



CANADA



ALBERTA



CEDAR WAXWING

Only three species of waxwings exist in the world: The Bohemian of North America and Eurasia, Cedar of North America, and the Japanese of eastern Asia. The Cedar is a short-distance migrant, which breeds across boreal and northern temperate North America, and overwinters across the southern half of the continent and into Central America. Within this range, it moves nomadically in response to food supplies, and is an important and very effective seed disperser. Unlike most fruit-eating birds that regurgitate seeds, Cedar waxwings digest the entire fruit, and seeds are eventually dispersed in their feces. Breeding birds arrive in Alberta later than most summer migrants, their nesting phenology being closely tied to peak fruiting.

WHAT DO CEDAR WAXWINGS EAT?

In addition to the aforementioned berries and fruit (especially fruit from juniper and dogwood trees, as well as wild cherries, strawberries, and mulberries), Cedar waxwings will also eat certain flowers and drink their sap. In the summer, Cedar waxwings like to eat insects such as ants, beetles, mayflies, dragonflies and caterpillars. Young Cedar waxwings still living in the nest are mostly fed insects for the first few days before graduating to a more berry-heavy diet afterwards.

LOOKING TO ATTRACT CEDAR WAXWINGS TO YOUR BACKYARD?

These stylish birds are fairly common across Alberta but don't eat seeds, like other backyard birds, so they won't come to bird feeders. Instead, you'll need to plant native plants with small fruits like dogwood, serviceberry, cedar, juniper, hawthorn and winterberry.

FACTS

- Cedar waxwings with orange instead of yellow tail tips began appearing in the northeastern U.S. and southeastern Canada in the 1960s. The orange colour is the result of a red pigment picked up from the berries of an introduced species of honeysuckle. If a waxwing eats enough of the berries while it is growing a tail feather, the tip of the feather will be orange
- Building a nest takes a female Cedar waxwing 5 to 6 days and require more than 2,500 individual trips to the nest. They occasionally save time by taking nest materials from other birds' nest, including nests of Eastern kingbirds, Yellow-throated vireos, Orioles, Robins, and Yellow warblers
- The Cedar waxwing is one of the few North American birds that specializes in eating fruit. It can survive on fruit alone for several months. Brown-headed cowbirds that are raised in Cedar waxwing nests typically don't survive, in part because the cowbird chicks can't develop on such a high-fruit diet
- The collective nouns for a flock of Cedar waxwings are "ear-full" and "museum."

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THESE TEMPORARY
CHANGES IN 2025**

**As of January 6, 2025 The Wild Bird
Store will be closed on Mondays until
further notice.**

PLEASE NOTE:

**As of Thursday May 1, 2025 home
deliveries will be EVERY other Thursday.**

HOME DELIVERY SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF AUGUST 2025

Thursday August 7, and Thursday August 21

Location:

THE WILD BIRD STORE

Backyard Birding Specialists

GUEST SPEAKER



As an Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology of McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Dr. Bird has published close to 200 peer-reviewed scientific papers and supervised 50 graduate students on a wide range of wildlife themes, mostly on birds of prey and in more recent years, the application of UAVs (drones) to wildlife research and conservation. Until his retirement to Vancouver Island in 2013, he taught several university-level courses, including ornithology, wildlife conservation, animal behaviour, and scientific/public communication. Dr. Bird was recently honoured as a co-recipient of the Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award by the Society of Canadian Ornithologists for his role in the training and fostering of almost 1,000 ornithology students over a 35-year span. He has written and/or edited more than a dozen books, the most recent ones being the third edition of *Birds of Canada*, the second edition of *Pocket Birds of Canada*, and *The Canada Jay – A National Bird for Canada?*. Besides his innumerable public lectures and radio, television and newspaper appearances, Dr. Bird is a regular columnist/contributor on birds for two magazines, *Canadian Wildlife* and *BWD* (formerly known as *Bird-Watcher's Digest*). He is currently heading a national team to establish the Canada Jay as Canada's national bird.

www.canadajay.org --- please sign the petition to make the Canada Jay the National Bird of Canada!

David M. Bird, Ph.D.

