

# Birds in the Garden: Creating & Enjoying a Bird Oasis

**KEY:** N = US Native NC = Native Cultivar NN = Non-Native

Listed are some of the plants in our Chicago bird garden. Most are Chicagoland/IL/Midwest natives which support birds, pollinators & caterpillars. Non-natives/annuals listed provide cover, nectar and/or foraging opportunities. I'm always testing/adding plants – the garden is ever evolving!

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PERENNIALS-LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	EXPOSURE	BLOOM	TYPE
• Aconitum	Monkshood	3-4'hx12-18"w	sun-pt shade	Sept-Nov	NN
• Actaea pachypoda	Doll's Eyes/White Baneberry	18-24"hxw	shade	May+fall berries	N
• Aconitum racemosum	Black Cohosh/Black Bugbane	4-6'hx3-4'w	shade-pt shade	July-Aug	N
• Adiantum pedatum	Northern Maidenhair Fern	12-18"hxw	sun-pt sun	-	N
• Agastache foeniculum	Anise Hyssop	2-4'hx18-36"w	sun-pt sun	July-Oct	N
• Agastache scrophulariifolia	Purple Giant Hyssop	4-6'hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	July-Sept	N
• Ageratina altissima	White Snakeroot	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade-pt shade	Aug-Oct	N
• Allium cernuum	Nodding Wild Onion	12-18"hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	June-Sept	N
• Amorpha canescens	Lead Plant	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun	June-July	N
• Amsonia hubrichtii	Threadleaf Bluestar	3'hxw	sun-pt shade	April-May	N
• Amsonia tabernaemontana	Eastern Bluestar	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	April-June	N
• Anemone canadensis	Meadow Anemone (grndcvr)	18"hx2-3'w	sun-pt shade	April-May	N
• Antennaria plantaginifolia	Plantain-leaved Pussytoes (grndcvr)	8"hx12-18"w	sun	April-June	N
• Aquilegia canadensis	Wild Columbine	18-24"hx8-12"w	sun-shade	April-June	N
• Aralia racemosa	American Spikenard	4-5'hxw3-4'w	sun-pt shade	June-Aug+fall berries	N
• Arisaema triphyllum	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	12-18"hxw	shade-pt shade	April-May+fall berries	N
• Aruncus dioicus	Goat's Beard	4-6'hxw	shade-pt shade	June	N
• Asarum canadense	Canada Wild Ginger (grndcvr)	6-8"hx8-12"hx	shade-pt shade	April-May	N
• Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	June-Aug	N
• Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	3-4'hx8-12"w	sun-pt sun	June-Aug	N
• Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Milkweed	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun	June-Aug	N
• Baptisia australis	Blue Wild Indigo	3-4'hxw	sun-pt shade	May-June	N
• Caltha palustris	Marsh Marigold	12-18"hxw	sun-pt shade	April-June+	N
• Callirhoe involucrata	Prairie Poppy Mallow	8-12"hx2-3'w	sun	June-Aug	N
• Camassia leichtlinii	Great Camas (bulb)	3-4'hx1-2'w	sun-pt shade	April-May	N
• Carex albicans	White-tinged Sedge	18-24"hxw	sun-shade	May	N
• Carex pensylvanica	Common Oak Sedge	8-12"hxw	shade-pt shade	May	N
• Carex plantaginea	Plantain-leaved Wood Sedge	12-18"hx18-24"w	shade-pt shade	May	N
• Carex spregelii	Long-beaked Sedge	18-24"hxw	shade-pt shade	April-May	N
• Caulophyllum thalictroides	Blue Cohosh	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade	April-May	N
• Chasmanthium latifolium	Northern Sea Oats	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun-shade	June-July	N
• Chelone glabra	White Turtlehead	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	Aug-Sept	N
• Chelone lyonii	Pink Turtlehead	2-4'hx3-4'w	sun-pt shade	Sept	N
• Clematis virginiana (vine)	Virgin's Bower	8-12'hx6-8'w	sun-shade	Aug-Sept	N
• Coreopsis lanceolata	Sand Coreopsis	18-24"hxw	sun	May-June	N
• Coreopsis verticillata 'Zegreb'	Threadleaf Coreopsis	12-18"hx18-24"w	sun	June-Aug	NC
• Dicentra spectabilis	Bleeding Heart	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade-pt shade	April-May	NN
• Dodecatheon meadia	Shooting Star (ephemeral)	12-18"hx6-8"hx	sun-pt shade	April-May	N
• Echinacea pallida	Pale Purple Coneflower	2-3'hx12-18"w	sun	July-Aug	N
• Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	June-Aug	N
• Echinacea 'White Swan'	White Swan Coneflower	18-24"hx2'w	sun-pt sun	July-Sept	NC
• Eurybia divaricata	White Wood Aster	18-24"hxw	sun-pt shade	Aug-Oct	N
• Eragrostis spectabilis	Purple Lovegrass	18-24"hx12-18"w	sun	Aug-Sept	N
• Eryngium yuccifolium	Rattlesnake Master	3-4'hx3-4'w	sun	June-July	N
• Eupatorium perfoliatum	Common Boneset	4-6'hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	Aug-Sept	N
• Eupatorium coelestinum	Blue Mistflower	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	July-Sept	N
• Eutrochium maculatum	Spotted Joe Pye Weed	4-8'hx3-6'w	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• Filipendula rubra	Queen of the Prairie	5-8'hx3-4'w	sun-pt sun	June-July	N
• Fragaria virginiana	Wild Strawberry (grndcvr)	8-12"hx12-18"w	sun-pt shade	April-May+berries	N
• Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium	18-24"hxw	shade-pt shade	May-June	N
• Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke (grndcvr)	12-18"hxw	sun-pt sun	April-June	N
• Helenium autumnale	Sneezeweed	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun	Aug-Sept	N
• Helianthus scaberrimus	False Sunflower	4-6'hx3-4'w	sun	June-Aug	N
• Hepatica nobilis acuta	Sharp-Lobed Hepatica	8-12"hxw	shade-pt shade	April	N
• Heuchera richardsonii	Prairie Alumroot	18-24"hx12-18"w	sun-pt shade	June-July	N
• Hibiscus moscheutos	Swamp Rose Mallow	4-6'hx3-4'w	sun-pt sun	July-Sept	N
• Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia Waterleaf	18-24"hx2-3'w	shade-pt sun	April-June	N
• Hylotelephium spectabile 'Autumn Joy'	Autumn Joy Sedum	18-24"hxw	sun-pt sun	Aug-Oct	NN
• Impatiens capensis	Jewelweed	2-5'hx18-30"hx	pt shade-shade	July-Aug	N
• Liatris aspera	Rough Blazing Star	2-3'hx12-18"hx	sun	Aug-Sept	N
• Liatris pycnostachya	Prairie Blazing Star	4-6'hx18-24"w	sun	July-Aug	N
• Liatris spicata	Blazing Star	2-4'hx12-18"hx	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun-pt shade	July-Sept	N
• Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	2-3'hx12-18"w	sun-pt shade	July-Sept	N
• Matteuccia struthiopteris	Ostrich Fern	4-6'hx2-3'w	shade-pt shade	-	N

