



September 2019

Songbird Station NEWS

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



Flight of the Hummingbirds

By: Tristan Palmgren

Though it seems to us like the weather has only gotten a little cooler, our hummingbirds sense a big change coming. They know that migration season is on us, and they've started to prepare. Some of them are already on the move. You may have already noticed changes in your yards as some of the hummers you've been feeding all summer have left, and that you have some new arrivals that have migrated from farther north.

Hummingbird migration is one of nature's most fascinating phenomena. When hummingbirds realize they'll need to migrate soon, they start bulking up for the trip. They know instinctively that they'll be expending a large number of calories soon, and they increase their energy consumption to compensate. Hummingbird nectar is typically made



**Songbird Essentials
Super Shaker Nectar
Maker**

at a concentration of four parts water to one part sugar (and this is as true for Songbird Essentials nectar mixes as homemade nectar). During migration season, we recommend

increasing that concentration to three parts water to one part sugar.

They need all that energy for a reason. Though some ruby-throated hummingbirds spend their winters in the very southern tip of Florida, the majority of those we see here in Missouri will cross the Gulf of Mexico to winter in Central and Southern America. Their journey will take them hundreds and hundreds of miles over the ocean in just twenty hours. And they'll do it all in one trip, as there are few to no islands for them to stop on. They'll traverse all this distance on wings that are just about an inch and half long, and that they need to beat forty to eighty times per second to stay aloft. It's no wonder they eat more before they go. Hummingbirds increase their body weight enormously before migrating, nearly doubling their pre-migration weight. They then expend nearly all of that crossing the ocean. It's one of the most arduous journeys any migratory species undertakes, let alone a species as small and vulnerable as the hummingbird. Imagine the toll on your body if, every year, you were to drastically increase your body weight and then expended of it in one concentrated burst of exercise. Hummingbirds are more adapted to these sudden gains and losses than our bodies would be, but it is still quite taxing on them. Hummingbirds have been migrating in this style for millions of years. Their lifestyle well predates human civilization.



**Songbird Essentials
Faceted Ruby
Hummingbird
Feeder**

If only for our mental well-being, it's important to remember that hummingbirds are not dependent on humans to survive. Our goal in feeding these birds is not to replace or micromanage an ecosystem, but to supplement it, and to encourage desirable and colorful visitors to come to our backyards. However, their migration does mean that the hummingbird's dietary needs change, and those of us who provide food for them need to be aware of that fact. The same hummingbirds that frequented your feeders in spring will be looking for something different, and stronger, at the end of the season.

The fact that hummingbirds not only survive this trip but have thrived as a species is one of the many traits that make them wonders of nature. Another trait is their fantastic memory and sense of geolocation. Not only do they migrate incredible distances, they can pinpoint specific locations, and return to the same backyards that they left months and months—and thousands of miles—ago. If you've been feeding hummingbirds regularly throughout this season, you can place a good bet that you'll see those same birds next spring.



**SE 8 oz Clear
Hummingbird
Nectar**



Dr. JB's Complete Switchables
Available in 16 oz., 32 oz., 48 oz.,
& 80 oz. capacities.



Look Inside



- Fall Open House
- Nature's Bounty / Mizzou Gear
- Wingman's Facts / Super Fall Seed Sale
- Family Time / SBS 24th Anniversary
- Kids Corner / Clean Up Your Act
- Q&A With Kevin
- Garage Sale / Photo Contest

Songbird
Station



Open House

Saturday October 26th
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Songbird Station

2010 Chapel Plaza Court, Suite C Columbia, MO 65203

Sidewalk Sale • Refreshments • Seed Sale • & More!

We invite YOU to our Fall Open House for a day filled with fun, educational opportunities and discounts! Refreshments available while you shop plus door prizes every hour.

When: Saturday, October 26th

Time: 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: Songbird Station, 2010 Chapel Plaza Court, Suite C Columbia, MO 65203

Local photographers have been working hard all year to capture the perfect shot of their backyard birds. Please view their wonderful photos and cast your votes in-store the week of October 21st - 25th during regular business hours.



2019 Songbird Station
Photo Contest Winners will be
announced at 2:00 p.m.



Get a jump-start on Holiday
shopping. Join us for a Sidewalk
Sale during our Fall Open House.
Deeply discounted products.



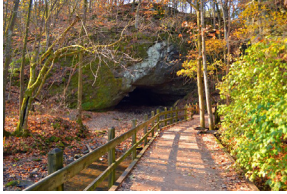
FREE Bird Feeder
Attention Kids! Show up in your
Halloween costume and receive a
FREE Bird Feeder.



