



FOUND A BABY BIRD? Here's how to determine whether to take action:

The first thing to do is to figure out if the baby bird is a nestling or a fledgling.

Most of the baby birds people find are fledglings. These are young birds that have just left the nest, and can't fly yet, but are still under the care of their parents and do not need our help. Fledglings are feathered and capable of hopping or flitting, with toes that can tightly grip your finger or a twig. These youngsters are generally adorable and fluffy, with a tiny stub of a tail.

When fledglings leave their nest they rarely return, so even if you see the nest it's not a good idea to put the bird back in—it will hop right back out. Usually there is no reason to intervene at all beyond putting the bird on a nearby perch out of harm's way and keeping pets indoors. The parents may be attending to four or five young scattered in different directions, but they will return to care for the one you have found. You can watch from a distance to make sure the parents are returning to care for the fledgling.

If the baby bird is sparsely feathered and not capable of hopping, walking, flitting or gripping tightly to your finger, it's a nestling. If so, the nest is almost certainly nearby. If you can find the nest (it may be well hidden), put the bird back as quickly as possible. Don't worry—parent birds do not recognize their young by smell. They will not abandon a baby if it has been touched by humans.

If the young bird is injured, you can't find the nest or are absolutely certain that the bird is orphaned, then your best course of action is to phone a wildlife rehabilitator. There are two wildlife rehabilitation organizations in and around Calgary as listed below:



American robin fledgling

Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (403) 214-1312

Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation (403) 946-2361

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Don't Raise Baby Birds Yourself

It's illegal to bring a baby bird home and try to raise it. Most young birds won't survive if cared for by well meaning but inexperienced people. Those that do survive will be at a disadvantage. They'll have missed important lessons that they would have learned from their parents, such as how to find food and water in the wild and how to avoid predators.

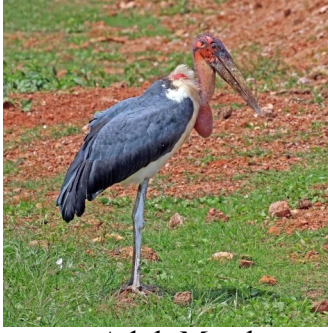
Protect Baby Birds from Cats

While all birds are threatened by outdoor cats, baby birds are especially vulnerable. Birds should never be removed from the wild to protect them from cats or other predators. If there is a baby bird on the ground and a cat nearby, put the cat indoors until the bird is able to fly. If the cat belongs to a neighbor, ask the owner to remove the cat or, when the owner is not known, spray the cat with water to encourage it to leave the property.

Are all babies cute?



Baby Marabout stock



Adult Marabou stork



Baby Helmeted hornbill



Adult Helmeted hornbill



Baby American coots



Adult American coot



Baby Night heron



Adult Night heron



CONSIGNMENT

ZEISS

Diascope 85T-FL with 20x60 eye piece and rain guards.

Manfrotto 222 trigger head assembly 190XDB tripod

\$2000.00

NEW

Hand crafted enameled pins

MADE IN
Alberta

\$11.99 each +GST





Provincial Park Society

Friends of Fish Creek Spring Fundraiser—WestJet Gift of Flight

Contest runs May 1st to July 3, 2023



The Friends of Fish Creek are offering you The Gift of Flight from WestJet. Win a round trip for 2 to anywhere WestJet flies! Pick up your tickets today and enjoy this amazing opportunity to see a new part of the world or return to a favourite place.

All funds raised will support the Friends of Fish Creek and our conservation efforts here in Fish Creek Provincial Park. As a small but far-reaching registered charity based in Fish Creek Provincial Park, we do not receive regular direct funding. For over thirty years the Friends of Fish Creek have been supported by a diverse combination of grants, sponsorships, membership fees, program fees, fundraisers, and especially donations from community members like you. Volunteers also play a key role in all of our activities and make it possible for us to continue our essential stewardship and community engagement activities.

Tickets are 1 for \$10, 5 for \$20, 25 for \$50, or go all in and get 100 tickets for \$100.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit:

<https://friendsoffishcreek.org/programs/flight/>

 **What's the Buzz?** 


Become a Bumble Bee Community Scientist!