PERENNIALS-LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	EXP	BLOOM	TYPE
• <i>Monarda bradburiana</i>	Eastern Beebalm	18-24"hxw	sun-pt sun	May-June	N
• <i>Monarda didyma</i>	Scarlet Beebalm	2-3'hxw	sun-pt sun	June-Aug	N
• <i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	Wild Bergamot	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Mertensia virginica</i>	Virginia Bluebells	18-24"hxw	pt shade-shade	April-May	N
• <i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	Missouri Evening Primrose	8-12"hxw	sun	June-Aug	N
• <i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	Sensitive Fern	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade-pt shade	-	N
• <i>Packera aurea</i>	Golden Ragwort (grndcvr)	2'hx1'w	sun-shade	May-June	N
• <i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>	Wild Quinine	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun	June-Aug	N
• <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Virginia Creeper (vine)	25-30'x6-8'w	shade-pt shade	fall berries	N
• <i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	Foxglove Beardtongue	18-24"hxw	sun-pt sun	May-June	N
• <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	Hairy Beardtongue	18-24"hx12-18"w	sun-shade	June-July	N
• <i>Phlox divaricata</i>	Woodland Phlox	12-18"hxw	shade-pt shade	April-June	N
• <i>Phlox paniculata</i>	Garden Phlox	2-4'hx1-2'w	sun-pt shade	July-Oct	N
• <i>Phlox subulata</i>	Creeping Phlox (grndcvr)	3-6"hx8-12"w	sun-pt sun	July-Oct	N
• <i>Physostegia virginiana</i>	Obedient Plant	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun	July-Sept	N
• <i>Polemonium reptans</i>	Jacob's Ladder	8-12"hx12-18"w	shade-pt shade	May-June	N
• <i>Polygonatum biflorum</i>	Smooth Solomon's Seal	2-3'hx12-18"w	shade-pt shade	May-July+fall berries	N
• <i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern	18-24"hxw	shade-pt shade	-	N
• <i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	Common Mountain Mint	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun	June-Sept	N
• <i>Phytolacca americana</i>	Pokeweed	6-12"hx3-4'w	sun-shade	July-Aug+fall berries	N
• <i>Ratibida pinnata</i>	Gray-headed Coneflower	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Rudbeckia fulgida var. fulgida</i>	Black-eyed Susan	2-3'hxw	sun	July-Oct	N
• <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>	Black-eyed Susan	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun	July-Sept	N
• <i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	Cutleaf coneflower	4-6'hxw	sun-pt sun	July-Sept	N
• <i>Rudbeckia triloba</i>	Brown-eyed Susan	3-4'hxw	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Ruellia humilis</i>	Wild Petunia	12-18"hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	June-Aug	N
• <i>Salvia nemorosa 'May Night'</i>	May Night Salvia	18-24"hxw	sun	June-Aug+	NN
• <i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	Little Bluestem	3-4'hx18-24"w	sun-pt sun	Sept-Oct	N
• <i>Sedum ternatum</i>	Wild Stonecrop (grndcvr)	3-6"hx6-8" w	shade-pt sun	April-May	N
• <i>Silene regia</i>	Royal Catchfly	2-3'hx8-12"w	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	Cup Plant	6-8'hx2-3'w	sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>	Blue-eyed Grass	8-12"hx6-8" w	sun	May-July	N
• <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed	2-3'hxw	sun-pt sun	Aug-Sept	N
• <i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i>	Celandine poppy	12-18"hxw	shade-pt shade	April-May	N
• <i>Solidago caesia</i>	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade-pt sun	Aug	N
• <i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	Zig Zag Goldenrod	2-3'hxw	sun-shade	July-Aug	N
• <i>Solidago riddellii</i>	Riddell's Goldenrod	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun	Sept	N
• <i>Solidago ohioense</i>	Ohio Goldenrod	3-4'hx12-18"w	sun	July-Oct	N
• <i>Solidago rugosa 'Fireworks'</i>	Fireworks Goldenrod	2-3'hx3-4'w	sun-pt sun	Aug-Oct	NC
• <i>Solidago speciosa</i>	Showy Goldenrod	2-3'hxw	sun-pt sun	Aug-Sept	N
• <i>Solidago ulmifolia</i>	Elm-leaved Goldenrod	2-3'hx18-24"w	shade-pt sun	July-Oct	N
• <i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>	Prairie Dropseed	2-3'hxw	sun	Aug-Sept	N
• <i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i>	New England Aster	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	Aug-Oct	N
• <i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i>	Aromatic Aster	18-24"hxw	sun	Aug-Oct	N
• <i>Thalictrum dioicum</i>	Early Meadow Rue	2-3'hxw	shade-pt shade	April-May	N
• <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i>	Foamflower	8-12"hx12-18"w	shade-pt shade	May-June	N
• <i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>	Large-flowered Trillium	12-18"hxw	shade	April-May	N
• <i>Trillium recurvatum</i>	Prairie Trillium	2-3"hx3-6" w	shade	April-May	N
• <i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>	Spiderwort	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun-shade	May-July+	N
• <i>Uvularia grandiflora</i>	Merrybells	18-24"hx12-18"w	shade-pt shade	April-May	N
• <i>Vernonia fasciculata</i>	Common Ironweed	3-4'hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	Culver's Root	4-6"hx3-4'w	sun-pt sun	July-Aug	N
• <i>Viola sororia</i>	Common Blue Violet (grndcvr)	4"hx6" w	sun-shade	April-June	N
• <i>Viola labradorica</i>	Purple Labrador Violet	3-6"hx8-12"w	sun-pt shade	April-June	N
• <i>Zizia aurea</i>	Golden Alexanders	2-3'hx18-24"w	sun-pt shade	April-June	N
• <i>Zizia aptera</i>	Heart-leaved Meadow Parsnip	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	April-June	N

