



Songbird Station NEWS

Late Summer 2010

Stories • Specials • Events and More to Help Your Family Enjoy Birding!



Enjoy A Holiday with Nature

Each year as the holidays roll around, all of us look forward to time with family and friends. As I write this, we're looking forward to joining my sister and mom in the big town of Bunceton for their annual 4th of July celebration (mom is the Grand Marshall this year and boy do we have some "surprises" for her!!) But back to today, July 3rd, we decided to just relax and have a holiday at home. In past issues I've shared with you that we've gone totally "organic" on our new yard. We've done this successfully with the help of Jeff Zimmerschied, owner of The Lawn Company, and the Organica products he's recommended and are now sold and recommended at Songbird Station. My goal in sharing the next paragraph is not to brag, but to sincerely hope and help you enjoy similar moments in your yard! I'll share a few of my "fireworks worthy" nature moments today.

My first mission many mornings is to fill the live mealworm stake feeders I have scattered around our front and side yard. Like most mornings, Bluebirds and their recent fledglings eagerly welcomed me as I walked and filled the 4 separate stake feeders. Our 3 dogs, and the 3 dogs we were dog sitting for (my children's dogs including a new puppy), ran and rolled across the lawn. I felt good knowing that no chemicals were on this lawn that could harm Bluebirds or puppies! Thank you Jeff and Organica! A little later I decided my aging body could enjoy soaking up a little heat on our back patio. As I was relaxing in the sun I saw a flurry of movement out of the corner of my eye. A big Yellow Swallowtail seemed to linger forever on the Purple Coneflowers planted nearby as if to say, "Thanks for the

native plants and thanks for the chemical free yard!!" I don't want to belabor the point, but I'm overwhelmed by the Yellow Eastern Tiger Swallowtails, Spicebush Swallowtails, Monarchs, Copper Butterflies and more that are constantly on our yard now that it's "chemical free!" Not to be out done, Hummingbirds zipped in and out for a refreshing dip of nectar at the Dr. JB's and "Little Red Bird" feeders from Songbird Essentials I had nearby. I love how easy the Dr. JB's are to clean in the dishwasher, but I must say our Hummers also love the small "just the right amount of nectar for 4 - 5 days" Red Bird feeders which are also very easy to use (SEBCO312). With the Red Bird Window feeder we are able to enjoy Hummers



SE6002 Dr. JB's All Red

coming up to eat at our windows. Now to share the last heart stopping moment. The 3 Songbird Essentials Bluebird houses we've placed on our new yard have given us lots of enjoyment. One is too close to the woods, and while it has given us no nesting Bluebirds, we did enjoy a fledgling of Black Capped Chickadee. Now we are awaiting the hatching of a brood of House Wren babies. The other 2 houses were properly placed "in the open", and we're on our second brood of Bluebirds in both. I love my birds, but I must confess that taking care of our "customers" comes first. For that reason I had lost track of the age of the nesting in our house nearest the driveway. When I went out to fill a H. Potter feeder and birdbath (beautiful and loved by the birds) my heart skipped a beat. I heard a Bluebird



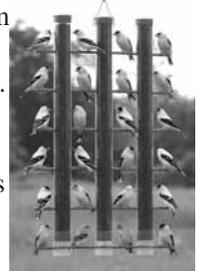
SEBCO312W Window Red Bird Hummingbird Feeder with Hanger

and when I looked to my right there was a male Bluebird and 4 babies. I instantly thought, "Gosh I missed it! The new babies fledged." Not thinking, I quickly went to the house and slowly opened one side door to peer in the plexiglass viewing side. Oops! I was wrong! The 4 new babies were still in the nest. The Bluebirds outside by me were their brothers and sisters from the previous nesting that had stayed around "as a good family would" to support and help mom and dad. We humans should remember to be so supportive.



SESCS3004RW Ultimate Bluebird House

I paused for a moment and said Thanks to God for allowing me to live in a country that allows us the freedom to enjoy a Holiday as we desire and for granting us the joys of nature to remind us there is "a plan" that we are part of. As I headed for the door, I looked up, and a Red Bellied Woodpecker was teaching a new fledgling how to search for food by grabbing sunflower kernels from our feeder and hiding them in holes in a dead tree we've left in the backyard. This is 2 years in a row now that I have witnessed that. (Several Goldfinches are crowding the 3 tube thistle feeder for bites of Finch Mix.)



