



Checklist for Creating a Bird-Friendly Backyard

- Recreate the multiple layers of plant growth found in natural areas
- Select plants to provide notional food during the different seasons
- Plant shrubs and small trees in same-species clumps for adequate pollination of fruits
- Provide at least one clump of conifers (evergreens).
- Leave dead trees, standing or fallen, to provide nesting and foraging sites. Consider topping dead trees rather than removing the whole tree if safety is an issue
- Leave vines, or plants native additions.
- Limit the size of your lawn for less mowing, less fertilizing, less watering and less pollution.
- Avoid invasive exotic (non-native) plants
- Supply a source of water. Dripping or running water is a better attractant than still water
- Provide and monitor nest boxes of various sizes.
- Leave some leaf litter on the ground.
- Stop using pesticides in your yard.
- Use only organic, slow release fertilizers, preferably your own compost.

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