ANNUALS-LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	EXP	BLOOM	ORIGIN
• <i>Agastache rupestris</i>	Threadleaf Giant Hyssop	18-24"hx12-18"w	sun-pt sun	July-frost	SW US
• <i>Cannaceae</i>	Canna	1.5-8'hx1.5-6'w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	S Am
• <i>Cuphea ignea</i>	Firecracker Plant	18-26"hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	Mexico
• <i>Fuchsia</i>	Fuchsia	2-3'hxw	shade-pt shade	June-frost	Caribbean
• <i>Ipomoea x multifida</i>	Cardinal Climber (twining vine)	3-6'hxw	sun	June-Sept	S Am
• <i>Justicia brandegeana</i>	Shrimp Plant	up to 2-3'hxw	sun-pt sun	June-frost	Mexico
• <i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana	1-2'hxw	sun-pt sun	June-frost	Caribbean
• <i>Passiflora incarnata</i>	Passion Flower (twining vine)	6-30'hx3-6'w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	S US
• <i>Petunia</i>	Petunia	9-12"hx1-3'w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	S Am
• <i>Salvia guaranitica 'Black &amp; Blue'</i>	Black & Blue Salvia	up to 3'hxw	sun-pt sun	June-frost	S US/Am
• <i>Salvia 'Mistic Spires'</i>	Mystic Spires Blue Salvia	18-36"hx2-3'w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	Mexico
• <i>Salvia 'Skyscraper'</i>	Skyscraper Salvia	18-24"hx12-18"w	sun-pt sun	June-frost	S US/Am
• <i>Zinnia</i>	Zinnia	various	sun	June-frost	Mexico