SE324 Finche's Favorite 3 Tube Feeder

I hope all of you had a similarly joyous 4th of July and I encourage you to take a few hours to enjoy nature during the upcoming Labor Day holiday in your backyard. God Bless!
Bird Man Mel

P.S. Very soon we'll offer a "Chow Time Birdie Bell" I've been testing. Ring it and your Bluebirds, and others, will know "It's time for a gourmet meal of live mealworms - YUMMM!!!"

Fall is the BEST Time to Seed Spots or ALL of Your Yard!

Tips on Getting the BEST Results!

When we talk about a house having “curb appeal”, few things contribute as much as a beautiful home lawn. We can’t always control the quality of soil, but we can choose top quality grass seed, improve soil conditions and aid in seed to ground contact. When to Seed? In The Fall (late September, early October) is the best time to seed, but anytime 8/25 – 10/15 (depending on the weather) will work best. Fall planted grasses have both the fall and spring seasons to grow and mature before facing the summer heat. They also face less weed competition than those planted in the spring.

For mid Missouri we recommend a cool season grass, a good quality turf-type Tall Fescue blend. NEVER use K31, Perennial Rye or Bluegrass as Grub’s LOVE Bluegrass Blends. Additionally, look for good germination and NO weed-seed in the mix. We stock great seed mixes for central Missouri. Songbird Station stocks all products including the 5#, 20# and 50# bags of seed recommended by Jeff Zimmerschied, owner of Lawn Company in Columbia, MO. You should use (approx) four pounds of seed for each 1,000 square feet of lawn. Heavier seeding will not make up for poor-quality seed or poorly prepared seedbeds as it merely increases competition



between seedlings. To begin, VERY IMPORTANT, prepare the soil as best you can. When putting down grass seed in an existing lawn, mow the existing grass as low as possible. Do this either by bagging or mowing

multiple times. Mow slightly lower each time to prevent excessive grass clippings and rake before and after seeding to expose soil to better sunlight. Your soil surface MUST be clean. This will make it easier to identify the bare spots in the trouble areas. Loosen the soil in the bare areas, taking care to remove any weeds or other types of debris. Once prepared, begin the actual process of planting seed. For small areas, this can be done by hand. In larger yards, or when seeding a new lawn, it will be easier to use a mechanical seeder to evenly distribute the grass seed.

Again, the best time to seed is just ahead. Temperatures will have dropped a bit, making the seeds and new grass less likely to be scorched but your soil will be still warm. If it goes into winter in great, mature condition, it’ll come back that way in the spring. Planting seeds into an existing lawn make it somewhat harder to obtain good germination as seed/soil contact is often less. The key is to somehow increase the seed to soil contact. Most often for over-seeding, we recommend slightly higher seeding rates since a certain percentage of the seedlings are going to fail either due to competition from existing grass, or the inability to properly germinate due to

seed/soil contact problems.

After seeding, we suggest an application of Organica Plant Booster Plus 8-2-4 to assist in fall seed germination. Also, a very light covering of the soil keeps the seeds in place while still allowing the seeds to be warmed by the sun and retain moisture as you lightly water the lawn on a daily basis. We recommend a top-dress of 1/8-1/4” of screened soil or compost. Our #1 recommendation is top-dressing with Natures Blend Fine Compost w Manure, Alfalfa & Humate (we now have at Songbird Station). Never use straw as it blows, doesn’t break down, has weed seed and adds nothing to the soil. Also, with straw there are no soil benefits like you achieve with composts, and the one we recommend works to amend your soil, assists germination and soil contact (with weed-free exposure), with less seed. With a higher percentage of seed germination, you will be pleased with the results and get far more bang for your buck! Then, for the next 3-4 weeks, as much as possible, have no activity or mowing on this area. Just water it as is needed.



