

Attract Nesting Bluebirds

Bluebirds prefer to nest in natural cavities (or holes) found in trees on the edges of fields and pastures.

Development, however, has destroyed much of their natural nesting habitat so they rely on man-made nesting boxes for survival.

By placing a bluebird nesting box in your yard, you can take an important step toward helping this species. You'll also be delighted by the antics you see as the bluebirds raise their family in front of yours.

To have a successful bluebird nesting box, you must have the right type of yard. Bluebirds prefer open spaces (large country or suburban lawns, pastures, fields, cemeteries, golf courses and parks) primarily because these areas are full of bluebirds' favorite food—insects.

Nesting Box Placement

- If you put up more than one box, place them about 125 to 150 yards apart for Eastern Bluebirds, 200 to 300 yards apart for Mountain and 100 yards apart for Western Bluebirds.
- Mount the box five feet above ground with the hole facing away from the prevailing wind.
- Use a baffle if you have squirrels, raccoons, snakes or other predators in your area.
- If Tree Swallows are present, mount the nesting boxes in pairs (one for bluebirds and one for swallows) with 5 feet to 25 between each.
- Have your box or boxes in place by mid-February.



Monitoring Your Nesting Box

- Put up as many boxes as you have time to monitor.
- Check the box weekly from March 15 - August 15 to make sure the birds are safe.
- If you find English House Sparrow nesting material, remove it. These birds are not native to the United States and are known for taking over bluebird nesting boxes and destroying the eggs and killing the young. Do not disturb other species you find.
- Do not inspect the box when fledglings are 12 days old or older—they might fledge too early.
- The best time to check boxes is in the early afternoon.

The North American Bluebird Society has given its "seal of approval" to the Wild Birds Unlimited Bluebird Nesting Box.

- Our nesting boxes have the correct size hole for bluebirds and have other amenities bluebirds desire.
- The roof opens for viewing eggs and baby birds.
- Thick wood panels provide insulation, and the natural wood finish has no paints or stains.
- Our unique ventilation and drainage system provides fresh air and prevents heat buildup.
- Side opens for easy cleaning after birds have left the nest.

For more information, talk to one of our
Certified Bird Feeding Specialists