Visit the Education birds of the
Raptor Rehabilitation Project in
store from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Nature's Bounty

By: Mary Douglas



Rock Bridge Memorial State Park

Fall is upon us with winter close behind. A stroll through local parks amid our autumn colors is always a delight this time of year. Take note of the abundant natural foods available for wildlife as you go. Seed heads heavy with seed will be bent over, acorns will be scattered about the undergrowth, and berries will be heavy on the stems. Native plants and trees you may find include Sunflowers, Serviceberry, Red Cedar, Wild Plum, Black Cherry, Oaks, Basswood, Beautyberry, Dogwood, Hawthorn, Sumac, Virginia Creeper, Coneflower, Liatris, Asters, Black Eyed Susan, Native Grasses, Winterberry, and others. Many of our native plants look like a weed, yet they are nature's grocery store for our wildlife. You will likely find some of these natural



American Beauty Berry

foods in your yard. Along with the wild food, fall provides leaf litter on the ground that is winter nesting material for birds, squirrels, and bugs. The Missouri Department of Conservation recommends leaving the native foods and litter where they are for the birds and critters. We can help our local wildlife by leaving and encouraging such native resources in our yards. Fall is the prime time to expand your native perennial plants either by division and replanting or by purchasing starts from local growers. Adding a reliable source of fresh water, such as a heated birdbath, and seed and suet feeders to supplement the wild harvest will attract and help support your local wild residents through fall and winter. Future benefits will show themselves in years to come.

Fall also brings the shortened daylight hours that triggers the migration of birds. September is often the month we see the most activity at feeders from migratory birds. Birders have



Songbird Spa

a great opportunity to take pictures in the fall as the birds offer unusual opportunities to see them as they move through on their way south. Cameras and binoculars are often in our pockets as we stroll about our parks. Songbird Station offers a wide variety of feeders, baths, and optics to meet your needs and budget.



Recycled Plastic Small Hopper Feeder

Utilitarian or decorative there is something for every bird lover, and a variety of seeds and seed blends for every bird species. Take advantage of Nature's bounty in the native plants, add a few strategically placed feeders, and use your binoculars to watch the show!



Crossfire 8x42 Binoculars

MIZ - ZOU Show Your Team Spirit!



Mizzou Double Sided House Flag



Mizzou Tigers Door Hanger



Mizzou Tigers Team Locker Ornament



Missouri Tailgate Frame



Mizzou Tigers Swizzle Sticks



Mizzou Tigers Bottle Suit



Tiger Wine Bottle Stopper



Mizzou Tigers Cooler Bag



Mizzou Stepping Stone



Mizzou Tigers Birdhouse

Wingman's Fun Feather Facts

By: Grant Toellner

5,000

Sunflower seeds originated in South America and were used by Native Americans more than 5000 years ago. Today, the leading producers of this popular seed are Russia, Ukraine, Argentina, and China. Make sure you don't miss out on the booking special currently going on at Songbird Station on the US produced black-oil sunflower seed

Sea Bird Pooh

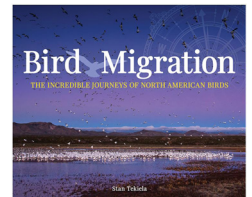
When most people here the word guano, they think of just bat poop, but in fact, the word "guano" has its roots in the Quechuan language and basically means "sea bird pooh". For the Incans it was so highly prized, that anyone that endangered the source of the stuff could be sentenced to death! Autumn is a great time to put up a bat house and Songbird Station has the best selection in town with most houses being made and produced right here in Central Missouri.



OBC Single Chamber Bat House

37,000 feet

Bar-headed geese are the highest-flying migratory birds, regularly reaching altitudes of up to five and a half miles above sea level while flying over the Himalayas in India. The bird with the record for the highest altitude however is the Ruppel's griffon vulture, which collided with a plane at 37,000 feet (seven miles) in 1975 and was unfortunately sucked into its jet engine. A new book from Adventure Publications called Bird Migration has some great facts on migration patterns of North American birds.



Bird Migration
By: Stan Tekiela

24 inches

The Tufted Titmouse only live in areas where rainfall is greater than 24 inches per year and are more common where rainfall exceeds 32 inches per year. I have great luck attracted titmice to my yard by offering seed logs from Pine Tree Farms. They really seem to enjoy the Nutsie log the best and there are a seed log variety of feeders available at Songbird Station.



