



Earth Week 2020

Celebrate Rhode Island Native Birds



This Blackburnian Warbler is just one of the neo-tropical migrants that fly thousands of miles each spring to return to their nesting grounds in Rhode Island and beyond. They travel all that way to take advantage of the abundance of food that is here in the warmer months. What do they eat? BUGS!

Birds need your help to thrive! Keeping your cats indoors, limiting pesticides on your lawn, and planting native flowers and trees around your home can make a big difference. Try to identify birds in your neighborhood. Enjoy their beautiful colors, listen to their songs, and watch their intriguing behaviors. Birding is fun!

Share nesting materials with the birds!

Spring is the time when birds build nests to hold their eggs and young, so they are always on the look-out for good nesting material. Invite birds to your backyard by offering things they might use to create a nest.

Items to offer:

- Small sticks or twigs
- Dead grasses or leaves that could be woven
- Fluffy seeds or moss for cushioning

Items to avoid:

- Long pieces of string or hair
- Plastic of any kind
- Dryer lint

How to share:

- Put the materials on the ground in your yard using a small plate or tray. Use a rock to hold the plate in place.
- Re-use a mesh produce bag or thistle seed bag and hang it in the yard.
- Fill an empty suet holder with nesting material and hang it up.
- Keep an eye on your offerings to restock if necessary.
- Try to catch the birds in action!



Take photos of your nesting materials and tag us on social media.



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