



Want to know when the Hummingbirds will arrive in Alberta? Track their migration on line. When they are two weeks away, put your feeders out (if the nights are still cold, you may have to bring the feeder in for the night and then place it back out in the morning.

www.hummingbirdcentral.com then scroll down "spring migration 2022"

Many Hummingbirds spend the winter in Central America or Mexico, and migrate north to their breeding grounds in the southern United States as early as February, and to areas further north, like Alberta, later in the spring.

Hummingbirds fly by day when nectar sources such as flowers are more abundant. Flying low allows the birds to see, and stop at food supplies along the way.

The first arrivals in spring are usually males.

FACTS When preparing sugar water for Hummingbirds: only use white granulated sugar. Never use brown sugar, honey, powders or food colouring in the solution. These may cause a range of problems including rapid bacteria and fungi growth and the potential spread of disease.

The list of potential predators is long and spiders can be above hummers in the food chain. Because Hummingbirds use spider silk to bind their nests together, occasionally while acquiring silk, they get tangled and the spider strikes back. The most common predator (for all birds) is domesticated cats. Other threats include: hawks, other birds such as Blue jays and Crows, snakes, bees, wasps, frogs and fish.

Hummingbird Sugar Water

1 part white granulated sugar to 4 parts clean, boiled water

Bleach Solution for Disinfecting

4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water

(make sure bleach is suitable for surfaces not just just for cleaning clothes)



Seminar



Creating A Mason Bee Habitat



Wednesday April 27, 2022 5:00pm THIS WILL BE A ZOOM PRESENTATION

Tickets: \$15.00 +GST +fee Tickets available at Eventbrite.ca

Ticket must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca and are non-refundable



Mason bee stacking trays: Made of environmentally friendly corn material that stack to create 30 nesting tunnels. Just the right number to start your Mason bee population. The Quicklock nesting trays have matching grooves. When paired and stacked, the trays form nesting tunnels. The stacking design makes cleaning and harvesting a snap. In the fall, simply pop the trays apart and gently slide the cocoons out of the exposed grooves.

Mason bee house: Chalet holds one 30 quick lock tray. Front door opens for easy cleaning and removal. When the door is closed a small hole protects bees from predating Woodpeckers, mice and parasitic wasps.

Condo model available. Holds six quick lock trays. Features a ledge at the top to place cocoon boxes.

Made of cedar and built in Alberta.



EASTER TRIVIA

Why are baby chicks and eggs a symbol of Easter?

Because baby chicks are born by hatching from an egg, they symbolize new life and fertility, which is strongly associated both with Easter and the spring season overall.



<https://www.meadowlarkbirding.com/>

Contact Meadowlark Birding Tours (403)519-8703

gmckinnon-bird@gmail.com

Set-Date Tours

Set-date tours are scheduled many months if not years in advance to maximize enjoyment and birding opportunities. The group size for these tours can range between four and ten participants depending on logistics, focus of the tour and location. These tours can be viewed and booked anytime through our website.

Calgary Day Trips

Calgary day trips are tailored to fit your exact needs and circumstances as well as your personal goals. Do you want to spend a day of targeting specific birds you need for your life list? Maximize the number of species? Or even just a casual stroll through a local park? All of these can be arranged to fit your preferences and schedule.

Since 1992 **Rocky Mountain Eagle Research Foundation (RMERF)** volunteers have performed annual raptor migration counts at the same site location in Kananaskis Country, Alberta, spring and fall; significantly providing data to the understanding of and amazement in watching Golden eagles.

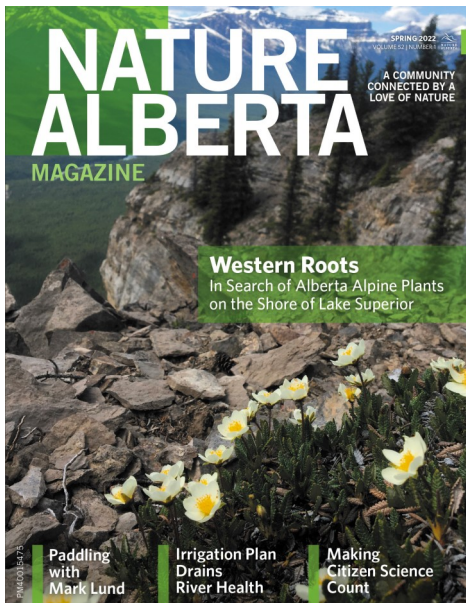


RMERF Daily Spring Count Has Already Started

Please join RMERF for the 2022 Spring Count from March 1st to April 22nd, 2022 with observers at the Mount Lorette site daily. This will be the 30th year of vigilant recording!