80 oz. Nutsie Seed Log
from Pine Tree Farms



Nutty Treat
CS50559



Bag of 12 Ear
Corn
SEEC101

Super Fall Seed Sale

NOW Through November 1st!

Buy Now and Save!

"Super Clean" Black Oil Sunflower Seed40 lbs. \$14.95
Nyjer / Thistle Seed.....20 lbs. \$24.95
Songbird Essentials Mixes.....\$1.00 off on 20# or 40#
C&S Nutty Treat Suet (Case of 12).....\$9.95
Ear Corn for Squirrels - Bag of 12 LARGE Ears.....\$2.99

Q. We can't make it in, can we still order?

A. Yes! Call your order in to 573-446-5941 or email
Tristan@songbirdstation.com

All we need is your order and a credit card number!
Come in and pick up your order during the month of October
OR when you need it! We'll store it through February 2020!

**Super
Clean
Seed!**



40# Black Oil
Sunflower Seed
SESEED137



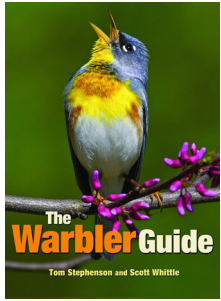
20# Nyjer/Thistle
Seed
SESEED141

**Mixes
specially
formulated
for Central
Missouri!**

Warblers

Family Time

By: Kevin Alferman



The Warbler Guide
By: Tom Stephenson
& Scott Whittle

Welcome to the wonderful world of Warblers. Did you know that 37 species of warblers migrate through Missouri in the Spring and Fall? Fall viewing can produce some rewarding looks at the colorful and artistic patterns of warblers, however they don't come easy. Most warblers are secretive, hiding among the foliage. They feed actively, primarily on insects, so it seems like right when you're ready to get a good look, it moves. But keep trying, because when you do get a good look it's really worth it. In general, warblers are tiny (smaller than sparrows, slightly larger than a goldfinch) and their beaks are short and pointed. Common species that breed in Missouri include Northern Parula, American Redstart, Prothonotary Warbler, Ovenbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellow Throat and Yellow-Breasted Chat. Uncommon breeding warblers include Blue-Winged, Yellow-Throated, Yellow, Pine, Black and White, Prairie, Cerulean and Worm eating. Common migrating warblers include Tennessee, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Green, Blackpoll, Palm and Wilson's. Uncommon migrating warblers include Orange-Crowned, Nashville, Chestnut-Sided, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Bay-Breasted, Mourning and Canada. WHEW! As if that's not enough, an additional 6 species wing through as rarities. Want to learn more – Check out “The Warbler Guide”.



Warbler

Species Spotlight - Yellow Rumped Warbler



Yellow Rumped Warbler

The Yellow-Rumped Warbler is one of the most abundant warbler species throughout the country. In Missouri they are abundant migrants from Early October through November, with their numbers reducing through December. A few even stick around through the winter! They spend the summer breeding in Canada and high mountains. Look for them in the higher portions of trees in your yard. Locate them by listening for their often repeated short call (sounds like “check”). It is a well named species because the yellow rump is a good field mark. It look like a pat of butter was placed above the base of the tail, giving them the illustrious nickname “butterbutts”. Also look for the white spots on the black tail (especially visible in flight) and the yellow patches on the flanks. Color patterns and markings are bolder on the male. The male's body has an overall bluish-gray look, while the female appears more brownish. This species is separated into two subspecies and both migrate through Missouri. The Audubon race is the western variety and has a yellow throat. The white-throated Myrtle race breeds mostly in the eastern U.S. and Canada.



Pine Tree Farms
Insect Suet Cake

Attracting and Viewing Warblers



Backyard Essentials
Floaring Leaf Solar
Birdbath Bubbler

Warbler migration peaks in mid-September so now is the time to get ready for them. Birdbaths, especially with moving and noisy water, are a great way to get warblers in the open for a nice look. Ground and elevated birdbaths also work well. The simplest way to things moving is the Solar Powered Birdbath Bubbler (pictured) that can be easily inserted in any type birdbath. Despite being insect eaters, there are some good food options for attracting Warblers. Many species make occasional visits to suet for the high energy beef fat, especially varieties that include insect and fruit. HAPPY HUNTING!



Backyard Essentials
Floaring Solar Birdbath
Bubbler



24% OFF

Take 24% off ANY 1 (one) product.

