

Attracting and Enjoying Backyard Birds



What do Birds Need?

“Birds abhor a clean yard..”



- **Space**
 - What type of yard (wooded, field...)
 - Habitat structure
- **Food**
 - Feeders, fruiting and flowering plants. Diversity (magnolia, black gum, smilax, Virginia creeper, trumpet creeper)
- **Water**
 - Baths, pools, streams, misters
- **Shelter**
 - Vegetation at multiple levels
 - Bird Boxes
 - Brush Piles
 - Standing snags

Georgia Yard Birds



- **Residents (year round)**
 - **Cardinal, Chickadee, Titmouse, Woodpeckers**
- **Short Distance Migrants (winter in southeast)**
 - **White-throated Sparrow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet**
- **Long Distance Migrants (leave the US.)**
 - **Thrushes, Warblers, Tanagers**

Resident Birds

Using permanently available food sources



- **Granivores - eat seeds**
 - Often will visit feeders
 - Various types of feeders
- **Frugivores - eat fruit and berries**
 - Visit fruiting shrubs, berries
- **Carnivores – eat other animals**
 - Hawks and Owls
 - Visit your feeders to catch birds

Common Resident Birds



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Resident Woodpeckers



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Owls of Georgia

All possible Yard Birds



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Hawks of Georgia



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Short Distance Migrants

Winter in your yard



ature

Hummingbirds



- Try to keep flowering plants all year
- Summer – Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- Winter – variety of western species
 - Rufous, Allen's, Calliope, Black-chinned

Threats to Yard Birds



- **Cats**
 - Keep cats indoors
 - Keep feeders and water sources open enough that cats can't sneak up on birds
- **Large window panes**
 - Stickers on window
 - Put feeders close to window
- **Diseases/rancid food**
 - clean and change feeders and food regularly
- **Herbicides/Pesticides**
 - Try a chemical free yard

Planting Natives for Birds



• Trees

- **Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)**
- **Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)**
- **Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*)**
- **American Beech (*Fagus grandiflora*)**
- **Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus Florida*)**
- **Wild Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)**
- **Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)**
- **Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)**
- **Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)**

Trees

- **Black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)**

- American Robin, Summer Tanager, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird, Wood Thrush



- **Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)**

- Cape May Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, American Goldfinch, Northern Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Pine Warbler,



- **Water Oak (*Quercus nigra*)**

- Redheaded Woodpecker, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Cape May Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-rumped warbler.



Trees

- **American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)**

- Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Cardinal, Worm-eating Warbler



- **Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*)**

- Summer Tanager, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Cardinal, Eastern Towhee, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush



- **Wild Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)**

- Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird, American Robin, 33 species at least



Trees



■ Southern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

- Cedar Waxwing, Tufted titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Brown-headed Nuthatch, American Robin



■ Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

- American Goldfinch, Cape May Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted titmouse, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren



■ Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)

- Wood Thrush, American Robin, Summer Tanager, Gray Catbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak



Planting Natives for Birds



• Shrubs

- Southern Arrowwood
- Winged sumac
- Winterberry
- Alternate-leaf Dogwood
- Elderberry
- American Beautyberry
- Devils Walkingstick
- Hearts a bustin
- Native Hibiscus
- Native Azaleas

Shrubs

- **Southern Arrowwood (*Viburnum dentatum*)**

- American Robin, Wood Thrush, Summer Tanager, Cedar Waxwing



- **Winged sumac (*Rhus copallina*)**

- Indigo Bunting, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin



- **Yaupon Holly**

- Many species of song birds and game birds



Shrubs

- **Swamp Dogwood (*Cornus foemina*)**

- Quail, Catbirds, Mockingbirds, Robins, and Brown Thrashers



- **Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)**

- Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird, Wood Thrush, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing



- **American Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)**

- Carolina Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Northern Mockingbird



Shrubs

- **Devils Walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*)**

- Wood Thrush, Summer Tanager, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Gray Catbird

- **Hearts a bustin (*Euonymus americana*)**

- Gray Catbird, Eastern Towhee, Wood Thrush, American Robin



Shrubs

- **Native Hibiscus**
(*Hibiscus grandiflorus*, *H. moschuetos*, *H. coccinea*, *H. aculeatus*, *Kosteletskyia virginiana*)

- Mostly hummingbirds

- **Native Azaleas**
(*Rhododendron canescens*, *R. austrinum*, *R. viscusum*)

- Mostly hummingbirds



Planting Natives for Birds



- **Vines**

- **Muscadine (*Vitis rotundifolia*)**
- **Cross vine (*Bignonia capreolata*)**
- **Trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*)**
- **Poison Ivy (*Toxicodendron radicans*)**
- **Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)**
- **Passion vine (*Passiflora incarnata*)**

Vines



- **Muscadine (*Vitis rotundifolia*)**

- Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, Carolina Wren, Worm-eating Warbler, Grey Catbird



- **Cross vine (*Bignonia capreolata*)**

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird



- **Trumpet vine (*Campsis radicans*)**

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird



Vines



- **Poison Ivy (Toxicodendron radicans)**

- Yellow-rumped Warbler, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Cardinal



- **Coral Honeysuckle (Lonicera sempervirens)**

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Gray Catbird



- **Passion vine (Passiflora incarnata)**

- Fruit birds



Planting Natives for Birds



- **Herbaceous**

- **Native Salvias (*Salvia coccinea*, *Salvia azurea*)**
- **River Oats (*Chasmanthium latifolia*)**
- **Coreopsis**
- **Beebalm (*Monarda* sp.)**
- **Blackeyes susan (*Rudbeckia* sp)**
- **Cardinal Flower**
- **Goldenrod**
- **Coral bean**
- **Ironweed**
- **Little bluestem**
- **Purple lovegrass**

Herbaceous

- **Native Salvias (Salvia coccinea, Salvia azurea)**

- Hummingbirds



- **River Oats (Chasmanthium latifolia)**

- Indigo Bunting, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, American Goldfinch, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Cardinal



- **Coral Bean**

- Hummingbirds



Herbaceous

■ Coreopsis

- American Goldfinch, Indigo bunting, Eastern Towhee, White-throated Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Cardinal



■ Beebalm (Monarda sp.)

- Hummingbirds



■ Blackeyes susan (Rudbeckia sp)

- American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Indigo Bunting



Herbaceous

- **Goldenrod (*Solidago* sp.)**

- Gall larvae provide an excellent source of nutrition in the winter for birds such as the chickadee or woodpecker



- **Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)**

- upland game birds, rosy finches and juncos, as well as chipping, field, and tree sparrows



- **Purple lovegrass**

- Various birds use as cover, nest material, and seed for food



Wildlife License Plates



- Upgrade for only \$25 and show your support!
- \$19 of each tag purchase and \$20 of every renewal goes to conserving Georgia wildlife.

Show Your Support



At Your County Tag Office:

1. Ask for a wildlife plate
2. Pay the fee. Wildlife plates cost only \$25 more than a standard peach plate. The total cost is \$25 for the plate, plus the standard \$20 registration fee you will pay for any tag and any applicable ad-valorem taxes.
3. Receive a temporary tag from the county
4. Watch the mail for your wildlife tag. It can arrive as soon as within a week!

When buying a car:

1. Many Georgia car dealers offer the option to purchase a tag when you buy a vehicle. Simply ask them to upgrade you to a wildlife tag when you're asked what kind of tag you want!

Renewing Your Wildlife Tag

1. You can renew at your county tag office or -- in most counties -- online.
2. Renewing a wildlife tag costs only \$25 a year, plus the standard \$20 registration fee and applicable ad-valorem taxes.



Questions



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