



Landscaping for Birds: Providing Bird-Friendly Backyards

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General Birdscaping Tips:

- Look for any combination of these characteristics when choosing your plants:
 - ▣ Dense growth form
 - ▣ Evergreen leaves
 - ▣ Thorns or spines
 - ▣ Produces fruits, seeds, or nuts
 - ▣ Nectar-rich flowers
 - ▣ Shade-tolerance



General Birdscaping Tips:



Cedar Waxwing

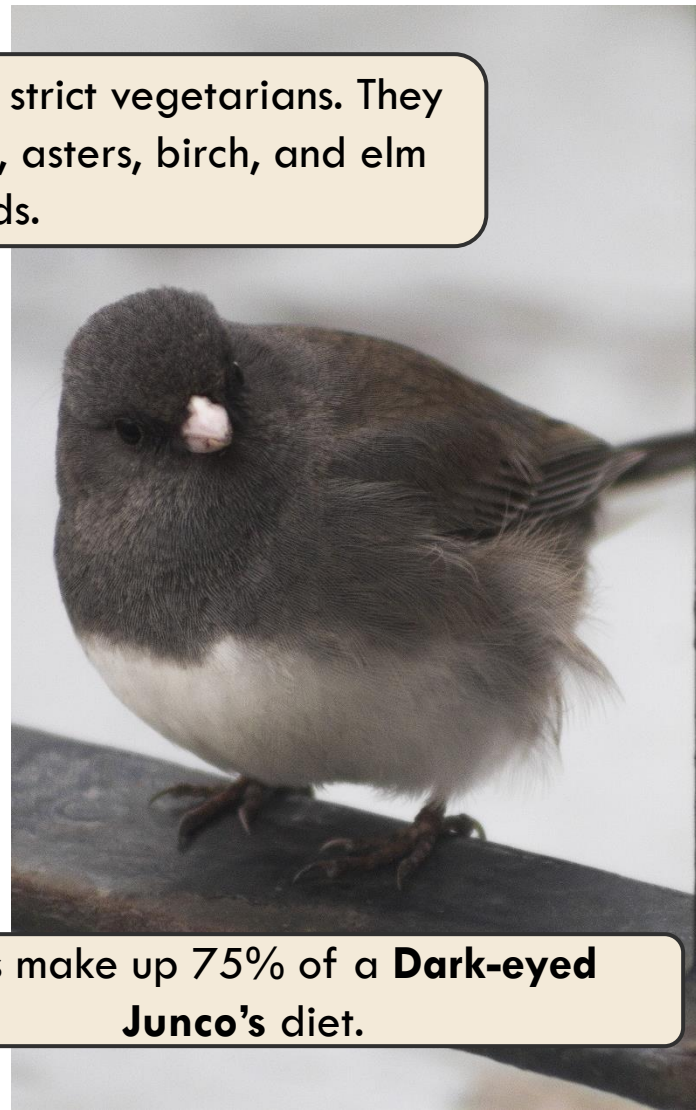
- Choose plants that bloom and provide food in different seasons, throughout the year.
 - ▣ Blossoms in spring
 - ▣ Summer fruit
 - ▣ Fall seeds
 - ▣ Winter-persistent berries or nuts