Emeritus Professor of Wildlife Biology

McGill University, Montreal (currently residing in North Saanich, BC)

The Whole Poop and Nothing but the Poop on Bird Poop

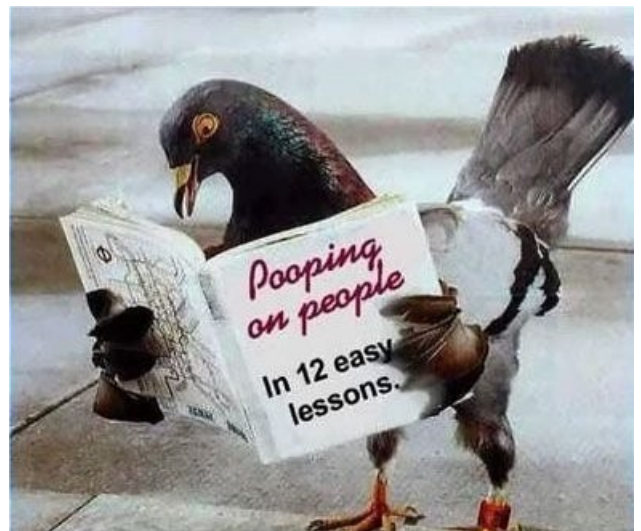
Ever wonder how that white splash on your newly washed car was made? Why one should not “French-kiss” a duck? Did you know that “cowbirds” really exist in the true sense of the word? Why do some birds eat rocks? Do some birds actually barf up their food on purpose? Would you drink coffee that came from a bird's butt? If you've got the stomach to hear the answers to these tasteless questions and many more on the disgusting food habits of birds, join Professor David M. Bird on a visual exploration of the avian digestion system beginning from the opening at the top to the one at the other end. It promises to be a gut-wrenching, *ad-nauseam* experience!

The Whole Poop and Nothing but the Poop on Bird Poop

Thursday, August 21, 2025 6:00pm

Ticket price: \$20.00 (+GST)

Tickets can be purchased on the Wild Bird Store website: www.wildbirdstore.ca and are non-refundable





Saturday Morning Bird Walks With

Jim St. Laurent

2025

Tickets for any of Jim St. Laurent's Saturday morning bird walks can be purchased on the Wild Bird Store website: www.wildbirdstore.ca

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 our website: www.wildbirdstore.ca

All participants on any bird walk must have purchased a ticket through our website: www.wildbirdstore.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.



We offer a discount if you bring your own container Or bag to refill (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.

FRANK LAKE (DAY TRIP) Saturday August 9, 2025

9:00am meet at back of Wild Bird Store and car pool—remember to dress for the weather, and bring water and lunch

Ticket price: \$7.00 (includes GST +fees)

CONFEDERATION PARK Saturday August 23, 2025

9:00am meet and park on Roselawn Crescent 1 block east of 14th Street NW (on north side of Confederation Park)

Ticket price: \$7.00 (includes GST +fees)



QUESTION: Do birds self-medicate in their food to prevent diseases and/or nutritional problems?

RESPONSE: Self-medication through diet has been documented in a wide variety of organisms ranging from tiny fruit flies and honeybees to bears and elk. As for birds, the phenomenon has only been documented in Macaw parrots up until 2022, when a team of scientists working together from various facilities in Madrid, Spain discovered self-medication in arguably the heaviest flying birds in the worlds. Great bustards can tip the scales up to 30 pounds but still manage to get their carcasses up into the sky! Sporting a

plumage with unique colours (more on that later), they breed in the grasslands from western Europe and northwest Africa to central and eastern Asia with more than two-thirds of the entire population calling the Iberian Peninsula home. Great bustards have now joined the ranks of Macaw parrots in seeking out certain plant foods to self-medicate against disease. They look for two plants in particular—two weed species called corn poppies and purple viper’s bugloss, which are also sought by humans for traditional medicine such as pain relief, sedation, and immune system boosting. For the bustards, both plants contain antiprotozoal and nematode worm-killing compounds, white purple viper’s bugloss also contains antifungal agents. Analyzing 623 poop samples from wild bustards, the Spanish research team found tissue from stems, leaves and flowers of 90 plant species. The two weed species were found in amounts more than expected in the birds’ diets, suggesting that they actively seek them out as food, particularly in the breeding season. My guess is that those males who actively find and consume these two useful plants, are more likely to be selected by females, perhaps through enhanced plumage colouration suggesting strong immune systems, but more research is needed to bear this out.