SHRUBS-LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	EXP	BLOOM	TYPE
• Aesculus parviflora	Bottlebrush Buckeye	8-10'hxw	shade-pt sun	June-July	N
• Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima'	Red Chokeberry	6-8'hx3-4'w	sun-pt shade	May+berries	NC
• Aronia melanocarpa	Black Chokeberry	5-8'w	sun-pt shade	May+berries	NC
• Ceanothus americanus	New Jersey Tea	3-4'hxw	sun- pt shade	June-July	N
• Cephalanthus occidentalis 'Sugar Shack'	Sugar Shack Buttonbush	3-4'hxw	sun-pt shade	June-Aug	NC
• Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Aurea Nana'	Golden Dwarf Hinoki False Cypress	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	(evergreen)	NN
• Clethra alnifolia 'Hummingbird'	Hummingbird Summersweet	3'hxw	sun-pt shade	June-July	NC
• Cornus racemosa 'Muszam'	Muskingum® Gray Dogwood	2'hx3-4'w	sun-pt shade	May-June+berries	NC
• Corylus americana	American Hazelnut	8-12'hxw	sun-pt sun	March	N
• Diervilla lonicera	Dwarf Bush Honeysuckle	2-3'hx3-4'w	sun-pt shade	June-Aug	N
• Fothergilla gardenii	Dwarf Fothergilla	2-3'hx3-4'w	pt shade-shade	April-May	N
• Hydrangea arborescens	Smooth Hydrangea	3-4'hx4-6'w	sun-shade	July-Sept	N
• Hypericum kalmianum	Kalm's St. Johnswort	2-3'hxw	sun-pt shade	July	N
• Lindera benzoin	Spicebush (need male/female for berries)	8-12'hxw	sun-pt shade	April+berries	N
• Ilex verticillata 'Mr.Poppins' & 'Berry Poppins'	Winterberry (need male/female for berries)	3-4'hxw	sun-pt shade	May+berries	NC
• Itea virginica 'Scentlandia'	Scentlandia® Virginia Sweetspire	24-36'hxw	sun-shade	June	NC
• Itea virginica 'Sprich'	Little Henry® Virginia Sweetspire	2-3'hx3-4'w	sun-pt shade	July-Aug	NC
• Juniperus virginiana 'Grey Owl'	Grey Owl Juniper	3'hx6'w	sun	evergreen+berries	NC
• Picea pungens 'Glauca Globosa'	Globe Colorado Blue Spruce	3-4'hxw	sun	evergreen	NC
• Thuja occidentalis 'Holmstrup'	Holmstrup Arborvitae	4-6'hx2-3'w	sun-pt shade	evergreen	NC
• Sambucus canadensis	Elderberry	6-12'hxw	sun-pt sun	June-July+berries	N
• Symphoricarpos (orbiculatus + microphyllus)	Coralberry 'Hancock'	18-24'hx6-8'w	sun-shade	June-July+berries	NC
• Viburnum dentatum 'Christom'	Blue Muffin® Arrowwood Viburnum	4'-6'hxw	sun-shade	May+berries	NC