Wildlife Preservation Canada and Glenbow Ranch Foundation need your help to survey for at-risk bumble bees at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park this summer!

VOLUNTEER TRAINING WORKSHOP:
June 10th at Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park from 10-2pm

Join us also for monthly group surveys, dates TBD.

Sign up with the QR Code today or email experienceglenbow@grpfc.ca



All are welcome, no experience required!

Saturday Morning Bird Walks With Jim St. Laurent

Jim's years of guiding bird walks has been instrumental in teaching "birders" how to get the most out of their birding excursions. Children 12 and older are most welcome as long as accompanied by an adult and have purchased a ticket through Eventbrite.ca

All participants on any bird walk must have purchased a ticket through Eventbrite.ca and present the ticket to Jim prior to the bird walk.

The weather plays a big part in bird walks and Jim reminds participants to dress anticipating weather changes and to carry water to keep hydrated.

Jim will be away for the month of June which may extend into July. Please stay tuned for a update on when Saturday morning bird walks with Jim will return.





MEADOWLARK
BIRDING TOURS

meadowlarkbirding.com
gmckinnonbird@gmail.com
 403-519-8703

Upcoming Tours in 2023!

Point Pelee Migration




Rose-breasted
Grosbeak

May 9-13, 2023
\$550/person | Leamington, ON

Point Pelee is one of the best known birding destinations in North America. In this short 5 day tour we can expect to see over 150 species, many in their stunning breeding plumage. Up to 30 species of warbler can be encountered on this tour and this total often includes Carolinian specialties such as Prothonotary, Hooded, and Cerulean Warbler. Overshoots from the south such as Kentucky, Worm-eating and Prairie Warbler are sometimes observed. However it's not just warblers; at Pelee as we can expect to see various other passerines such such as vireos, thrushes and sparrows. Beyond songbirds, we will also see numerous shorebirds and waterfowl also on their migration journey. At Point Pelee the possibilities are truly endless!
ONLY TWO SPACES REMAINING!

Cold Lake Warblers



Canada
Warbler

June 1-4, 2023
\$425/person | Cold Lake, AB

While Cold Lake is not yet widely known as a top birding destination, but this secret won't be kept for long! Located in northeastern Alberta along the Saskatchewan border, Cold Lake boasts an impressive 22 species of breeding warbler. Mouth-watering species such as Connecticut, Blackburnian, and Chestnut-sided can be found reliably. However, it is not just warblers that make Cold Lake special, tantalizing boreal species; Yellow Rail, Nelson's Sparrow, LeConte's Sparrow, Boreal Chickadee and others are not uncommon. On this tour we do not only focus on detecting these warblers, our goal is to get extended views that provide excellent photographic opportunities.

Gavin McKinnon




"Birding with Gavin is so incredibly rewarding, fulfilling, and fun! His enthusiasm for birding is truly authentic, and his knowledge is incredible! Gavin's ability to identify birds on the wing, his impressive recognition of vocalizations, his quick on the draw photography skills to confirm species, and his understanding of habitat and likely areas to have a variety of birds, are a few examples of what he provides. In addition, he is most willing to answer questions and help each member of the tour to not only see the birds, but to learn more about them." - Donna F. 2021

Camrose Purple Martin Festival Sunday June 18, 2023



How to get to the Stoney Creek Centre

Address: 5320 – 39 Avenue, Camrose



Directions:

- 1. Turn off Parkview Drive on to 39th Ave**
- 2. Turn right at the end of 39th Ave**
- 3. Park and you are there!**

**For more information and tickets visit:
Camrose Purple Martin Festival**

Do you need help attracting birds to your backyard?

Do you want advise on designing a backyard habitat for your feathered/winged friends?

Do you have a problem in your backyard we can help solve?

The Wild Bird Store in partnership with Andrew Barnes, now providing at home wild bird consulting service.

Specializing in helping you and your property become Wild Bird friendly for maximum results.