OB51828
Plant Booster Plus

To further expedite and maximize seed germination, consider applying a dose of liquid Organica Bio Matrix (Fertilizer and Microbes), liquid Flower Booster (Kelp), or a mixture of the two to the seeded areas. The sooner your seed germinates and matures, the better it holds up to the rigors of winter.



OB41101
Bio-Matrix

Depending on the soil type, watering may be required multiple times in order to keep the top inch or two of soil moist (not wet) for the seeds and seedlings (germinated seed plant) to grow. Natural rainfall is best for new seeding, but if the weather is dry, it is necessary to water for prompt germination. Again the sooner it germinates, the more time it has to mature. Watering in the morning works best.



Lastly, once your new grass reaches the height of 1” tall, apply an application of Organica Lawn Booster Corn Gluten to the areas to maximize soil and turf health. This limits weed germination in those areas for the following 6 weeks as your new grass is still developing (acts as a fall fertilizer). To prevent damage to your slower-starting permanent grasses, begin mowing when the tallest grass is 2 inches or taller.

Need more help or advice? Call, email or come see us. Make sure you take advantage of the below coupon.



10% OFF

Grass Seed - Natures Blend Compost - Organica LawnProducts

Coupon Expires 10/15/10



Creating a Tree-Mendous Backyard Haven for Birds

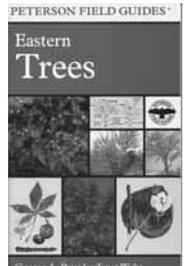
By: Grant Toellner

A common question most people ask themselves when they build a new home is “What trees or shrubs should I plant in my yard?” While trees and shrubs have many roles, they play a vital role in a wild bird’s life as they provide shelter, nesting sites, as well as food for all different species of birds. While different trees and shrubs are preferred by different birds, here are a few the Cornell Lab of Ornithology recommends as the best trees and shrubs to attract and help wild birds in your backyard. Fall is the best time to plant new trees and shrubs.

First, let’s talk about the deciduous trees our feathered friends like to hang around in. One species of deciduous trees the Cornell Lab of Ornithology recommends are Mulberry trees. Mulberries attract Robins, Finches, Grosbeaks, as well as other numerous birds because they are an excellent food source in the summer and they also provide nesting sites for many wild birds. Another tree wild birds like is the Flowering Dogwood. Not only is the tree beautiful with its white, pink, or red flowers in the spring, its scarlet berries provide an excellent food source for birds in the fall. Common birds that hang around this tree include Cardinals, Bluebirds, Thrushes, Catbirds and many other Songbirds. A last deciduous tree that is liked by wild birds is the White Oak. The White Oak, unlike many other Oaks, produces acorns yearly, which is an excellent food source for many of our larger feathered friends. Woodpeckers, Jays and other larger birds use the White Oak as a food source, as well as a place to nest and use for cover. American Bittersweet should be recommended as it’s berries soften and become less bitter in mid-late winter just when Bluebirds and other birds desperately need food sources. We’ll have some available again next spring at Songbird Station. (Reserve yours NOW!!!)

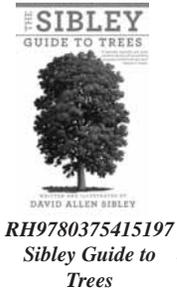


Now, let’s get into some coniferous trees backyard birds seem to love. One tree the Cornell Lab recommends is the Eastern Red Cedar. We’re lucky in Missouri that they grow like weeds. It bears blue, berry-like cones in the fall that are winter persistent that many birds such as Waxwings or Chickadees use as a food source. Another species of conifers that wild birds enjoy are Spruces. Spruces provide birds with shelter in the winter, as well as a food source in the spring. Its evergreen needles are a good source of insects, so migrating



PB9780395904558
Peterson’s Field Guide to Eastern Trees

Warblers forage among them while they are traveling through in the early spring. If you are looking for smaller shrubs to add to your yard that birds like, there are several to choose from. One smaller shrub they recommend would be the Nannyberry. Nannyberries have white flowers in the spring and produce red, yellow, blue or black berries. These berries are eaten by Bluebirds, Cardinals, Finches as well as other Songbirds. The Winterberry is another shrub that is liked by birds and is important to their survival, especially the birds which stay around in the winter. The scarlet berries it produces are one of the major food sources that the “year-round” birds depend on in the winter months. Two good books I would recommend with tons more information on trees would be Sibley’s Field Guide to Trees and Peterson’s Field Guide to Eastern Trees, we have both at Songbird Station.