TREES-LATIN NAME	COMMON NAME	SIZE	EXP	BLOOM	TYPE
• Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	60-75'hx20-25"w	sun-pt sun	April	N
• Amelanchier 'Autumn Brilliance'	Serviceberry	20-25'hxw	sun-pt sun	April+berries	NC
• Asimina triloba	PawPaw (need 2 to produce fruit)	15-20'hxw	sun-pt sun	May	N
• Crataegus viridis 'Winter King'	Winter King Hawthorn	20-30'hxw	sun	May+berries	NC
★ Cornus Kousa 'Satomi'	Satomi Chinese Dogwood	15'hx12'w	sun	June+berries	NN
• Fraxinus americana	White Ash	60'-80'hxw	sun	Spring	N
• Juniperus chinensis 'Fairview'	Fairview Chinese Juniper	30'hx10-15'w	sun	evergreen+berries	NN
• Prunus serotina	Wild Black Cherry	50-60'hx30-40'w	sun	Spring+berries	N
• Quercus prinoides	Dwarf Chinquapin Oak	10x10'hxw	sun	Spring+nuts	N
• Rhus typhina	Staghorn Sumac	15-20'hx20-25'w	sun-pt sun	June-July+seeds	N

#### NEIGHBOR'S TREES THAT HANG OVER INTO OUR YARD AND/OR ARE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY:

• Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis	Thornless Honey Locust	30-70'hxw	sun	April	N
• Picea abies	Norway Spruce	40-60'h	sun	evergreen+cones	NN
• Picea pungens	Colorado Blue Spruce	40-60'h	sun	evergreen+cones	N

\* Non-native. Planted decades ago- would choose native now- birds still love the berries. Many native Cornus varieties are available at nurseries.

**NOTE:** Native shrubs & trees are excellent for bird/wildlife gardens. **Native Trees:** Oak, Cherry, Willow Hackberry, Dogwood, Redbud, & Maple are all good choices. **Native Shrubs:** Viburnum, Dogwood, Winterberry, Sumac, Willow, Elderberry, Gooseberry, Spicebush etc. Include evergreens for cover & food, such as native White Pine & Hemlock. Many resources are available listing native plants to attract birds & wildlife.

## RESOURCES

### BOOKS:

- **Nature's Best Hope:** A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard by Douglas W. Tallamy. **Our garden included as an example.**
- **Bringing Nature Home:** How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants by Douglas W. Tallamy. Includes charts of native plants.
- **The Nature of Oaks:** The Rich Ecology of Our Most Essential Native Trees by Douglas W. Tallamy
- **Birdscaping in the Midwest:** A Guide to Gardening with Native Plants to Attract Birds by Mariette Nowa. Includes charts of native plants.
- **Grow Now:** How We Can Save Our Health, Communities, and Planet-One Garden at a Time by Emily Murphy. **Our garden included as an example.**
- **Grow Native:** Bringing Natural Beauty to Your Garden by Lynn M. Steiner
- **The Midwestern Native Garden:** Native Alternatives to Nonnative Flowers and Plants by Charlotte Adelman & Bernard L. Schwartz
- **Planting in a Post Wild World:** Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes by Thomas Rainer & Claudia West
- **The Insect Crisis:** The Fall of the Tiny Empires That Run the World by David Milman