Coupon must be presented to receive discount. Can not be combined with any other offers. Excludes seed, suet and already discounted items. Coupon Expires 9/30/19.

KIDS CORNER

Fun Facts About Bats:

- Did you know bats have a thumb and four fingers just like you?
- Bats are mammals! They are the only mammals that can fly (without an airplane)!
- There are over 1,000 species of bats and they can be found in forests, deserts, jungles and cities!
- Bats are nocturnal which means they feed at night and sleep during the day in caves, tree tops, or the bat house in your backyard.
- Did you know that baby bats are called "pups"?
- Bats only have one baby at a time. On occasion a bat may have twins.
- Bats have the best hearing of all land mammals.



Clean Up Your Act

By: Kevin Alferman

Keeping feeders clean is an ongoing part of feeding the birds and will keep the feeders looking good and minimize the spread of disease. They should be cleaned as needed, but you should plan to clean them at least every two to three months. If you notice sick or diseased birds visiting the feeders, it's time for a cleaning to stop it from spreading. If seed gets wet and moldy in your feeder, be

sure to disinfect the feeders as the mold can be harmful to birds. The cleaning task is typically an outdoor activity, so your schedule should include cleaning in November before it gets too cold, then again in February when it starts to warm up. A 10% bleach or vinegar solution is best for cleaning because it effectively disinfects the feeders. Be sure the feeders are thoroughly dry before refilling as these solutions are non-toxic once they dry out. Fill up a large container like a trash can, with the solution and submerge your feeders. If you have the time this is a good method to clean all of your feeders at once. Let each feeder soak for a few minutes as the scrubbing will be easier. The Songbird Essentials birdbath and feeder cleaning brushes are specifically designed with long sturdy bristles to clean all of the nooks and crannies. Use one of our many shapes and sizes of bristled bottle brushes to clean tube feeders. While you're at it, dump out the bird bath and disinfect it too. Be sure and dump as much water out of the feeders and baths as you can and place them in the sun to dry. For stubborn cleaning jobs use a product like Poop Off that is specially designed to remove bird droppings. Remember to pick up a bottle of Birdbath Protector that helps minimize algae growth and mineral and sludge deposits.



SE Best Long Brush



Songbird Essentials Birdbath Brush



Songbird Essentials 4 oz Bird Bath Protector



Poop-Off Bird Remover 32oz.

10% OFF

ANY Songbird Essentials Cleaning Brush

Coupon Expires 10-15-19

SE605

Q & A with Kevin



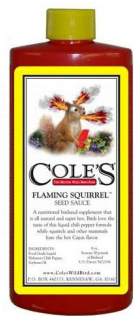
Kevin Alferman
General Store Manager



Songbird Essentials
Clear View Hopper
Window Feeder



Songbird Essentials
17" Yellow Spiral
Finch Tube Feeder



Cole's 8 oz.
Flaming Squirrel

Q. Should I feed the Wild Birds in the fall?

A. After feeding the birds throughout the winter, many people take down their feeders in the spring. Some people take them down in early summer. Others don't take them down at all and continue to feed year round. I am one of those who choose to feed year round, especially as we start moving in to fall. By feeding in fall we are helping resident birds build fat reserves for energy once they begin their migration. Did you know that by feeding a reliable food source that birds are likely to return to the same place in the spring? Another reason why I enjoy feeding this time of year is that I have the chance to attract the first winter bird species to my yard and encourage them to remain nearly all season.



Songbird Essentials
Hanging Platform
Feeder

Q. I enjoy watching the bird's close-up out my window in the morning, but the mess that's left behind from the seed is so unsightly. What can I do?

A. The answer to this is found in the type of seed you feed. Our #1 selling seed at Songbird Station is Hearty Hearts, which is basically just the nut meat of the Black Oil Sunflower without the shell. We like to refer to this as a "NO WASTE" formula. We also offer a Shell-Free Deluxe mix which consists of Hulled Sunflower Meats and Chopped Nuts. Both of these will draw many birds to your feeder and provide hours of enjoyment.



Songbird Essentials
Clear View Open Diner
Window Feeder

Q. Are the Goldfinches still here? I don't see their bright yellow flashes at my feeders any longer?

A. The goldfinches are still here – the American Goldfinch follows this pattern. Beginning in September, and continuing for six to eight weeks, they molt all of their feathers, ending up with a completely new and pristine set of feathers (and drab colors) as they head into winter. While on the subject of goldfinches..... Have you tried the Yellow Spiral Finch Feeder (pictured left) from Songbird Essentials? This feeder is by far my favorite as it has 18 feeding ports to attract many more birds than the traditional tube feeder, birds love to run the spiral! This feeder is also very easy to clean and can be filled from either end. Pick one up today from Songbird Station and let me know what you think.