Services offered will include:

Bird feeder(s) recommendations for species focus and seed types

- Type(s) of seed and for which species it will be best suited
- Preferred location for maximum results
- Bird feeder accessories
- Hummingbird feeders and accessories

Nesting

- Nest box selection for native species—including all cavity nesting and platform species for Alberta
- Preferred location for nest boxes
- Maintenance tips
- Advice on how to deter invasive species (House sparrows and European starlings)

Watering needs

- Bird baths
- Heaters and heated bird baths
- Accessories including drippers and bubblers
- Location dos and donts
- Maintenance tips

Bat Houses/Chambers

- Location requirements
- Housing styles—including single vs multiple chambers

After each visit all discussion points and recommendations will be provided along with a **10% OFF coupon to be used at the Wild Bird Store on your next purchase.**

PLEASE NOTE: 10% coupon is only valid for a one-time purchase and must be presented at time of purchase. In-store ONLY (excludes online)

For further information, pricing and scheduling, please contact

Andrew Barnes cell # (403) 923-8121 (call or text)

Email: birdsbeesyyc@gmail.com



QUESTION: On occasion in the beginning of summer, I find a baby bird on the ground and I find it hard to let nature take its course. What can I do to help?

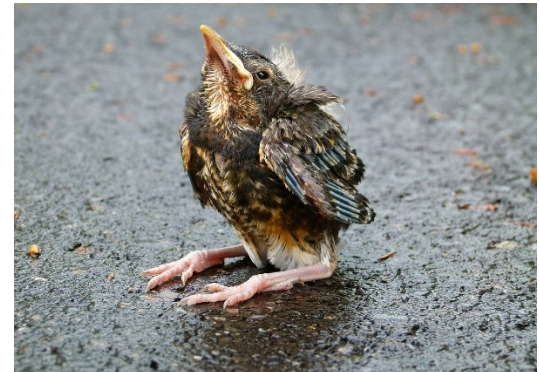
RESPONSE: That is just about that time when many songbirds fledge their young and it is not uncommon for many of us to come across a baby bird that appears helpless and in need of assistance. In most cases, it is usually a youngster that has just left the nest. They are recognizable by having a full coat of feathers but not full flight capability. Look around for the nest and try to place it back in the nest. Failing that, put the bird on a branch several feet off the ground and let the parents respond to its begging calls. The

other possibility is that the bird has somehow prematurely fledged from a nest, either fleeing from a predator or because the nest has somehow been compromised. If the youngster easily allow you to pick it up and it is not fully feathered out, this generally means that it is need of assistance and will likely perish if left alone. So what to do? Well, first it would be helpful if one had some idea as to what species the bird is. That is not easy for most folks. The internet has little information on that aspect of birds and most people do not have access to a book called “A Guide to the Nests, Eggs and Nestlings” by Paul Baicich and Colin Harrison, like I do. But whether the bird is a pigeon or a robin, the first step is to place the nestling on a towel or pillowcase or natural grasses in the bottom of a smallish cardboard box; the cloth prevents the bird’s feet from slipping. Depending on how unfeathered the bird is, placing a small lamp or hot water bottle in the box to provide some heat is a good idea. If it is obviously begging for food and assuming that the species is unknown, try offering tiny chopped-up pieces of raw liver or hard-boiled eggs, or moistened dog or cat kibble. Do not feed them water, bread, whole birdseed, milk or worms. One can find more information by searching the internet. But take my word for it—you do not want to become a parent to a baby bird. Depending on their age and species, baby birds may eat every 10 to 20 minutes to 12 to 14 hours per day. Here is what I would do instead. Almost every town or city has an organization dedicated to helping wildlife in distress. Use the internet or contact your local municipality to find out how to contact one and then put the bird in the hands of those who know what they are doing. And do not forget to throw in a small donation—almost all these organizations are self-funded and they always need money. Think of the time and stress they will have saved you as well as the good feeling that you have helped nature out in some small way.

