northern  
Cardinal



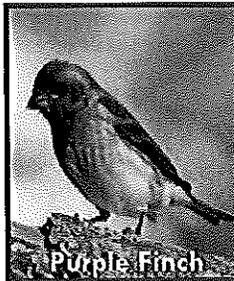
Black-capped  
Chickadee



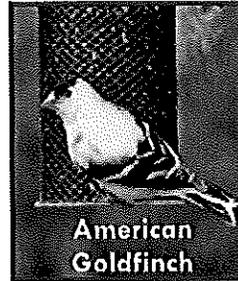
Mourning Dove



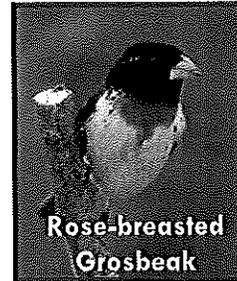
House Finch



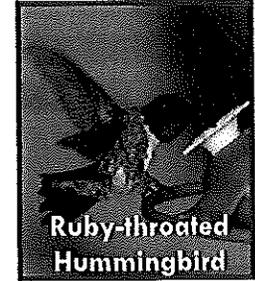
Purple Finch



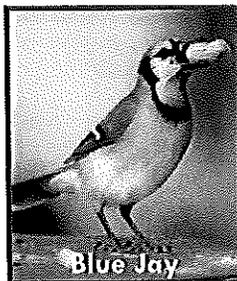
American  
Goldfinch



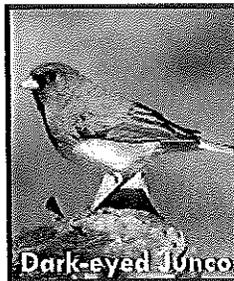
Rose-breasted  
Grosbeak



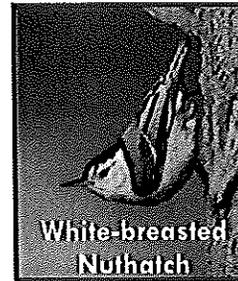
Ruby-throated  
Hummingbird



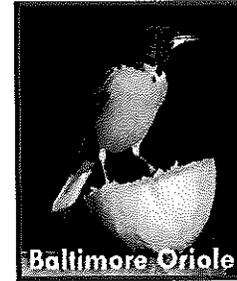
Blue Jay



Dark-eyed Junco



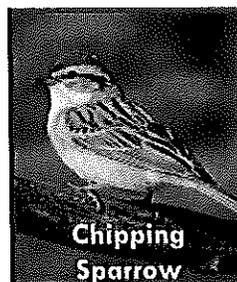
White-breasted  
Nuthatch



Baltimore Oriole



Pine Siskin



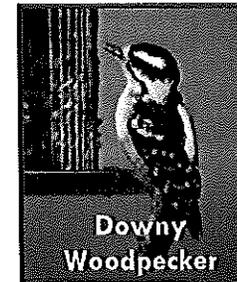
Chipping  
Sparrow



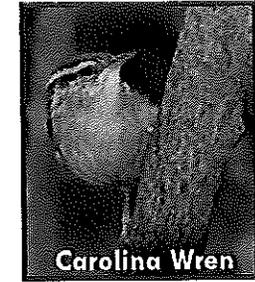
Tufted Titmouse



Eastern Towhee



Downy  
Woodpecker



Carolina Wren

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## Bird Safety - Prevent Disease at Your Bird Feeders

- 1. Provide birds with a large amount of space for feeding** – While images of dozens of birds crowded on to a single feeder are beautiful, such events increase the likelihood of contact between sick and healthy birds and may increase a bird's stress level while feeding, making them more susceptible to disease. To prevent overcrowding, purchase feeders that minimize contact between birds and provide birds with additional places to feed.
- 2. Keep the birds' feeding area clean of both seed hulls and bird droppings** – A clean feeding area can be maintained by sweeping or vacuuming the ground below the feeder. One way to minimize the cleaning needed is to use no-waste seeds or seed mixes that contain hulled seeds and to offer only the preferred seeds for the bird species in your area.



- 3. Purchase feeders that do not have sharp points or edges** – Sharp points or edges may cause bleeding or scratches on birds that can facilitate the transmission of disease.



- 4. Regularly clean your feeders** – Feeders should be washed approximately once a month with a solution of 10% bleach (one-part bleach to nine-parts water) by completely immersing feeders for at least three minutes and then allowing them to dry. Purchasing feeders that are made of materials that are easier to clean, such as metal and plastic, may make feeder cleaning easier. Also, scrub birdbaths and change the water several times per week to prevent mosquito reproduction and the possible spread of West Nile Virus.
- 5. Store food appropriately and ensure that fresh seed is in your feeder** – Use a rodent-proof container to store food and avoid having wet, moldy, musty-smelling seed in your feeder. Providing feeders that protect seed from the elements and using birds' preferred seeds should reduce the chance of seed getting wet or moldy.

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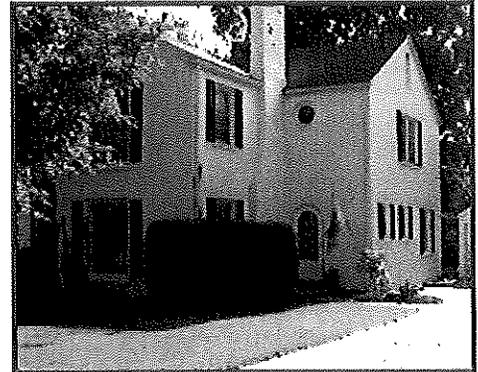
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## Bird Safety - Prevent Bird-Window Collisions

**The Facts:** If you inhabit a home or office long enough, you will experience an unmistakable sound – a “thud!” – the sound that signals that a bird has crashed into one of your windows. Many of these collisions are not fatal, and the bird, after a period of disorientation, is able to fly away. Unfortunately, far too many collisions end with a dead bird.

Bird-window collisions are a substantial source of human-caused avian mortality. In North America, between 100 million and 1 billion birds die annually after colliding with windows. On average, 1 to 10 birds die per building per year. Window strikes are not limited to a specific type of building, to a particular type of window, or to a certain time of year. Collisions are not limited to a certain suite of birds or to birds of a certain age or sex.



**How Collisions Occur:** Birds may not recognize glass as a reflective barrier, and they may attempt to fly to the habitat that is being reflected. Birds may not be able to recognize a corridor of windows as a barrier either. For example, birds may see through the sides of a bay window or see through glass corridors, and attempt to fly to the other side. Finally, during the breeding season, territorial males may see their reflection in the glass and repeatedly attack the perceived intruder.



**What You Can Do:** Fortunately, there are several steps that you can take to reduce the number of daytime bird-window collisions. Studies have found that moving bird feeders to within three feet of a window eliminates the number of fatal collisions observed as a result of bird-feeding activities. You might also consider installing a window feeder. Bird decals, window films, and reflective tapes can also reduce the number of window strikes. A single decal on a large window may have limited benefit, so several decals will be necessary to cover a large window.

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