**FREE INFO/ID CHARTS/NATIVE PLANT LISTS, etc:** Great resources for native plant & gardening info.

- **Audubon Native Plant Database** enter zip code, see what native plants grow in your area: [audubon.org/native-plants](http://audubon.org/native-plants)
- **National Wildlife Federation** enter zip code, see what native plants grow in your area: [nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/](http://nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/)
- **Illinois Wildflowers** info on native plants: [illinoiswildflowers.info](http://illinoiswildflowers.info)
- **USDA Plants Database** info on native plants: [plants.usda.gov/home](http://plants.usda.gov/home)
- **Wild Ones** excellent organization with local chapters around the country: [wildones.org](http://wildones.org)
- **Landscaping for Wildlife** (IL Dept of Natural Resources) [dnr.illinois.gov/publications/documents/00000227.pdf](http://dnr.illinois.gov/publications/documents/00000227.pdf)
- **Landscaping with Native Plants** (EPA) [waterfordmi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/587/Landscaping-with-Native-Plants-PDF](http://waterfordmi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/587/Landscaping-with-Native-Plants-PDF)
- **Habitat Guide for Chicago Land Owners: Enhancing Your Property for Birds** (City of Chicago) [cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/doe/general/NaturalResourcesAndWaterConservation\\_PDFs/Birds/BirdHabitatGuidelines.pdf](http://cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/doe/general/NaturalResourcesAndWaterConservation_PDFs/Birds/BirdHabitatGuidelines.pdf)
- **Citizens for Conservation** [citizensforconservation.org/education/learning-resources/native-plant-lists/](http://citizensforconservation.org/education/learning-resources/native-plant-lists/)
- **Field Museum Identification Guides/Charts** [fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/guides](http://fieldguides.fieldmuseum.org/guides) (Go to "Chicago Region" in dropdown "Region" menu)
- **Illinois Common Birds Coloring Book** (IL Dept of Natural Resources) Great for kids! [dnr.illinois.gov/publications/documents/00000683.pdf](http://dnr.illinois.gov/publications/documents/00000683.pdf)

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## RESOURCES CONTINUED

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**ORGANIZATIONS:** Great resources for information, education, conferences, seminars, native plant sales, etc! There's many out there- here's a few:

- **Chicago Botanic Garden** Glencoe IL- [chicagobotanic.org](http://chicagobotanic.org)
- **Morton Arboretum** Lisle IL- [mortonarb.org](http://mortonarb.org)
- **Wild Ones** Many state chapters & nationally- [wildones.org](http://wildones.org)
- **American Bird Conservancy** [abcbirds.org](http://abcbirds.org)
- **Chicago Bird Alliance** [chicagobirdalliance.org](http://chicagobirdalliance.org)
- **Chicago Ornithology Society** [chicagobirder.org](http://chicagobirder.org)
- **Citizens for Conservation** [citizensforconservation.org](http://citizensforconservation.org)
- **Conservation@Home/The Conservation Foundation** Get your wildlife garden certified! [theconservationfoundation.org/conservation-home/](http://theconservationfoundation.org/conservation-home/)
- **Home Grown National Park** Get on the map! [homegrownnationalpark.org](http://homegrownnationalpark.org)

### IDENTIFICATION HELP:

- **All About Birds** (Cornell Lab of Ornithology) Excellent online guide to birds and bird watching. [allaboutbirds.org](http://allaboutbirds.org)
- **Sibley Guide to Birds** by David Allen Sibley- book or app (fee) Regional book additions available- Birds of Eastern N.America, Birds of Western N.America
- **Merlin** free app
- **Plants Database** (US Dept of Agriculture-Natural Resources Conservation Service) Enter plant name into search field. [usda.gov](http://usda.gov)
- **Illinois Wildflowers** Look up/learn about Illinois wildflowers- [illinoiswildflowers.info](http://illinoiswildflowers.info)

**HABITAT RESTORATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:** Help restore local preserves! There's many organizations out there, here's a few:

- **North Branch Restoration Project** [northbranchrestoration.org](http://northbranchrestoration.org)
- **Friends of the Greenbay Trail** [gbtrail.org](http://gbtrail.org)
- **Forest Preserves of Cook County** [fpdcc.com/events/category/activity/restoration/](http://fpdcc.com/events/category/activity/restoration/)
- **Forest Preserves of DuPage County** [dupageforest.org/get-involved/volunteer](http://dupageforest.org/get-involved/volunteer)

**COMMUNITY SCIENCE:** Help scientists/researchers by recording your observations! It's FUN and they really use the data!