Songbird Essentials
20# Hearty Hearts

Q. I enjoy watching the antics of the squirrels in my yard, but they sure know how to empty a feeder! What can I do to keep them away from my bird feeders?

A. There are several things that you can do to help curb this problem. The first thing you can do is add Flaming Squirrel Seed Sauce to your seed mix. This product is intended to make the seed not so tasty to the squirrels due to the hot and spicy flavor, but don't worry Birds do not have saliva glands and therefore can't taste the heat. You can also set them up their own feeding area away from your bird feeders and treat them to Squirrel's Referral which consists of Corn, Black Oil Sunflower, Peanut Pieces, Whole Peanuts, Grey Striped Sunflower and Pumpkin Seeds. One more suggestion is purchasing a squirrel resistant feeder such as Squirrel Buster by Brome Bird Care, they guarantee it to be squirrel resistant!



Brome Bird Care
Squirrel Buster
Classic

20% OFF



Songbird
Essentials
Spiral
Feeders

SEBQSBF2C

Coupon Expires 10-15-19



20% OFF

Songbird
Essentials
Window
Feeders

SE6002W

Coupon Expires 10-15-19



10% OFF

Songbird
Essentials
Squirrel
Defeater Seed
Feeder

SE980

Coupon Expires 10-15-19

20% OFF



Deluxe Suet Cage
with Copper Roof
(SE104) with the
Purchase of 2
Large Seed/Suet
Cakes

SE104

Coupon Expires 10-15-19

2010 Chapel Plaza Court
Suite C
Columbia, MO 65203
573.446.5941
www.songbirdstation.com

and 1600 Bassford Drive
Mexico, MO 65265

PRSRT STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 157
MEXICO, MO 65265

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



NEWS

Songbird Station

"We Help Families Enjoy Nature Together"

Join us for our Fall Open House

Saturday, October 26th

11:00 am - 2:00 pm Photo Contest

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm MU Raptors

Sidewalk Sale • Refreshments • Door Prizes

World's LARGEST Bird Seed, Feeder, House & Accessory Sale

Songbird Station Warehouse Sale
Saturday, October 19th, 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
in Mexico - 1600 Bassford Drive 65265

Tons of bird feeders, houses and baths.
Including Home Decor, Wine/Beverage Lovers Items & Christmas
Items! PLUS - SUPER SEED SPECIALS - Cash & Carry!!

**Many items are simply in "damaged boxes,"
are overstocks or discontinued lines.**

Sale!

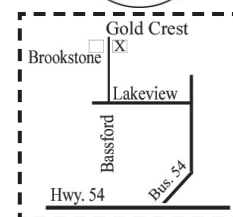
\$2 - \$5 - \$10 - \$20 TABLES!!

**ALL Items
AT LEAST
50% OFF!**



Directions:

From Columbia go east on I-70
to US 54. Take 54 north to the
first Mexico exit (Bus. 54 North).
Turn left on Lakeview (by the
Presbyterian Church). Turn right
on Bassford.



CAST YOUR VOTE!

Local photographers
have been working hard
all year to capture the
perfect shot of their
backyard birds.
Please view their
wonderful photos
and cast your votes
in-store the week of
October 21st - 25th
during regular business
hours.

PHOTO CONTEST



Prizes:

1st \$100.00 Gift Card
2nd \$75.00 Gift Card
3rd \$25.00 Gift Card

Do you enjoy capturing photos of your backyard
friends? We'd LOVE to feature your high quality
photos in our 2020 Songbird Station Calendar!
Submit your entries now through October 1, 2019
via email to kaylee@goldcrestdistributing.com

Submission Period

January 15, 2019 - October 1, 2019

Exhibit & Voting

October 21, 2019 - October 25, 2019

Open House

October 26, 2019 11am - 2pm

Contest winners will be announced at
2pm

2019 Contest Details

We invite our customers to come to our
stores to view the winning pictures that
will be on display for the next year.



Songbird
Station

If you would like to receive our newsletter via email and help our
environment in the process, please email kaylee@songbirdstation.com
with the email address you want us to send your newsletter to.

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