For more information and the Mount Lorette site Observation map, please visit:

<https://eaglewatch.ca>



The Wild Bird Store is pleased to announce that we will be carrying the print edition of NATURE ALBERTA May 2022 in our store. This is the only place in Calgary to get a copy without a subscription. Look for it in-store May 1st.

In the Spring issue of NATURE ALBERTA magazine, Alberta's waterways will be explored with paddling expert Mark Lund. Also, Biologist Lorne Fitch examines the strain irrigation expansion plans will put on southern Alberta's river systems. And the spectacular wildlife photography of Rick Price practically flies off the page!

As always, the Nature Kids section is filled with info and activities to inspire the next generation of naturalists!

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)



OPTIONS FOR SHOPPING AT THE WILD BIRD STORE

Face masks are mandatory for shopping in-store or on Mobile Seed Truck and social distancing is encouraged.

Limited number of customers in the showroom at one time.



Shop in Store



Curbside Pick up

Phone your order in and pay for it at least 2 hours 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

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



Bird Seed Truck



CROWFOOT YMCA/ARENA

(corner of John Laurie & Nosehill Drive NW)

Every Wednesday 2:00pm to 5:30pm

To ensure you get you want, please have your order in by 5:00pm on Tuesday and we will set it aside for you

Text us @ (403)701-4571 OR email us at orders@wildbirdstore.ca

Earn and redeem customer loyalty points on

Mobile Seed Truck

The Showroom is OPEN

To the general public with recommendations to continue social distancing when possible.

If you feel unsafe in shopping in our store, we would recommend that you take advantage of our other options for all your wild bird feeding needs such as:

We also offer these alternatives

CURB SIDE PICK UP: phone, place and pay for your order at least 15 minutes prior to your arrival at The Wild Bird Store. Please pull into the curbside parking stall, pop your trunk/hatch, phone (403) 640-2632 to advise of your arrival and a team member will come out and load your vehicle with your receipts attached. Payment can be made by Visa, Mastercard or e-transfer (Sorry! No cash)

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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.



Saturday April 2, 2022 MALLARD POINT (Fish Creek Park)

(9:00am meet at the East end of Canyon Meadows Drive East of Bow Bottom Trail)

Ticket price: \$6.00 +GST +fees

Ticket must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca—2022 WBS bird walks

Saturday April 16, 2022 Inglewood Bird Sanctuary

(9:00am meet at Inglewood Sanctuary 9th Avenue S.E.)

Ticket price: \$6.00 +GST +fees

Ticket must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca—2022 WBS bird walks

Saturday April 30, 2022 Griffith Woods (Fish Creek Park)

(9:00am meet at the parking lot 160 Discovery Ridge Blvd. S.W.)

Ticket price: \$6.00 +GST +fees

Ticket must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca—2022 WBS bird walks

Saturday May 14, 2022 Frank Lake Day Trip

(9:00am meet in parking lot at rear of Wild Bird Store). Approximately 5 hour trip—please bring lunch and water and dress for weather conditions

Ticket price: \$6.00 +GST +fees

Ticket must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca—2022 WBS bird walks

Spring Speaker Series

Andrew Barnes— Purple martin colony in Calgary

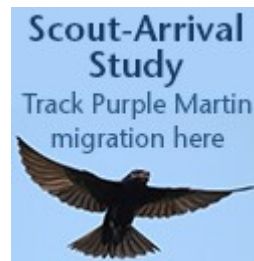
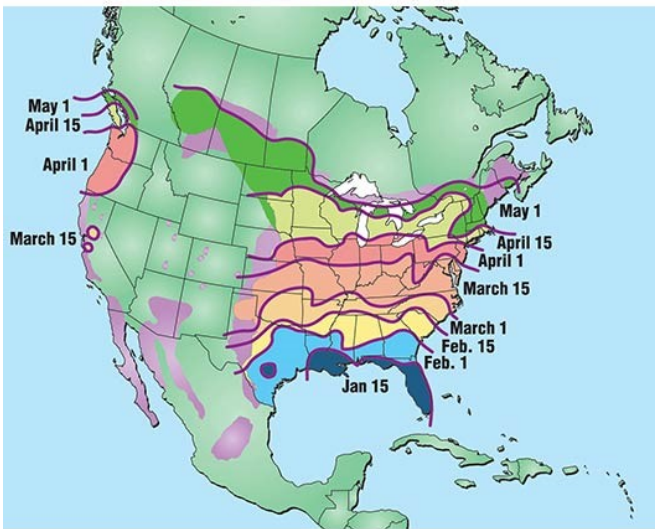
Wednesday April 6, 2022 6:00pm

Ticket Price: \$15.00 +GST +fees

Tickets must be purchased through Eventbrite.ca and are non-refundable

Andrew Barnes has successfully established a Purple martin house behind his residence in New Brighton here in Calgary. He has put considerable research and effort to have the first successful PUMA colony in Calgary in

80 years and the most southerly one in Alberta.