Corn poppy or “Flander’s poppy”



Viper’s bugloss



Great bustard



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.

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

ALBERTA OPEN FARM DAYS



For more information and maps, please visit:

www.albertaopenfarmdays.ca

2025 Theme

WATER: The lifeblood of every farm

PRESENTED BY  **servus**
credit union

Alberta Open Farms Days is an incubator for agri-tourism and rural sustainability. They bring Albertans together through educational and experiential agricultural-based initiatives to learn about where your food comes from. As well, some of Alberta's most talented chefs and rural communities will be hosting a memorable series of farm to table culinary events that will be held around the province using Alberta farm products.

COME MEET YOUR RURAL NEIGHBOURS

August 16 & 17, 2025



A HISTORY OF ALBERTA

Frankburg, Alberta—all that remains of this predominately Mormon settlement, founded in 1902 by Christopher H. Frank of Santaquin, Utah is the cemetery. An agricultural community, Frankburg was populated by farmers from surrounding areas. By 1905 the village had grown to include a church, church meeting house, post office and some fine homes. Early church records state all were doing well financially, but by 1931 due to poor crops and low prices several years in succession, most villagers were experiencing difficulty. Some people moved away, beginning a slow but steady exodus. Year after year crops were destroyed by heavy summer frosts, drought, hail and grasshoppers that plagued the “dirty thirties.”

In 1936 a farmer planted 150 acres of wheat and harvested just 22 bushels. A few courageous families tried to keep Frankburg going, but by 1935 most residents,

having lost their holdings and their homes, were forced to move elsewhere. Many moved to Rosemary, AB, and some moved to Calgary. By 1937 the church organization in Frankburg was dissolved. By 1945 Frank Lake had dried up and became a flat area of alkali dust. Sadly, all that remains of this pioneer settlement are the 47 graves of those who died forging a part of Alberta history.

Frank Lake, one of southern Alberta's “hotspots” for birding, was named after Christopher H. Frank.



RANGE RD 273, S OF HWY 23

Location:



Speaker Series

AMAZING AND COLOURFUL BIRDS OF BELIZE AND GUATEMALA



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 1ST 6:00PM

TICKET PRICE: \$20.00 + GST

**(Tickets can be purchased through the Wild Bird Store website
and are non-refundable)**

www.wildbirdstore.ca

Daniel Arndt's biography

Daniel Arndt is a wildlife biologist, photographer and wildlife tour operator based in Calgary, Alberta.

This presentation covers the amazing and colourful birds of Belize, with a brief excursion to birding in the nearby Mayan City of Tikal, in Guatemala, including photos taken on two trips in 2017 and 2020. Belize is a gentle introduction to tropical birding, with a variety of habitats, comfortable amenities, no language barrier, and many familiar species to North American birders.

Location:

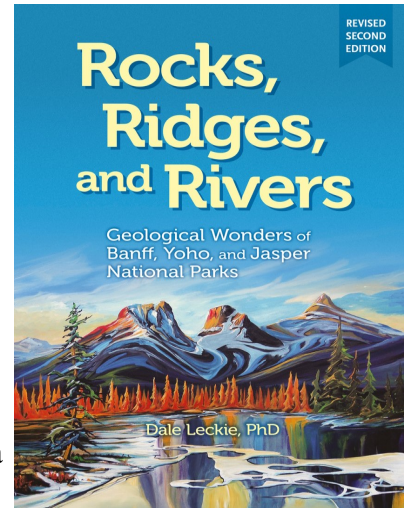


Speaker Series



Scenic Wonders of Canada's Mountain Parks – Exploring Banff, Yoho, and Jasper National Parks

