



# BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

Volume 29 Issue 3 | May/June 2022

ALL SEASONS  
WILD BIRD  
STORE

*Serving Sweets*

+ Hummingbird & Oriole Picks  
+ Seasonal Notes



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## BLOOMINGTON

816 West 98th St.  
(Clover Center)  
Bloomington, MN 55420  
**952.884.4103**

## EAGAN

2143 Cliff Rd.  
(Cedar Cliff Shopping Center)  
Eagan, MN 55122  
**651.459.0084**

## MINNETONKA

4759 County Rd. 101  
(Westwind Plaza)  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
**952.935.5892**

## WHITE BEAR LAKE

2703 East Cty. Hwy. E.  
(Cty. Rd. E. and Hwy. 120)  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
**651.653.8705**

## WAYZATA & WILD BIRD DELIVERS

15710 Wayzata Blvd.  
(394 Frontage Rd.)  
Wayzata, MN 55391  
**952.473.4283**

## WILDBIRDSTORE.COM

*Bird's-Eye View* is published to share the joy of backyard birds with All Seasons Wild Bird Store's customers and friends.

## PRODUCT SUGGESTIONS

By Minnetonka Manager CAROL CHENAULT

# Hummingbird & Oriole FAVORITES

## ORIOLE FOODS



Orioles typically are not seed eaters. They prefer mealworms, grape jelly, nectar, oranges and dark grapes.

Our stores stock **(A) BirdBerry Jelly**, an all-natural grape/blackberry mixture for orioles with no preservatives and no high-fructose corn sweetener. We also have **live and (B) dried mealworms**, as well as several types of easy-to-use **(C) oriole nectar mixes**.

**Tip: Fill your cup feeders with mealworms at the same time every day, such as 6am and 6pm. The orioles will learn when to expect food to be present and will perhaps learn to defend the feeders from other birds.**

## PRODUCTS TO DEFEND NECTAR FEEDERS



Hang your hummingbird and oriole feeders from an **(D) ant moat**. Filled with water, it provides a barrier to keep ants from getting into the nectar or jelly. Add a drop or two of cooking oil to slow evaporation.

A new product that we're really excited about is **(E) Hummingbird Bee Repellent**. It's a spray-on deterrent that's full of all-natural ingredients that bees can't tolerate, but hummingbirds and orioles like. Spray it on the feeder in a sweeping motion in a light coating. Frequent reapplication is not necessary. The eco-friendly mix contains eucalyptus, peppermint, geranium and cinnamon oils in distilled water and citric acid.

Paint **(F) Nectar Fortress Natural Ant Repellent** in a line around a feeder pole or along a window sill (for a window feeder). The cinnamon and palm oil prevent ants from crossing and climbing into the feeders.

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## Skiping Spring, Straight to Summer?

**Prepare for summer birds, even when spring seems sluggish.**

As I write this, I'm wondering if spring will actually arrive this year?! It's April 18th and we just had ANOTHER snowfall. Every year is unique, but this is becoming a little absurd. It truly makes me appreciate how adaptable Mother Nature's flora and fauna need to be. Needless to say, I know that by the time this article is in your hands or on your screen, we'll be talking about the arrival of some of my favorite spring migrants: the glorious hummingbirds and orioles. **Get those nectar and jelly feeders out!** And even if you don't happen to feed the hummers and orioles, we've put together some great seasonal tips in this issue to help you maximize your birdfeeding experience and find greater joy and beauty in your backyard than ever before. Our staff knows their stuff and would love to share their time-tested opinions and experiences with all of you. We love our beautiful birds!

*~Dave Netten*



### Worry-Free Guarantee!

We want our customers to have a worry-free experience with every purchase. If you're not completely satisfied with *any item* purchased from our store, simply return it to us for an exchange or refund. **No worries . . . ever.**

### Join the Conversation!

Instagram: AllSeasonsWildBirdStore

Facebook.com/WildBirdStore

YouTube: tinyurl.com/d9ezs4rm

### Share your photos!

Share your photos for our in-store displays and Facebook page! Send digital files to: carol@wildbirdstore.net

#### ORIOLE FEEDER PICKS



##### (G) Droll Yankees Classic Oriole Nectar Feeder

This inverted-style feeder has a 16 oz.-capacity glass bottle and three bee guard nectar ports. A glass twist bottle design interacts with light for unique reflections.