Wildlife Rehabilitation in and near Calgary: Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation Society (403) 214-1312

Alberta Institute for Wildlife Conservation (403) 946-2361

DAVID M. BIRD, Ph.D Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology McGill University david.bird@mcgill.ca www.askprofessorbird.com			CANADA JAY MÉSANGEAI DU CANADA FRIENDLY, SMART, LOYAL AND TOUGH. TRULY THE MOST CANADIAN BIRD! AMICAL, INTELLIGENT, FIDÈLE ET ROBUSTE. UN OISEAU VRAIMENT CANADIEN! WWW.CANADAJAY.ORG
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ABOUT DR. DAVID



David M. Bird is Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology and the former Director of the Avian Science and Conservation Centre at McGill University. As a past-president of the Society of Canadian Ornithologists, a former board member with Birds Canada, a Fellow of both the American Ornithological Society and the International Ornithological Union, he has received several awards for his conservation and public education efforts. Dr. Bird is a regular columnist on birds for Bird Watcher’s Digest and Canadian Wildlife magazines and is the author of several books and over 200 peer-reviewed scientific publications. He is the consultant editor for multiple editions of DK Canada’s Birds of Canada, Birds of Eastern Canada, Birds of Western Canada, and Pocket Birds of Canada. To know more about him, visit www.askprofessorbird.com or email david.bird@mcgill.ca.



ON LOCATION

Wildwood Community Centre (4411 Spruce Drive SW)

Every Tuesday 3:00pm to 6:00pm

Crowfoot Arena (corner of John Laurie & Nosehill Drive NW)

Every Wednesday 2:00pm to 5:30pm

Calgary Horticultural Society (2725 33 Avenue SW)

Every second Friday starting April 14, 2023 1:00pm to 4:00pm

SEASONAL EVENT

Okotoks Farmers Market (322041 15 Street East Dewinton)

Dates: June 16th & 30th, July 14th & 28th, August 11th & 25th and

September 8th & 22nd 3:30pm to 6:30pm

Please place orders by 12:00noon the day before the truck is on location, either by emailing orders@wildbirdstore.ca or text (403) 701-4571

Each year approximately 10 million waterfowl fly north to their breeding grounds in the Prairie Pothole Region of North America, but the landscape that greets them has changed. Weather patterns and agricultural practices have significantly transformed the pothole-dotted native grasslands that waterfowl have used for thousands of years.

These changes have resulted in some waterfowl proliferating while others decline. According to a study by a Penn State-led-research team, nesting date is an important factory in determining winners and losers in the Prairie Pothole Region.

Waterfowl nest in a variety of habitats in the region, including idle grassland, cropland and over water, according to the report. But when early nesting ducks arrive in the Prairie Pothole Region, many fields are covered in debris left from the previous fall's harvest, mainly stubble from cereal grains. Although this habitat looks inviting, the eventual replanting of these fields, as opposed to leaving them fallow, makes the ducks more vulnerable to predators and often results in their nests being destroyed by agricultural activities such as tilling and planting.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and the Canadian Wildlife Service have monitored spring population abundances for North American waterfowl using the Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey since 1955—producing one of the largest datasets on vertebrate populations in the world.

These ducks are adapted to nest in mixed-grass prairie, and as that wild habitat has largely been replaced by agriculture in the Prairie Pothole Region, the birds are confused.

Last year's stubble looks good to them from the air, but in reality, it does not offer the same advantages and protections that the grass does. Over time, on a large scale, this association with cropland can lead to lower reproductive success and declining population numbers for early nesting ducks that breed in the region.

In earlier research, the research group in the College of Agricultural Sciences focused on Northern pintail ducks, a species that has been in decline since the 1980s. They identified the proclivity of Northern pintails to nest in agricultural fields as an “ecological trap” because the number of pintail the following year—a product of demographic processes, such as reproduction and survival—declined with increasing use of cropland.



Map of the Prairie Pothole Region of North America (U.S. Geological Survey, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center)



Northern pintail male

DONATIONS

Located at The Wild Bird Store (near the seed bins). We collect your cash as well as “wishlist” donations and arrange to deliver them to local wildlife organizations including Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation, Alberta Institute of Conversation and Ellis Bird Farm.

We ask for your support quarterly for each of these organizations.

This quarter for the months of June, July and August 2023, your donations will go to:



Thank you for your support



Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation

<https://www.calgarywildlife.org/>

DID YOU KNOW?