RH9780375415197
Sibley Guide to Trees

Water - The #1 Way to Attract Birds

Year round, and especially in August, September and October, having a safe water source for birds is one of the best ways to attract the widest variety of birds to your yard. In fact, many birds that don’t readily come to a feeder will



SEWS60007
Copper Hanging Bird Bath

stop by for a refreshing drink or dip. The keys to providing water are to: (1) Make it safe!! Birds can’t safely use, and often thus avoid, deep pools or bird baths. For a Songbird to utilize a water source, the entrance to the water needs to be gently sloping and the surface should be no more than 2” deep. Better yet, if possible the surface should be rough to allow good footing. We do this on our Songbird Essentials Copper Hanging and Standing bird baths.



SEWS60008
Copper Standing Bird Bath

We’ve got a great new product as part of our Songbird Essentials line that makes deep water “safe for birds”, it’s the BirdBath Raft™. This patented floating disk exposes just the right amount of water (through holes that allows water in while

it still floats) for birds to use. You can use it in an old barrel, deep bird bath, flower pot, stock tank or anything else that will hold water. Folks have told us it also works great in Koi ponds and deep water features. Best of all we’ve been able to cut the price in half and it sells for just \$9.95!! (2) Make water move!! Moving water attracts 10 times more birds!! Something so simple as hanging a can or milk jug with a small hole in it that drips into a bath will greatly increase its use. Many of you have utilized “water wigglers” to move water - GREAT NEWS - There is now a solar powered water wiggler - No more batteries to worry about.



SE6017
Bird Bath Raft™



ALLIEDPR8WW
Solar Water Wiggler



Save 10%
on
Bird Bath Rafts & Solar Water Wigglers

Coupon Expires 10/31/10

Get Ready for Hummingbirds

The BEST Weeks of the Year for Viewing are Upon Us!

Each year many folks get frustrated because in July it seems like the Hummingbird population drops or they disappear. If that happened to you don't despair. As you read this newsletter, Hummingbird numbers are going WAY UP! Why? Each August millions of Hummingbirds start their big trip back to Mexico and Central America where they live over winter. Their annual pilgrimage is an instinctive migration path they've followed for thousands of years. Some Hummingbirds even fly over the 500 - 600 mile wide Gulf of Mexico as part of their yearly journey. This trip takes 18 - 22 hours, which is why Hummingbirds really tank up on nectar at flowers and feeders as they need to drastically increase their body fat.

The key to attracting Hummingbirds is to have up lots of clean - red feeders. As I stated on page 1, I recommend the Dr. JB's all red (SE6002) and the Little Red Birds (SEBCO312 & SEBCO312W) feeders. While red is the key to attracting Hummingbirds, we do not recommend using red nectar, as many of them contain harmful dyes (note: our Songbird Essentials red nectar gets its red color from carmine which is ground up bug shells). Having said that, it's important to remember that while Hummingbirds get their energy from nectar sources small insects are what they consume for vitamins, minerals and protein. That's why its important not to use insecticides on your yard if you want to attract maximum Hummingbird numbers. A side benefit is you'll also see more Butterflies!

Want to provide Hummers a banquet of delicious fruit flies they'll love and benefit from? You should gather up fresh fruit like bananas, peaches, etc. (instead of throwing away, composting) and put them on a plate. Then set the plate where its aroma and view doesn't bother you. Fruit flies will come and Hummingbirds and Butterflies will follow and say "Yum-Yum!"

If you're curious about how many Hummingbirds are coming to your yard, most experts say to multiply 5 times the number of Hummingbirds you can see feeding in the yard at any one time. That means if you see 20 Hummingbirds at one time - you have 100 in your yard that day. Note, when migration is at its zenith, many studies show that often each late summer day your yard is home to a completely new group of Hummers passing through.