Did you ever wonder how the spectacular Rocky Mountains came to be? Allow geologist Dale Leckie to guide you through one of Canada's most amazing UNESCO World Heritage Sites—the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks. Leckie tells the dramatic story of the Rockies, its rivers and valleys, glaciers and hot springs, caves and karst, mountain building, and erosion. This talk describes localities through Banff, Yoho and Jasper National Parks that travelers would be wise to seek. All the geological wonders can be seen from roadside pullouts or after short walks along well-maintained paths. With eye-catching illustrations and photographs, this talk blends storytelling with science, and natural beauty with easy-to-understand explanations. Dale will tell you what you need to know to experience and understand the geologic natural history of Canada's Rocky Mountain Parks, where more than half a billion years of history waits to be discovered. He answers your questions about features that make the Rockies such a profound destination, including Lake Louise—what geological processes created its turquoise waters? Miette Hot Springs—what makes the water so hot? Emerald Lake—how did glaciation create this body of water? Athabasca Glacier—what does this glacier tell us about ancient climate?



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8TH 6:00PM

TICKET PRICE: \$20.00 +GST

(Tickets can be purchased through the Wild Bird Store website and are non-refundable)

www.wildbirdstore.ca

Location:



Speaker Series

Calgary's Best Walks & the Joy of Walking

Lori's visual presentation celebrates the joy of exploring Calgary on foot and becoming a tourist in your own city. Through her writing and presentations, Lori entices us to become explorers, to rediscover our communities, to find surprise and delight in overlooked corners, and to slow down and truly see the place we live.



WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22ND 6:00PM

TICKET PRICE: \$15.00 +GST

(Tickets can be purchased through the Wild Bird Store website and are non-refundable)

www.wildbirdstore.ca

LISTEN to Lori's [CBC Homestretch walk series](#) with Jenny Howe (began July 7)
LISTEN to Lori's 2025 interview on the [CBC Eye Opener](#)
READ Lori's [Calgary Herald "Ode to Walking" article](#)
READ Lori's [Calgary Herald Walking Series](#)
WATCH Lori show highlights from Calgary's Best Walks (2025) on [CTV Morning Live](#)

Lori's biography:

Lori Beattie the author of *Calgary's Best Walks*, now in its 3rd edition, and *Calgary's Best Bike Rides*, and writes and chats about walking, biking, hiking and connecting cities on foot and by bike in monthly articles in the *Calgary Herald*, her walk series on CBC Homestretch and many years as segment host on CTV Morning Live. She is also the owner and guide of Fit Frog Adventures where she leads year-round Calgary walks, hikes, and snowshoe days. She presents to groups on the pleasure of self-propelled urban exploration, being a tourist in your own city, building communities through walking, and making Calgary feel like home, one step, or pedal, at a time.



Location:



Speaker Series

LOONS: TREASURED SYMBOLS OF THE NORTH

Tonight's presentation features award-winning author, wildlife photographer, and global naturalist Dr. Wayne Lynch, who will explore the biology and allure of the world's five loon species: the striking Red-throated loon, the look-alike Pacific and Arctic loons, the familiar Common loon, and the threatened, Yellow-billed loon. In his signature entertaining style, complemented by stunning photography, he will reveal the surprising lives of these captivating birds.

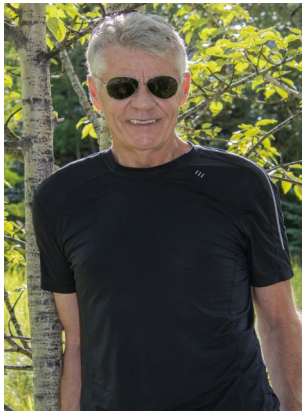
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29TH 6:00PM

TICKET PRICE: \$20.00 + GST

(tickets can be purchased on the Wild Bird Store website and are non-refundable)
www.wildbirdstore.ca

DR. WAYNE LYNCH BIOGRAPHYDY

Dr. Lynch is a Fellow of the internationally recognized Explorers Club and Fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America. Lynch lives in Calgary with his wife, Audrey Lang.



Recognized and respected as one of North America's leading wildlife and natural history photographers, Dr. Wayne Lynch has spent the last forty-six years capturing images of wildlife in places the world over. His impressive photo credits include hundreds of magazine covers, thousands of calendar shots, and tens of thousands of images published in over sixty countries. Lynch is also an award-winning science writer, a popular guest lecturer, and a veteran photo safari leader. His practical and entertaining approach to natural history, whether it be through the written or spoken word, has attracted the admiration of audiences worldwide. His books have often been praised as "a magical combination of words and images."