The Wild Bird Store offers the “Book Nook” as a gathering place for your next meeting. The room is for rent for

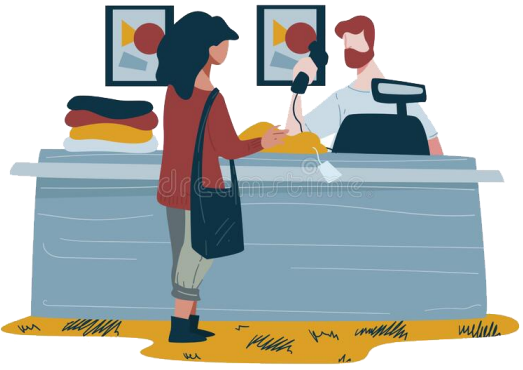
\$50.00 +GST fee which includes the set-up of the chairs, video equipment, coffee, tea and water are available.

Please contact info@wildbirdstore.ca for more information or to reserve your spot.



OPTIONS FOR SHOPPING AT THE WILD BIRD STORE

In Store or on the Seed Truck, social distancing is encouraged.



Shop in Store



Curbside Pick up

Phone your order in and pay for it at least 30 minutes prior to arriving at The Wild Bird Store for pick up. Park in the curbside parking stall outside the phone us at (403)640-2632 when you arrive, pop your trunk or hatch and leave the rest to us.



Home Delivery

Please phone the store at (403)640-2632 any day prior to 12:00noon on the Wednesday before your delivery with your order, place and pay for your delivery. Please phone with your order as early as possible to avoid disappointment. If you have any specials instructions, please do not forget to inform us when you place your order.

PLEASE NOTE: For the summer months starting June 1st, delivery will be EVERY 2nd Thursday until September 1, 2023.



PLEASE NOTE: As of May 1, 2023 delivery charge will be \$10.00 within City of Calgary limits

We offer a discount if you return your seed bags (sorry—not the Mother Nature bags which we cannot re-use), suet ball containers, if you bring your own container to fill or use a bag from our re-cycle bin. This discount is in addition to any other discount offered.



Write a Google review on your experience at The Wild Bird Store, and as a thank-you, we will give you 100 customer loyalty points (\$5.00 value). To get a promo code, kindly email info@wildbirdstore.ca



(Please one Google review per customer)

Earn 200 customer loyalty points (\$10.00 value) by referring a friend, acquaintance or fellow birder.



Please visit the store to get a promo code

No need for a card just give your phone number.

You earn \$1.00 for every \$20.00 spent (sorry, excludes “sales” items, books, optics and consignment items) and can be used in-store and on Mobile Seed Truck. As a loyalty member, our monthly promotional and in-store “specials” are automatically given at the cash register.



Combining our Seniors 10% discount with the loyalty program (sorry—excludes “sales” items, books, optics and consignment items.)



Discount for membership 10% discount for members of Fish Creek Park, AIWC, Priddis Golf Club, Nature Calgary, Sandy Cross Conservation, Springbank Garden Club and Calgary Horticultural Society. Must present valid membership card at time of purchase.



Discount for Military Members & Veterans 10% discount on purchases in-store or on Mobile Seed Truck (sorry—excludes “sales” items, books, optics and consignment items)



*Staying
Connected* -----



5901 3rd Street S.E.,
Calgary, AB T2H 1K3

Monday through Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm

CLOSED Sundays and ALL Statutory holidays for Faith, Family & Friends

Phone: (403)640-2632

Web: wildbirdstore.ca
email: info@wildbirdstore.ca

Follow us on:

Facebook@thewildbirdstoreyyyc

Twitter@wildbirdstoreyyyc

Go to YouTube, type in the search bar "The Wild Bird Store" to watch our videos and to help us become more visible.
Be sure to click on "subscribe" before you leave the page.



The Wild Bird Store
Is the warranty & repair depot for:
Squirrel Buster® Bird Feeders
Aspects® Feeders
Droll Yankee® Bird Feeders

DROLL YANKEES®
The World's Best Bird Feeders®



SquirrelBuster®

WILD BIRD FEEDERS



And the warranty depot
for:

Leupold Binoculars & Spotting
Scopes

**DID YOU KNOW? EVERY
Tuesday is Senior's day.
Those who are 60+ receive
10% off**

**Sorry! Excludes optics, books,
cards & consignment items**

HAPPY BIRDING!