One thing folks marvel at when they visit our home and see Hummers eating at the window is how Hummingbirds actually use their long tongues to draw in nectar. This proves the belief of Hummingbirds sucking up nectar with their bills to be incorrect. The reality is a Hummingbird will draw in nectar almost 12 times a second with their tongue. If you want to witness this incredible action come in for one of our great window feeders. Our number one seller is the Songbird Essentials Red Bird window feeder (SEBCO312W). Why? Its red color readily attracts Hummers, it's easy to clean and fill, its 8oz capacity is just about perfect and it's inexpensive. For the ultimate in viewing the new Aspects Jewel Box Feeder can't be beat. It's twice as high (\$24.95) but it has a clear basin, built in ant moat and raised perch to maximize Hummer viewing. Don't forget we even have a way to make a Hummingbird feeder from a soda bottle!!

Want to learn more about Hummingbirds? We stock and I suggest the following books and videos. We guarantee our price to be the best available!! In closing, don't forget that with Hummingbirds, water is a key way to attract and help them. Check out the H₂O info in the box. on this page!!

Geat ready for things to start "Humming" in your yard!! Enjoy the show!!



SE6002
Dr. JB's All Red Feeder



ASPECTS407
Jewel Box Window
Hummingbird Feeder



BWD532
Bird Watcher's
Digest Enjoy
Hummingbirds
(Just \$3.99)



STOKESHUM
Hummingbird
Book
(Great Photos!)



HC0062737422
Wildlife Gardener's
Guide to
Hummingbirds
(Great Plant
Photos!)



PB618024964
Hummingbirds
of North
America



STACKSP103
Wild Bird Guide
Ruby Throated
Hummingbird



AVVIDEO810220
Hooked On
Hummingbirds



AVVIDEO810725
Hummingbird
Beauty & the
Beast

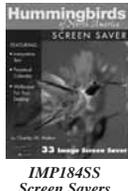


SE7019
Easy Mister

Hummingbird H₂O Facts

Hummingbirds enjoy a bath as much as any bird. They like to splash and bathe in trickling water. An easy way to attract and help Hummers (and other birds) with water, is to use one of our Easy Mistrs (SE7019). It goes on the end of a garden hose and only uses 1 gallon per hour. We even include a small "s" hook so you can easily hang it from a limb, yard crane or deck hook. While perching after bathing, Hummers often gyrate their wings making a spray that produces miniature rainbows. Bathing is an important part of Hummingbird hygiene. It facilitates oiling and preening. While Hummers are feeding on flowers, it is reasonable to assume pollen coats their bills, heads, throats and feathers, maybe even wing roots. Bathing serves to help remove the pollen and keep their essential feathers in top shape, which greatly contributes to their survival. On the same thought, feeders are believed to be cleaner for Hummingbirds than to feed from flowers. Providing a reliable, clean, moving source of water not only keeps birds healthier, it encourages them to reside and nest nearby. Check our article on page 3 for more water for birds info.

Great Gifts for Hummingbird Lovers



IMP184SS
Screen Savers



IMP52067M14
14oz Mug



IMP249SHS
Sticker Sheets



SWS12700100
Sweet Nectar Shopping
List



SWS12700164
Sweet Nectar Wall
Plaque



SEEK8510
Morning Visitors Memo Pad



IMP24PC
Hummingbird of N.A.
Photo Cube



IMP52116KZ
Kids Puzzle 40 pieces



SWS12700166
Sweet Nectar Cutting Board



SWS12700602
Sweet Nectar Nesting Boxes



SEEK6610
Morning Visitors Garden Flag

10% OFF

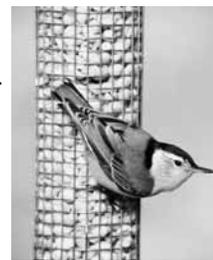
ANY Hummingbird Videos, Books or Gifts Shown on this page

Coupon
Expires
9/30/10

Talk About Living an Upside-Down Life

By: Grant Toellner

Everyone has heard the phrase “diving into something head first”, but not the Nuthatch! It’s a way of life! The Nuthatch gets its name from its unusual habit of jamming large nuts into tree bark, then whacking at them with their sharp bill to “hatch” out the seed from the inside. The White-breasted Nuthatch is the largest of all species of Nuthatch in the U.S. and lives here year-round. White-breasted Nuthatches have a black-capped head with a grayish-blue color on their back and a snowy white face and belly.