***** A variety of native plants will attract the greatest diversity of bird species.***

The Seed Eaters



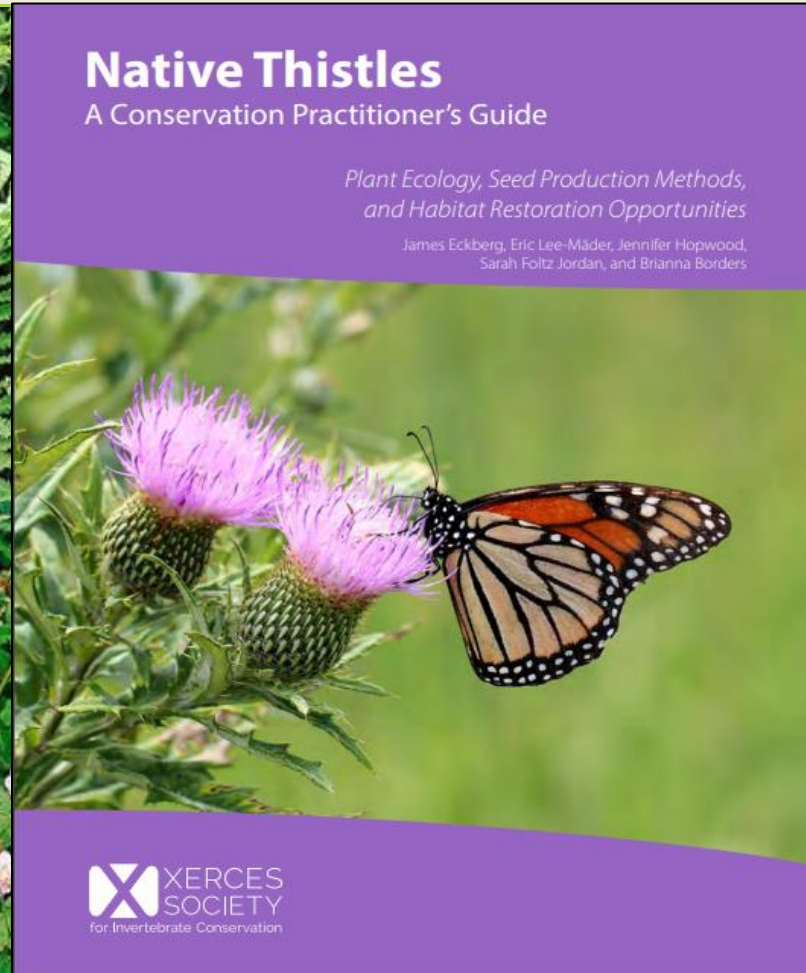
American Goldfinch are strict vegetarians. They prefer sunflowers, thistle, asters, birch, and elm seeds.



Seeds make up 75% of a **Dark-eyed Junco's** diet.