With an exceptional ability to write for both adults and children, Lynch is the author and/or sole photographer of more than 70 highly acclaimed natural history books including:

Windswept: A Passionate View of Prairie Grasslands

A Celebration of Prairie Birds

Bears of the North: A Year Inside Their Worlds

Owls of the United States and Canada: A Complete Guide to their Biology and Behaviour

The Great Northern Kingdom: Life in the Boreal Forest

Penguins of the World (2 editions)

Penguins! The World's Coolest Birds

Mountain Bears

Bear: Monarchs of the Northern Wilderness

Alligators: The Illustrated Guide to Their Biology, Behavior & Conservation (photographer)

Florida Manatee: Biology, Behavior & Conservation (photographer)

Polar Bears (photographer)

A is for Arctic: Natural Wonders of a Polar World

Planet Arctic: Life at the Top of the World

Ecosystem Series (Everglades, Sonoran Desert, Prairie Grasslands, Rockies Mountains, Arctic)

Our Wild World Series (Vultures, Hawks, Owls, Falcons, and Seals)

The Nature Babies Series (photographer—17 books)

The Critter Quiz Series (Babies, Houses, Teeth, Noses, Bottoms, Feet, Eyes, Tails and Tongues)

Wildlife for Kids Series (Wildlife of the Rockies, Wildlife of the Arctic, Wildlife of the Prairies, Bears, Bears, Bears)

The Wildly popular children's book The Scoop on Poop: The Fascinating Science of How Animals Use Poop

Location:



Speaker Series

Costa Rica:

An introduction to a neotropical birding paradise

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH 6:00PM

Ticket price: \$15.00 +GST

(Tickets can be purchased through the Wild Bird Store website and are non-refundable)

www.wildbirdstore.ca

Gavin McKinnon's biography

Gavin has had a passion for birding from a young age, which stems from a family trip to Point Pelee National Park on the northern shores of Lake Erie. Since then, Gavin has traveled extensively across Canada and the United States. He has also ventured farther afield and led tours in the Neotropics and Africa. After high school, Gavin attended Lethbridge College, where he studied Renewable Resource Management. Gavin enjoys sharing his knowledge and passion for birds, which led him to form his own company, Meadowlark Birding Tours, in 2022. Gavin lives in Calgary, enjoys birding locally, and is currently working on a new field guide to the birds of his home province of Alberta.





We have to admit: the rain we got on Saturday June 21st was a blessing , but we were very concerned for some of the waterfowl and shorebirds, especially the Eared grebe's who build their nests in shallow water and were in the midst of nesting.

So a return visit to where we had seen so many nests (over 35 of them in one pond alone) was warranted. Sunday, June 29th we ventured out and discovered most of the nests had survived and the males were frantically trying to replenish material to keep the nests dry and above water. We also discovered, to our delight, several pairs, both male and female carrying baby chicks on their backs. That is the most endearing sight to see and brought tears to our eyes. Babies have a hard life surviving to adulthood, but at least Mother Nature has given them a chance. Another great sighting that day, courtesy of "eagle eyes" Kris, was a Belted kingfisher—we have seen them before but never in Alberta. We waited around hoping he would take off and give his "rattle" call, but he was quite content to sit on his log enjoying dusk.

The hunt is on for a Pygmy owl—this is not an easy find. He/she is only 6 inches ! And Kris had spotted a Bobolink and wanted me to see it. We saw two males—no females but they may have been on the nests in the tall grass. The key for Bobolinks is to find an open field that is not harvested, so that the nests are safe from being destroyed while harvesting is being done. Also found (again with the help of "eagle eyes") a nest of Bluejays who were being instructed by their parents on how to find their own food. A Yellow-bellied sapsucker who visited (twice) a telephone pole while we were sitting by the side of the road looking for Pygmy owls and having a picnic dinner. It was a glorious evening—could have stayed out for hours, but the night was fast approaching and time for the night creatures to come out of hiding.