Even though their colors are distinguishable, a Nuthatch’s behavior is what sets them apart. Different from other birds, Nuthatches often turn sideways and upside-down on trees and limbs as they forage for food. Usually, Nuthatches will start at the top of trees and barrel their way head-first down while scavenging for food.

Nuthatches live and primarily can be found around mature woods and woodland edges, usually traveling with their mate. In the winter, Nuthatches join foraging flocks led by Chickadees and Titmice as another security source to look out for potential predators. One recent study found that when Titmice were removed from the flock, Nuthatches were more wary and less willing to eat at exposed bird feeders.

A Nuthatch’s main food source is insects like beetles and ants, but they are also regulars to most folk’s backyards. You



SEBQSBF4A
17” Silver Peanut Feeder

most likely will spot one snacking on a suet feeder, peanut feeder, or even a regular bird feeder because they also eat sunflower seeds. Some of the feeders I have had luck with and would recommend would be the Songbird Essentials Suet Log and any of the Songbird Essentials Spiral Peanut feeders. These make it easy for them to cling upside-down. For more information on Nuthatches and other Clingers, pick up a free Clingers tip sheet at Songbird Station.



SESCS407
Upside Down Suet Log

Kid’s Corner

By: Holly Seaver
Songbird Station Manager

What an exciting time to bring your children to Songbird Station! We have recently added to our Kid’s Corner many new products which are both educational and fun. Some of our new toys are “retro” toys that we adults actually may remember having played with, but they are new to our kids. It’s fun to see our children and grandchildren discover and play with the same toys that we did. We may just get caught playing with them again too.



Remember the wind up bugs that would spin, stop, tip over and keep going again? Or the critter cases? Yep, they are back and the kids are loving them. We have lots of new snakes, lizards, frogs, butterflies and bugs too.



Wind Up Toys

On a more educational side, we have new books, puzzles, card games and projects to build or design. You can build your own bird feeder or bird house and paint either one of them. How about painting your favorite pet a new collar, leash, or bowl? Everything you need is included in the sets so you are ready to sit and enjoy these projects with your children.



IMP144PLY
Birds North American Playing Cards

School will be starting soon and we now have umbrellas for those rainy mornings going to the bus or into school. Stop in and check out our frog, ladybug and Audubon umbrellas.



TS4045
Critter Case

The hottest trend since Beanie Babies, that kids of ALL ages want right now, is the shaped rubber bands. We have them available at Songbird Station in 5 different groups including forest animals, dinosaurs, and sea life. Many of our younger customers have been telling their friends that Songbird Station has them and they’re telling US that we have the best price in town! Just \$1.99 for a big pack of unique bendies.



TS2362
Reptile Sand Assortment

We’ve tried to pick out the “favorite new items” in the Kid’s Corner to highlight, and we couldn’t pick just one! One of our top picks this month is the kid’s puzzles. They feature larger, and more colorful pieces in wonderful groupings of Owls, Butterflies and Hummingbirds. What greater way for young children to learn about Birds and Butterflies than to have fun putting a puzzle together. A child’s curiosity is so amazing, and it is wonderful that we can extend that curiosity toward nature.



TS2307
Frog Umbrella

Another pick of the Songbird Station staff is the new binoculars for children from Toymith. Many parents and grandparents ask for a set of binoculars that children can use, but that are not too childish or too expensive. The 6x35 binoculars fit this need perfectly.



TS6917
Field Binoculars

All of us at Songbird Station are very passionate about helping children learn more about nature and birding. We always welcome questions from children, and invite you to go along on our field trips, sit in on some of our seminars, or simply color a bird picture in our Kid’s Corner. We welcome any suggestions you have for helping us help children enjoy nature and birds.