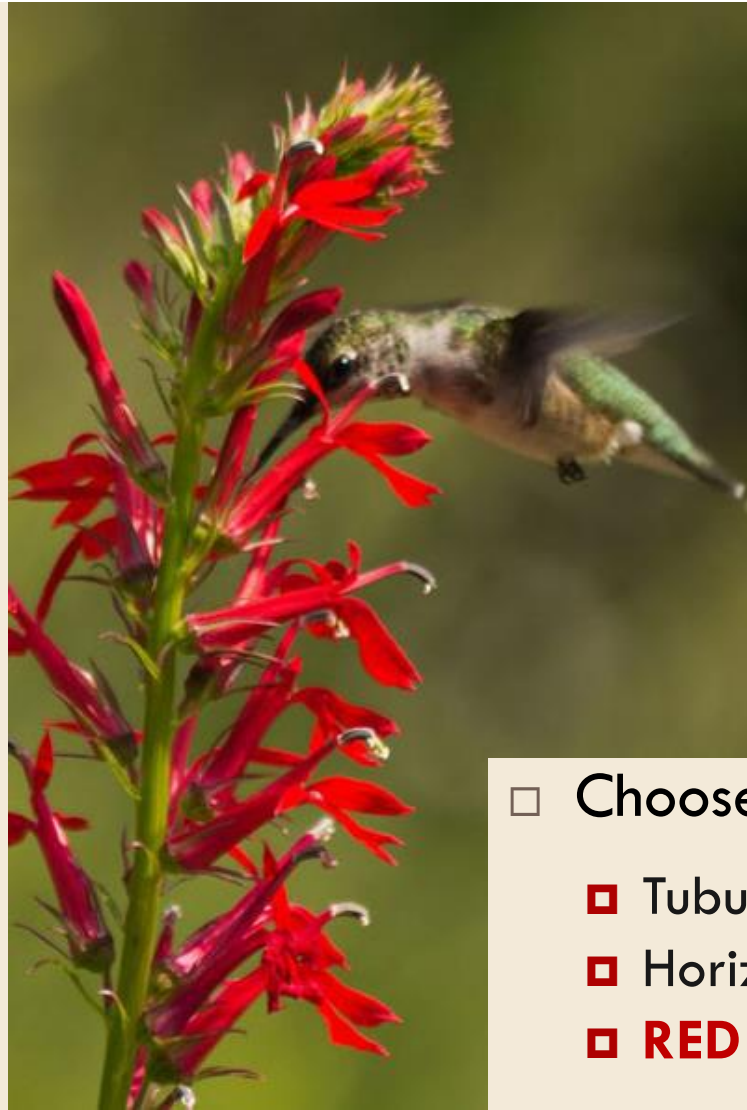
Herbaceous Plants

- **Great for a source of seeds, insects, & nesting material**
 - ▣ Sunflowers (*Helianthus*)
 - ▣ *Aster* spp.
 - ▣ Black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia*)
 - ▣ Ironweed (*Vernonia*)
 - ▣ Coneflower (*Echinacea*)
 - ▣ *Coreopsis* spp.
 - ▣ Native goldenrods (*Solidago*)
 - ▣ **Milkweeds** (*Asclepias*)
 - ▣ **Cinnamon fern** (*Osmunda*)
 - ▣ **Native thistles**



Herbaceous Plants for Hummingbirds

- ☐ Cardinal flower
- ☐ Great blue lobelia
- ☐ Wild columbine
- ☐ Beards tongue
- ☐ Beebalms
- ☐ Butterfly weed
- ☐ Foxgloves
- ☐ Phlox
- ☐ Salvia (*S. azurea*)
- ☐ Hosta spp.
- ☐ Raspberry
- ☐ Jewelweed



- ☐ Choose flowers that are:
 - ☒ Tubular
 - ☒ Horizontally positioned
 - ☒ **RED** and/or **Orange**

Trees & Shrubs for Birds

* = less tasty to deer

Shrubs

- ☐ Fragrant sumac*
- ☐ Staghorn sumac
- ☐ Viburnum
- ☐ Red osier dogwood*
- ☐ Yellow twig dogwood
- ☐ Winterberry holly
- ☐ Red chokeberry*
- ☐ Black chokeberry
- ☐ Spicebush
- ☐ American elderberry

Trees

- ☐ American crabapple
- ☐ American holly
- ☐ Chokecherries
- ☐ Flowering dogwood
- ☐ Hawthorn
- ☐ Persimmon
- ☐ Serviceberry
- ☐ Oaks, hickories, beech
- ☐ Willow, cherry, plum, birch

Trees & Shrubs for Birds AND Pollinators

Nectar/Pollen

- ☐ Serviceberry
- ☐ **Hackberry**
- ☐ Eastern redbud
- ☐ **Maple**
- ☐ **Apple, Plum**
- ☐ **Persimmon**
- ☐ **Hazelnut**
- ☐ Hawthorn
- ☐ **Black gum**
- ☐ Sumac
- ☐ Viburnum

Host Plants


- ☐ Oak
- ☐ **Willow**
- ☐ River birch
- ☐ **Black cherry**
- ☐ Yellow poplar/tuliptree
- ☐ Crabapple
- ☐ Dogwood
- ☐ **Spicebush**
- ☐ **Sassafras**
- ☐ Elm

Want to Learn More?

- ❑ All About Birds – Cornell Lab of Ornithology
 - ❑ www.allaboutbirds.org
- ❑ Birds of North America
 - ❑ www.birdsna.org
- ❑ eBird – Animated maps
 - ❑ ebird.org/science
- ❑ Audubon Guide to NA Birds
 - ❑ audubon.org/bird-guide



Questions?

A photograph of three birds in flight against a sunset sky. The birds are arranged to form a smiley face: two birds at the top for the eyes and one bird below them for the mouth. The sky is a mix of orange, red, and purple. The bottom of the image shows silhouettes of trees and power lines.

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