- **Project Feeder Watch** (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Bird Studies Canada)  
November-April count of birds that visit your feeders/garden or other site. Good way to enjoy winter! [feederwatch.org](http://feederwatch.org)
- **The Great Backyard Bird Count** (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Audubon, Bird Studies Canada, eBird)  
Every February for 4 consecutive days. [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org)
- **Global Big Day** (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, eBird) Every May- one day global count. [ebird.org/globalbigday](http://ebird.org/globalbigday)
- **eBird** (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Audubon) Online tool to record bird sightings for science. [ebird.org](http://ebird.org)
- **Journey North: Tracking Migrations and Seasons** Sightings of Hummingbirds, Monarchs, Robins, etc. mapped in real-time. [www.journeynorth.org](http://www.journeynorth.org)

**NATIVE PLANTS- Where to buy:** Possibility Place Nursery- IL, Northwind Perennial Farm- WI, Lurvey's- IL, Pesche's- IL, The Growing Place- IL, Chalet Garden Center- IL, Prairie Moon Nursery- MN (mail order), Riverside Native Perennials- OH + mail order, Prairie Nursery- WI (mail order), Midwest Groundcovers- IL (wholesale), Pizzo Native Plant Nursery- IL (wholesale)

**NATIVE PLANT SALES LIST:** [chicagolivingcorridors.org/native-plant-sales/](http://chicagolivingcorridors.org/native-plant-sales/)

**WINDOW COLLISION TAPE/FILM:** [featherfriendly.com](http://featherfriendly.com), [collidescape.org](http://collidescape.org),

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### BIRD GARDEN BASICS:

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- **INGREDIENTS:** Provide food, water, shelter
- **LANDSCAPE IN LAYERS:** Tall canopy trees, mid-level trees, shrubs, evergreens, perennials, ground covers, wood or stick pile
- **PLANT SELECTION:**
  - Choose native trees & plants
  - Early to late bloomers to cover all seasons
  - Nectar, fruit, seed, cone producing plants, caterpillar host plants
  - Variety for different bird diets/foraging styles, seasonal food, shelter opportunities
  - Remove invasive species: Buckthorn, Bradford Pear, Barberry, Euonymus (Burning Bush & Purple Winter Creeper), Privet, Non-native Honeysuckle, Lily of the Valley, Purple Loosestrife, Vinca Vine, Ground Ivy, Asian Bittersweet, Miscanthus grasses, etc.
- **ECO-FRIENDLY PRACTICES:**
  - No insecticides or rodenticides, reduce or eliminate herbicides, no synthetic fertilizers
  - Minimize outdoor night lighting to protect beneficial/nutritious insects
  - Minimize or eliminate gas powered blowers/mowers, etc. (big polluters).
- **WATER:** Birds are attracted to the sound of water- essential for survival & hygiene.
  - Plants that "hold" water, such as Cup Plant, (*Silphium perfoliatum*), Hostas with cup shaped leaves, such as 'Drinking Gourd'.
  - Birdbath + water heater in winter (heated bird bath are available) + bubbler or pump to make sound, keep clean
  - Other water feature ideas: fountain, pondless waterfall, rock bubbler, pond and/or stream
- **LAWN:** Reduce or eliminate – If keeping some lawn, don't use treatments- let it grow naturally to provide food sources
- **KEEP DON'T CUT:** Minimize/eliminate fall clean-up. Insects/eggs/cocoons/critters over winter and/or hibernate in plant/leaf material, providing food for birds. Dried flower heads provide seed/food + beauty to the winter garden. Fall foliage provides shelter through the winter. Minimize Spring trim.
- **SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT:** Optional
  - Nectar producing annuals
  - Nesting/roosting boxes/platforms
  - Feeders- keep clean
  - Water source