



Photo 1 (Bluebird) Photo 2 (Bluebird) Photo 3 (Sparrow) Photo 4 (Robin) Photo 5 (Warbler) Photo 6 (Dove) Photo 7 (Warbler) Photo 8 (Snow Bunting)

Ahh – To Grow A Garden – So Get Up and Get Growing –Taylorsville City - Tree Of The Month Article – May 2011 - Attracting Birds To Your Yard - For reference Taylorsville City is USDA Hardiness zone 7A. Bird feeders are not the only way to invite your feathered friends into the yard so you can get a closer look at them and their antics. Adding plants that attract birds to your existing garden will result in winged visitors that come for the blossoms, foliage, seeds, and even the insects that are drawn to the same plants. Part of this article is from The Helpful Gardener.

Know Your Zone Before You Plan Your Garden, Before you choose new plants for your garden or yard, take the time to consult a gardening zone guide to be sure the varieties you're considering are either native or grow well in our area. Next, consult your field guide to learn the birds native to our region, what species you are most likely to attract, what species remain year round, and which birds migrate through and when. You can either plan your garden around attracting certain bird species like finches or hummingbirds or go broader and select flowers and plants that appeal to a wide range of birds. Each species of birds is naturally attracted to particular plants. Some birds feed on plant foliage others are drawn to plant sap, nectar, pollen, fruit, berries, nuts, seeds, or insects. Depending upon your yard, budget, and the birds you would like to watch, consider planting a combination of annuals, perennials, native grasses, shrubs, and fruit trees. Not only will you create a sanctuary designed for attracting wild birds, you'll create one you and your family will enjoy as well. Stagger your plantings so that something is always in bloom from spring, through fall to maximize the number of bird species that come to feed. Keep in mind that most birds prefer to find clusters of bushes, hedges, climbing vines, and patches of wild grasses, or flowers separated by lawn or open space. Birds are also attracted to dense thickets of trees and shrubs.

Selecting Your Plants, know your gardening zone, and what birds you what to attract. Now, you're ready to purchase bulbs, seeds and plants. Most wild birds are attracted to brightly colored gardens and planting annuals is the quickest and easiest way to make your yard attractive to them. Annuals are inexpensive and can be started from seed or purchased from your local nursery. If you're short on time and don't want to miss the birds that migrate through our region early in the spring, choose flats of annuals that have already been started. Perennials also attract a wide variety of birds into your yard, but depending upon what you choose, you may have to wait a season or two for the bulbs and plants to mature before you achieve the look and visiting birds you are striving for. Most people plant perennials to bring in hummingbirds. If you're trying to attract this tiny creature to your yard, you have lots of options, including Bee Balm, Cardinal Flower, Columbine, Coral Bells, Cosmos, Dahlias, Foxglove, Geraniums, Hosta, Lupine, several varieties of Sage, and Verbena. Honeysuckle vines and shrubs is another favorite of hummingbirds, but songbirds like it too. Hummingbirds especially, along with various species of songbirds seek the color red. If you plant Zinnias you'll also attract Buntings, Chickadees, and Titmice. For Finches, try perennials like Coreopsis and Globe Thistle or use Niger Seed which will also attract Junco, Mourning Doves, Pine Siskins, Sparrows, and Towhees. Black Niger's seeds are a favorite of Finches. Also, Irises, Hibiscus, Gladiolas, Lilies and other perennials grown from bulbs help draw birds into your yard to feed on plantings.

Don't overlook the use of vines to bring birds to your yard. Vines provide food and shelter for birds. Consider planting vines like American Wisteria, Clematis, Passion Flower, Twining Snapdragon, or Grape and give birds a reason to visit and stay. Here are some flowers you can grow that will attract birds to your yard: Alyssum, Amaranths, Aster, Bachelor Button, Black Eyed Susan, Blanket flower, Cosmos, Delphinium, Flax, Goosefoot, Hyssop, Millet (of all kinds), Purple Coneflower, Pincushion Flower, Poppy, Salvia, Sunflower, Thistle (any variety), Trumpet Vines, Sorghum, and Zinnia. Make sure you stock your birdfeeders with seeds, provide water from your birdbaths, or ponds, and provide shelter with birdhouses or nesting boxes. The following is list of common birds with their preferred plants are listed as follows trees (T), shrubs (S), ornamental grasses (OG), vines (V), perennials (P), and annuals (A).