UPDATE: Friday July 11th trip to Drumheller:

Jan. Kris and I headed to the badlands—always a chance to see some new species. Jan and I added two new species to our lifelists; Kris added one. A Spotted towhee and a Brown thrasher for Jan and I. while Kris added the Brown thrasher. A trip definitely worth while, but then



Brown thrasher every birding adventure is a chance to celebrate the wonders of nature.

Spotted towhee



Did you know?



SENIOR'S DAY

Is EVERY Tuesday.

If you are over 60 you will receive 10%

Sorry! Excludes optics, books, cards & consignment items

HAPPY BIRDING!

If you are unable to make it in to the store on Tuesday for Senior's Day discount, then you can call the store anytime on Tuesday to place and pay for your order, and then you can pick it up later in the week at your convenience.

PLEASE NOTE: This is for customers who are currently signed up as a senior's day customer and applies only to in-store purchases.

The farmers of Alberta are finding new ways to grow their crops and it is so encouraging

By now the readers of this monthly newsletter, know the Wild Bird Store is passionate not only about birds, but about all the creatures and the environment. So when we discover something which puzzles us (especially Kris) we do our research and share with you, the reader, in the hope that you, like us, are encouraged by how people, in this case farmers, are searching for ways to save us all.

So we discovered these “field sheds” during a recent birding trip and had to know more. Kris seemed to latch on immediately that they had something to do with the alfalfa fields in which we had discovered them. Enter a google search and the following is our findings.

The structures (in the photos below) are in alfalfa fields, especially those that look like small sheds or shelters, are leafcutter bee shelters according to OSU (Oregon State University) Extension Service and beediverse.com. These shelters house leafcutter bees, which are used to pollinate the alfalfa, increasing crop yield. The shelters provide a safe place for the bees to nest and are often equipped with bee boards containing nest tubes. The sheds point toward the general direction of the sunrise so they warm up faster in the morning to help provide a wake-up call for the bees. The sheds are usually painted blue and white (but can also have symbols painted on them) because it is believed that the bees see them better and can find their way home a bit easier each evening.

SIDE NOTE: Weldon Hobbs, whose Dad helped found the industry in Western Canada run MR Pollination Services in Lethbridge. He has been involved with alfalfa leafcutter bee production since 1962. Not only are these bees used across the US and Canadian West to pollinate alfalfa see, they are increasingly used to pollinate other crops such as hybrid canola see, lowbush blueberries and cranberries. Weldon’s Dad, Gordon, helped start the alfalfa leafcutter industry in Western Canada, was a renown bumble bee researcher.

ABOUT THE LEAFCUTTER BEE: Are very effective at pollinating alfalfa because they don’t avoid the “tripping” mechanism of the alfalfa flower. When they land on the flower to collect pollen, the flower’s reproductive structure, called the keel, releases and hits the bee, often on the face, coating it with pollen. This pollen is then transferred to other flowers as the bee continues foraging, facilitating pollination.

Leafcutter bees are called such because the female bees cut pieces of leaves and flower petals to build nests for their young. They use these pieces to construct individual cells, or “cocoons,” where they lay their eggs and store food (pollen and nectar).

FOOTNOTE: Growers feel their seed yield can be increased by 30-50% using leafcutter bees. Alfalfa is a crucial crop due to its high nutritional value as animal feed, its positive impact on soil health, and its role in sustainable agriculture practices. It’s a versatile forage that benefits livestock, improves soil fertility, and contributes to environmental sustainability.



WHAT'S IN A NAME



SPOTTED TOWHEE



The Spotted towhee gets its name from the distinctive white spots on its wings and back, a key visual characteristic that distinguishes it from its close relative, the Eastern Towhee. A large bird, it is part of the New World sparrow family.

Both the Eastern and Spotted towhee were previously considered a single species, with the Rufous-sided towhee, but were then split into two distinct species based on genetic and physical differences, including the presence of these white spots. Although the Spotted towhee's call is more of a cat like meow, its song is similar to the "drink-your-tea" call of the Eastern towhee, which also influenced the name of the group as a "teapot". They are also sometimes called as a group a "tangle", reflecting their preference for dense, shrubby habitats.

DONATIONS

Located at The Wild Bird Store (near the seed bins). We collect your cash as well as "wishlist" donations and arrange for delivery of the donations to these organizations that we support.