IMP52116KZ
Hummingbird Kids Puzzle



GiGi's Pet Boutique

By: Holly Seaver
Songbird Station Manager



Dog Days of Summer Are Here

The whole summer has felt like the dog days with all of our hot weather. We hope you have been keeping your pets cool and comfortable as well as yourselves. Here are some great products available at Songbird Station to help keep the animals cool and comfortable. The Handi-Drink portable water dispensers are great to take along on a walk or even a road trip. They are leak proof, spill proof, and come with a belt clip for your convenience. We carry the Handi-Drink in 3 sizes so you can choose which size will work best for you and your dog. Another great product is the Cool Bed. These beds are wonderful for dogs with arthritis, hip dysplasia, calloused elbows, or are just suffering from excessive panting. There is no electricity required, and they can be used indoor as well as outdoor.



KH1720
Cool Bed



Handi-Drink

Do you take your dog camping? Take along his or her own pet tent and shade shelter. They are waterproof, lightweight, easy to assemble and are easy to transport. Also, check out our crate fans and outdoor water systems.



KYOH00660
Pet Tent & Shelter

Mizzou Apparel

Fall is coming soon and that means Mizzou football season is here! While you are getting your favorite Mizzou apparel, don't forget some duds for your dogs. We have official licensed Mizzou collars, leashes, cheerleader dresses and more for your canine fans.



NEW Dog Toys

We have just received a shipment of new toys for your dogs. Check out the newest in the



KYPP02147
Puzzle Plush
Tough Turtle



KYPP02242
Penguin Egg
Babies

line of Puzzle Plush. Dogs love these interactive toys that are both challenging and entertaining. The two new additions are the Turtles and the Snakes. Your pets will love them. Some of our other "Best Selling Toys" are the Egg Babies. We have added two new toys to their line, and we encourage you to check out the Eagle and Penguin. They're sure to be a hit!

HuckEm's are a new aerodynamic toy that will provide lots of fun exercise in the park or backyard. We have Squirrels, Raccoons, and Chickens available now.



KYHE02189
HuckEm Squirrel
Large



KYPP02288
Squeaker Mat
Skunk

As long as we are talking about the "critters", we now have SqueakerMats in Foxes, Squirrels, Skunks and Raccoons. These durable toys have very natural colors and textures that attract dogs. Dogs show special interest in them and want to play with them.

Paws in the Park

If you are coming out to Paws in the Park on September 25th, stop by our booth and check out our new items. We would love to have the chance to talk to you and meet your pets. Paws in the Park is a great fundraiser for Second Chance and we are proud to be a participant.



20% OFF

Pet Life Jackets & Pools



Coupon Expires 10/31/10

20% OFF

All Pet Beds



Coupon Expires 10/31/10

1 Free Pet

Promise Shampoo

with the purchase of 1 new pet collar



Coupon Expires 10/31/10



Ask Bird Man Mel

Q. My Cardinals look horrible. Is there a disease going around?



Bird Man Mel
Owner of
Songbird Station

A. What a great question. What you're seeing are Cardinals going through "molt." This is when they shed their feathers and grow new ones. For a while even a stately Cardinal is a big, ugly, sickly looking bird. But never fear! They'll regain their former brightness. Do remember many males brighten up "just for mating season." Many, like the Goldfinch, are starting to dull up so they fade into more bleak winter landscapes and thus are not easy targets to predators.



Cardinal

Q. We live near a lake and frankly I'm tired of the "mess" that Geese have been leaving behind. Any way to keep them out of my yard?

A. You're in luck! We now have available at Songbird Station a product that is "guaranteed" to keep geese and their mess out of your yard. It's called "Away with Geese." It's a solar powered product that disrupts geese sleep patterns causing them to move to another pond. Try it - It works!! Away with Geese is available in floating and land mounted unit version.



AWGLAND001
Land Unit



Bluebird

Q. I'm not seeing as many birds at my feeders and I remember last year in September it seemed like some of them disappeared. What's up?

A. The reality is 2 things are happening as we go into September and October. (1) The lord has many seeds ripe and available then for birds as well as abundant insects; thus, your birds aren't as desperate for your offerings. (2) Many birds (Buntings, Grosbeaks, Warblers) will start migrating south to their winter homes. One trick I use to attract more of what's left, and encourage migrating birds to stop by, is to place a hanging tray feeder next to my water sources (all with moving water via pumps, water wigglers, etc.). I, and many people, have observed that open tray feeders, like our recycled plastic hanging tray, attract more birds faster. Why? Its open view makes them feel safe, it's not crowded and food is readily viewable. Every yard should have at least one hanging tray. I also use one on my deck for close viewing and utilize sunflower kernels as the seed offered with kernels I have "no mess." The birds eat every bite.