Baltimore Orioles like Quince (T), Serviceberry (S), Maples (T), Elms (T), and Oaks (T).

Bluebirds like Dogwood (T), Virginia Creeper (V), Holly, Juniper, Sumac, and Serviceberry.

Buntings like Bachelor's Buttons (P), Cosmos (A), Mexican Sunflowers (P), and Zinnias (A).

Cardinals like Winterberry, Roses, Dogwood, Junipers, Impatient (A), and Mexican Sunflowers (P).

Cedar Waxwings like Cotoneaster (S), Pyracantha (S), Mountain Alder (T), White Ash (T), and Junipers (T).



Photo 9 (Gull) Photo 10 (Bluebird) Photo 11 (Goosebeak) Photo 12 (Harris Hawk) Photo 13 (Painted Bunting) Photo 14 (Sparrow) Photo 15 (Warbler)

Chickadees like Winterberry (S), Serviceberry (S), Viburnum (S), Bayberry (S), Junipers (T), and Zinnias (A).

Downy Woodpeckers like Serviceberry (S), Dogwood (T), Mountain Ash (T), Oaks (T), and Virginia Creeper (V).

Eastern Phoebes like Serviceberry (S), and Sumacs (T).

Finches like Cotoneaster (S), Maples (T), White Alder (T), Dogwood (T), Redbud (T), Ornamental grasses (OG), Love-Lies-Bleeding (P), Bachelor's Buttons (P), Cosmos (A), Thistles (P), Echinacea (P), Rudbeckia, (P), Sunflowers (P/A), and Zinnias (A).

Grackles like Oaks (T), Grasses, and poorly maintained lawns.

Grosbeaks like Cherry (T), Dogwood (T), Virginia Creeper (V), Elderberry (S), Mulberry (T), and Impatiens (A).

Hummingbirds like Quince (T), Redbuds (T), Trumpet vine (V), Honeysuckle (S/V), Snowberry (S), Weigelas (S), Bee Balm (P), Bleeding Heart (P), Columbine (P), Delphinium (P), Larkspur (P), Leopard Lily (P), Mallow (P), Monkey Flower (P), Penstemon (P), Pinks (P), Snapdragon (P), and most plants with red or orange flowers.

Indigo Buntings like unruly lawns, Dandelions, Goldenrod (P), and Thistle (P).

Jays like Oaks (T) (for the acorns they can hide), and Mexican Sunflowers (P).

Juncos like Grasses, Conifers (T), Pines (T), Elderberry (S), Cosmos (A), Pinks (P), and Zinnia (A).

Mockingbirds like Bayberry (S), Serviceberry (S), Elderberry (S), Sumac (T), and Dogwood (T).

Morning Dove like White Alder (T), Current (S), Elderberry (S), and Gooseberry (S).

Northern Flickers like Elderberry (S), Blueberry (S), and Dogwoods (T).

Nuthatches like Pine (T), Spruce (T), Firs (T), and Mexican Sunflowers (P).

Pine Siskins like White Alder (T), Redbuds (T), Western Sycamores (T), and Roses (S).

Red-Winged Blackbirds like marsh grasses, and open pasture land.

Robins like Flowering Dogwoods (T), Barberries (S), Crabapples (T), Currents (S), and healthy and unhealthy lawns.

Tanagers like Pines (T), Dogwoods (T), Serviceberry (S), Elderberry (S), Maples (T), Elms (T), and Oaks (T).

Titmouse like Oaks (T), Dogwood (T), Serviceberry (S), Elderberry (S), Bayberry (S), Sunflowers (P), and Zinnias (A).

Thrushes like Sumac (S/T), Currents (S), Gooseberry (S), Honeysuckles (V & S), and Willows (T).

Touhees like Barberries (S), Current (S), Elderberry (S), Gooseberry (S), and Walnuts (T).

Sparrows like Ornamental Grasses (OG), Roses (S), Sages (S), Junipers (T), and Bachelor's Buttons (P).

Warblers like Snowberry (S), White Alder (T), Dogwood (T), Maples (T), and Willows (T).

Woodpeckers like Serviceberry (S), Elderberry (S), Dogwood (T), and Oaks (T).

Wrens like Bayberry (S), Elderberry (S), Honeysuckle (V and S), and Sages (S).



Photo 17 (Wren)



Photo 18 (Warbler)



Photo 19 (Robins)



Photo 20 (Meadow Lark)



Photo 21 (Finch)



Photo 21 Humming Bird