



Ways we can help birds:

- Birds need food, water, and shelter.
 - Provide food and fresh water. Feeders and bird baths are enjoyed by birds and by the people who get to watch them.
 - Keep your bird feeders and water source clean. (Immerse feeders for a couple of minutes in a solution of one part household chlorine bleach to nine parts water; then air dry.)
 - Garden with native plants. Plant a diversity of native vegetation- flowers, shrubs, trees- for food and shelter. For Bird and Pollinator-Friendly Gardening resources:
<http://www.laneaudubon.org/node/796>
 - Provide cover. Shrubs, brush piles, dead trees (snags) are great sources of shelter.
- Help keep birds safe and healthy.
 - Don't poison the birds and the food that they rely upon- avoid the use of chemical pesticides, rodenticide, and herbicides.
 - Birds don't see glass. Help prevent window collisions. Provide screen covers. Use closely spaced decals. A network of parallel, vertical strings spaced 4 inches apart can be placed on the outside of windows. See <http://www.laneaudubon.org/conservation/issues/bird-window>
 - Migrating birds are disoriented by artificial lighting. Shield outdoor lights and direct them downward. Close curtains and blinds in the evenings.
 - If you fish or hunt or know people that do: Birds that forage in water are poisoned by lead sinkers used for fishing. Birds of prey scavenge carcasses and are poisoned by lead shot.
 - Outdoor cats kill billions of birds each year. Indoor cats live an average of three to seven times longer than outdoor cats. Keep cats indoors for their health as well as the safety of native wildlife.
 - Don't feed waterfowl. Despite good intentions, it increases transmission of disease, conflict, stress, and malnourishment. Especially, don't feed them bread.
- Birds need habitat.
 - Support efforts to create, restore, and preserve public green spaces.
 - Volunteer to help restore native habitat in public spaces.
- Consumer choices matter:
 - Drink shade grown/organic coffee to help improve habitat for migratory birds.
 - Your meal choices affect the overall health of the environment. Consume more plant-based meals. Buy local. Buy organic.
 - Reduce use of plastics.
- Recycle, reduce, reuse. Conserve energy and water.
- Contact your elected officials and let them know that you value public lands for habitat and outdoor recreation. Vote for elected representatives who will uphold bedrock environmental laws.
- Bring your friends and family outside. Enjoy the color, sound, and splendor of birds!