##### (H) Oriole Fest Nectar/Cup Feeder

This saucer-style feeder does it all! Fill the base with nectar, then use the four small depressions in the lid to place jelly, insect suet pellets, and/or dried mealworms soaked in nectar. Fill the built-in ant moat with water and a drop or two of cooking oil

to prevent ants from getting to the food. If ants aren't a concern, thread an orange half on the center rod of the feeder.

##### (I) Recycled Double Cup Oriole Feeder

This feeder provides two cups for serving jelly and live mealworms as well as two spikes for attaching orange halves.

##### (J) Oriole Flower Feeder

An attractive addition to the feeding station, this feeder features a cup to fill with grape jelly or mealworms and spikes to spear a couple of orange halves.

#### HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS



##### (K) Best 1 Hummingbird Feeder

This perennial staff favorite features a glass nectar bottle with an easy-to-clean base. The base keeps the nectar right at the level of the port even as the feeder empties. The eight nectar ports are too small for a bee or wasp to enter.

##### (L) Ruby Sipper

This window-mounted feeder rests on a stainless-steel hideaway mount with two strong suction cups. Provide several of these 5 oz.-capacity feeders around your

home to attract more hummingbirds and reduce territorial behavior.

##### (M) Hummer Fest

The red translucent top of this saucer-style feeder removes easily for cleaning and filling and includes a built-in ant moat. The four feeding ports are shaped to deflect rain. This feeder holds 8 oz of nectar and comes with a small port-cleaning brush. ■

*Product selection may vary by store.*



# SWEET *Treats*

According to the book, *Feeding Wild Birds in America: Culture, Commerce and Conservation*, people have been serving fruit to birds in one way or another for over 100 years. Our American ancestors served apple slices, moistened raisins, and brought branches full of berries into their yards to attract birds such as American Robins, Northern Cardinals, Blue Jays, Gray Catbirds and Swainson's Thrushes.

In the 1990s, serving fruit and nectar to birds began to gain in popularity once again. Feeders for serving orange slices, jellies and nectar solutions became available, delighting a new generation of backyard birders by attracting a variety of colorful summer migratory birds.

## Why serve fruits, jellies and/or nectar?

These are all sources of simple sugars, nature's source of quick energy. Sugar helps to fuel spring migratory birds' long journeys to their summer breeding grounds. Energy-depleted birds landing in or passing through our backyards prefer these quick energy sources when they first arrive, and will continue to supplement their diets throughout the summer with sugar sources to fuel their nesting activities.

## Not just orioles and hummingbirds.

While feeders serving orange slices, grape jelly (or Birdberry Jelly) and nectar are the best way to attract Baltimore Orioles to your yard, you may be surprised to see a number of species enjoy these offerings, including American Robins, House Finches, Gray Catbirds, Cape May Warblers, Northern Cardinals, Scarlet Tanagers and Red-bellied Woodpeckers.

Likewise, nectar (ie. sugar water) feeders are the best way to attract Ruby-throated Hummingbirds to your yard, but you may also see visits from Baltimore Orioles, Gray Catbirds and Black-capped Chickadees to hummingbird feeders.

## Plan ahead for protein.

Activity at jelly and orange feeders tends to decrease as migratory birds transition from quick energy needs to feeding nestlings. Plan for this shift by offering live or dried mealworms in one cup of a two-cup oriole feeder. Having a source of insect protein will help ensure your sweet-loving birds continue to visit throughout the summer.



Top row: House Finch, American Robin. Row 2: Cape May Warbler (photo: Mark McCauley), Red-bellied Woodpecker. Row 3: Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Orioles. Row 4: Female Baltimore Oriole, Gray Catbird.