SERUBSPF400H
Large Hanging
Platform Feeder

Q. I've really enjoyed feeding and seeing my Bluebirds this summer. When will they leave for the winter?

A. Actually, many Bluebirds stay in Central MO. They tend to group together and to drift to the best sources of cover, food, and water within their groups ranges. Increase your chances of your yard being part of their wintering grounds by:

- (1) Continue to feed 'em. I offer both live mealworms and sunflower kernels in a spiral feeder (in winter Bluebirds will eat kernels from it) near my Bluebird boxes.
- (2) Winterize your boxes later this fall when it cools off and clean them out. Put a layer of dry grass in the bottom. Then use window sealing tape to seal the ventilation slots at the top of the box.
- (3) Keep a source of heated water nearby. Heated water in large bowls like those we offer from Allied Precision and Farm Innovators are readily used by wintering Bluebirds.



ALLIEDPR650
20" EZ Deck Tilt &
Clean Heated

Q. Are you having your fall seed sale - booking special this year?

A. You bet!! As of press time for this newsletter, it appeared that market prices were still dropping so we have not set the date or prices. Check with us. I guarantee we will beat any advertised prices on similar quality seed. We'll communicate our seed sale at the store, online at www.songbirdstation.com and via Tribune ads.



SEBQSBF4R
Peanut Red Feeder



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Cardinal Mix,
Singbird Finches
Favorite, Songbird
Select & Black Oil
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On Songbird Essentials
Recycled Plastic
Hanging Tray Feeder



Coupon Expires 10/31/10

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"We Help Families Enjoy Nature Together"

Check out the upcoming
Events at Songbird Station

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Field Trip to Grindstone Nature Area

Saturday, September 11, 8:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Join Songbird Station employee and bird expert Joe LaFleur for a free field trip to Grindstone Nature Area. Mid-September marks the peak of fall migration and the Grindstone area is a birding hotspot that offers a variety of habitats and trails for viewing birds. Joe is also the DVD author of the Better Birdwatching series of DVD's.



Identifying Common Birds in the Fall Season

Sunday, September 19, 2:00 P.M.

This seminar will help you learn to identify about 20 birds by sight and sound that are commonly found in the yard during the fall. Types of birds that will be covered include Hawks, Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers, Flycatchers, Swallows, Kinglets, Thrushes, Warblers, Sparrows and Orioles. The seminar will be led by Songbird Station employee and bird expert Joe LaFleur and will also teach you how birds are organized into different family groups to help us identify and understand them.



Paws in the Park

Saturday, September 25
5K starts at 9:00 A.M.

Join Columbia Second Chance for the 7th annual Paws in the Park 5K run/walk. Bring your four-legged friends and plan to stay for a day of fun for the whole family! Enjoy demonstrations, games, contests, adoptable animals from area rescues, and much, much more!



See all the Tigers action with
Sheltered Wings Optics!!



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you won't beat
our prices!!!



Try a pair of
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and easy to travel
with!

Coupon Expires 10/31/10

NEW Items at Songbird Station



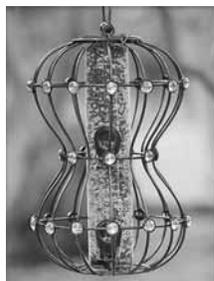
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PD26701
Scarecrow Bike
Spinner



EX80050
2lb Hourglass Feeder

Lindsay Phillips Shoes

Check out the NEW Styles that
JUST ARRIVED!!!



Show Us Your Bird Sightings

Send us photos of birds that you took while on vacation, taking a walk, or just for fun! Email or bring in to the store, and we'll post 'em to Facebook!



Don't Forget to Ask About Our Rewards Program!



2010 Chapel Plaza Court
"Between Clovers and Callaway Bank"
Open 24 hours www.songbirdstation.com

STORE HOURS
Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.