Interested in tracking the migration of Purple martins? Go to www.purplemartin.org and click on the icon “Scout Arrival Study”

Chris Fisher—How wild birds have helped our mental health during the Pandemic

Wednesday April 13, 2022 6:00pm

Ticket price: \$15.00 +GST +fees

Tickets must be purchase through Eventbrite.ca and are non-refundable

Chris delves into the popularity and importance wild birds have contributed to society’s mental health during these challenging times and will combine the topic with some local birding stories that have helped folks over the past two years.

Chris Fisher the best-selling co-author of popular field guide “Birds of Alberta”, filmmaker and television host shares inspiring storylines that connect audiences with skills that organizations value. Trained as a scientist and travelling the world as a lecturer, Chris explored and investigated universal strategies of success common to individuals, institutions and organizations.



QUESTION: My friends and I love feeding the birds, but lately we have had complaints from neighbours in our condominium stating that our hobby is responsible for mouse invasions in their home. What are your thoughts on this matter?

ANSWER: I am sorry to hear that you and your friends are getting grief from your fellow residents trying to blame mouse invasions on your bird feeding activities. I can tell you that whether one feeds birds or not, mice will always try to enter buildings to accomplish two things, that is getting out of the cold weather and looking for food sources. And I must honestly say, that finding mice inside one's domicile is not a good thing. In fact, we have had them appear in all three houses we have lived in over the last 30 years and I take them very seriously, basically resorting to killing them with snap traps, which are very effective. I do not think that halting your feeding activity will stop the mice from entering your condos. Here is what I would do. First, I would look for any kind of entry holes, however small and plug them up. Second, make absolutely sure that your feeders cannot be accessed by mice, by hanging them or putting them on poles with baffles to keep the mice from climbing up. Third, it is always a good idea to make sure that your feeders have seed trays installed on them to prevent seed from falling on the ground. Fourth, consider offering only sunflower chips so that no hulls fall to the ground. And think about using my favourite Squirrel Buster feeder, the one that offers shelled mixed nuts. Not only do the nuts attract lots of birds, they stay on the feeder longer, the nuts last longer, and there is no mess below the feeder. Fifth, sweep the area below the feeders often to remove debris tasty to mice and keep the lawn cut short to prevent the mice from hiding in the long grass. Sixth, store your seed in a mouse-proof container. I use a galvanized garbage can with a tight lid and I place a heavy rock on it to keep out the raccoons. And finally, try to sit down with your neighbours and calmly discuss how important feeding birds is to you in terms of enjoying life and try to understand their concerns too.

--- David M. Bird, Ph.D., Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology, McGill University www.askprofessorbird.com

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.



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FIDÈLE ET ROBUSTE.
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WWW.CANADAJAY.ORG

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 Conservation and Ellis Bird Farm.



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

For April and May 2022 your donations will go to:

Alberta Institute For Wildlife Conservation

www.aiwc.ca



ALBERTA WINTER BIRDS Horned lark

The Horned lark is the only member of the Lark family that is native to the new world. These birds return to their birthplace after every migration (a characteristic known as “philopatric”).



They are early nesters with nests found in February even in the colder climates.

A group of Larks has many collective nouns including “ascension”, “chattering”, “exaltation”, “happiness”, and “springul” of Larks.

In wintertime, flocks of Horned larks, often mixing with other birds of open ground, can be seen along roadsides, in feedlots, and on fields spread with waste grain and manure.

A nesting female conceals her location by leaving the nest stealthily and flying silently near the ground; she is reluctant to return while potential predators lurk nearby. If repeatedly flushed from her nest, she performs a distraction display, fluttering up and landing about a foot from the nest in a crouched posture with her wings spread, sometimes uttering soft distress calls. If she is followed, she walks rapidly away from the nest before flying.

On hot days, foraging individuals follow the shade of tall objects such as power poles and fence posts; females stand over the nest with wings held away from their bodies to shade the eggs or chicks from the sun.

Horned lark nestlings!

How sweet



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Calgary, AB T2H 1K3
Phone: (403)640-2632
Web: wildbirdstore.ca
email: info@wildbirdstore.ca

Monday through Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm
CLOSED Sundays and ALL Statutory holidays for Faith, Family & Friends
Showroom is open with some restrictions. We still offer curbside pick up
every day and delivery service on Thursdays

FOLLOW US ON:
Facebook@thewildbirdstoreyc
Twitter@wildbirdstoreyc

**PLEASE NOTE: As of
December 1, 2021 a \$6.00
delivery fee will be applied to
all delivery orders within the
City of Calgary.**

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.

Good Friday Friday April 15, 2022 CLOSED
Easter Sunday Sunday April 17, 2022



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®



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HAPPY BIRDING!