For the months of June, July and August 2025 donations will go to Calgary Wildlife Rehabilitation.

**CALGARY
WILDLIFE**

Expert
Compassionate
Care



**Thank you
for your support**



OPTIONS FOR SHOPPING AT THE WILD BIRD STORE

In Store or on the Seed Truck



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, call the store (403) 640-2632, 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
To inform us when you place your order.

A minimum of \$25.00 (before GST) is required on ALL delivery orders

PLEASE NOTE:

As of Thursday May 1, 2025 home deliveries will be EVERY other Thursday.

Home delivery dates: Thursday August 7 and Thursday August 21, 2025

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)





ON LOCATION

Wildwood Community Centre (4411 Spruce Drive SW)

Every Tuesday 3:00pm to 5:30pm

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

Every Wednesday 2:00pm to 5:30pm

The Mobile Seed Truck is a mini version of The Wild Bird Store, and as such, we are limited to what we can carry. It is therefore, highly recommended that you place an order the day before the truck is to be at your desired location. This will ensure that when you come to the Mobile Seed Truck you get the items you need. You can place orders by emailing orders@wildbirdstore.ca or texting to

(403) 701-4571

onomatopoeia, words that imitate sounds, is frequently used to describe bird vocalizations. Common examples include “tweet,” “chirp,” “caw,” “coo,” “honk,” “squawk,” and “twitter.” Some bird names themselves are onomatopoeic, such as “Whip-poor-will” and “Chickadee.”

- ◆ **“Hoot”**: this sound is typically associated with owls
- ◆ **“Warble”**: this describes a more melodic, complex sound often associated with songbirds
- ◆ **“Cluck” and “Gobble”**: these are onomatopoeic for the sounds of chickens and turkeys, respectively
- ◆ **Bird names**: many bird names are also onomatopoeic, such as “Killdeer,” “Whip-poor-will,” and “Chuck-will’s widow,” as their names mimic their calls
- ◆ **Phrases**: some birds are even known for their calls that sound like phrases, such as the Barred owl’s “Who cooks for you?”



UNB researchers find 33-year-old puffin, marking a known record age for the bird

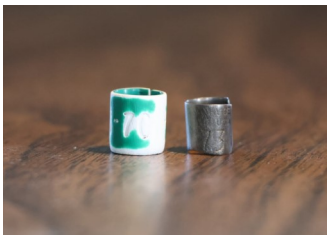
Researchers at the Atlantic Laboratory for Avian Research, through the University of New Brunswick, located the puffin born in 1992 on Machias Seal Island, located in the Gulf of Maine, with its original identification bands from over three decades ago.

The research team has been monitoring puffins and five other species of seabirds, including razorbills, common murrelets and Leach's storm petrels, on Machias Seal Island since 1995. Before that, Canada Wildlife Services had staff who lived on the island to oversee tourist landings, observe birds on the island and band puffin chicks.

While researchers today use two metal bands as identification markers, plastic bands were used for a couple of years after the research program began.

When a researcher spotted a puffin wearing a plastic band earlier this week, the team knew it must be very old.

They waited until dark, when puffins are more likely to be in their burrows, and then went searching.



[Isabelle Leger](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jul 10, 2025

Tony Diamond, a retired biologist who started the research program on Machias Seal Island, says he's excited about this latest finding. Diamond is pictured on the island banding a razorbill chick 20 years ago.



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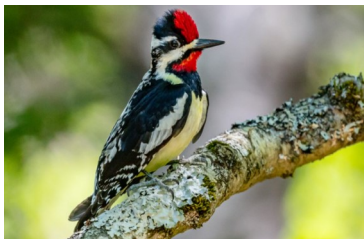
Monday, August 4, 2025

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.

How the Yellow-bellied sapsucker got its name:

These birds regularly drill ring-like rows of holes,
called "sap wells," into the wood of fruit and other
trees such as yellow birch and maple, and then
suck the sap (which may contain insects) the
flows from them.

The yellow-bellied refers to their pale-yellow
stomach. But how did the term "yellow-
bellied" come to connote cowardly behavior?
That question leads us down the proverbial rabbit-
hole, best left for another day.



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