# Seasonal Notes

By Minnetonka Manager CAROL CHENAULT

## May: WEEK BY WEEK



1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ May 1st: Sunrise 6:02am, sunset 8:18pm. Average high temp is 69.2°F. Average low temp is 49.9°F.</li> <li>✓ Early May sees the return of <b>warblers</b>, <b>Scarlet Tanagers</b>, <b>Rose-breasted Grosbeaks</b> and the continued return of <b>orioles</b> and <b>hummingbirds</b>.</li> <li>✓ <b>Robin</b> eggs hatch and <b>Blue Jays</b> and <b>Northern Cardinals</b> incubate eggs.</li> <li>✓ Leopard frogs, American toads and chorus frogs vocalize.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Discourage birds from fighting their reflections by covering windows with landscaping cloth and side mirrors of cars with plastic bags.</li> <li>❑ Put out at least two <b>bird houses</b>—one for chickadees and one for wrens. Place the chickadee house out of direct sight of the wren house to keep the peace.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mother's Day is May 8th—perhaps a hummingbird or oriole feeder?</li> <li>✓ <b>Warbler</b> migration is at peak with 21 species on the move.</li> <li>✓ <b>House Wrens</b> and <b>orioles</b> are very vocal now.</li> <li>✓ <b>Robins</b> feed nestlings. <b>Gray Catbirds</b>, <b>Indigo Buntings</b> and <b>Scarlet Tanagers</b> arrive.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Spare the dandelions and save the bees! Dandelions are an essential food source for honey bees and pollinators.</li> <li>❑ Use calcium-rich <b>suet</b> during egg-laying season, such as <b>Pacific Bird and Supply Co. suet cakes</b> and MN-made <b>Woodpecker Products Suet Plugs</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Orioles</b> build nests.</li> <li>✓ <b>Red-eyed Vireos</b> arrive and begin singing in the forest.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tip:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Change nectar in hummingbird and oriole feeders every three days. Use liquid or powder nectar with <b>Hummingbird Feeder Fresh Nectar Defender</b> already added to keep your nectar fresh longer—it's great to use at the cabin when larger-capacity nectar feeders will be unattended for a week. Do not use Kool-Aid, honey, or artificial sweeteners in nectar feeders.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>Orchard Orioles</b> return, plus <b>Common Nighthawks</b>, <b>Eastern Kingbirds</b>, <b>Least Flycatchers</b> and <b>Eastern Wood Peewees</b>. The arrival of the Eastern Wood Peewees means spring bird migration is coming to a close.</li> <li>✓ <b>Loons</b> incubate eggs.</li> <li>✓ <b>White-throated Sparrows</b>, <b>Chipping Sparrows</b> and <b>Winter Wrens</b> call. <b>Common Grackles</b> fledge.</li> <li>✓ <b>Wood Ducks</b> jump from nest boxes around Memorial Day into the first week of June. 8am is a good time to watch nest boxes!</li> </ul>



## June: WEEK BY WEEK

1st Week	2nd Week	3rd Week	4th Week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Meteorological summer starts June 1st and astronomical summer begins June 21st.</li> <li>✓ <b>Cedar Waxwings</b> build nests.</li> <li>✓ Young <b>Red-tailed Hawks</b> are ready to practice flying.</li> <li>✓ Great bird sounds and songs are music in the air, including <b>Song Sparrows</b>, <b>Warbling Vireos</b>, <b>House Wrens</b> and <b>Common Yellowthroat Warblers</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tip:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Cardinals have difficulty eating from a cage-style feeder, but will feed their young <b>dried or live mealworms</b> offered from a dish-style feeder.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Sunrises between June 10–20 are the earliest of the year.</li> <li>✓ Luna moths flutter near lights.</li> <li>✓ <b>Orioles</b> feed caterpillars to their young and are especially attracted to mealworm feeders while they have nestlings.</li> <li>✓ Dragonflies are numerous and devour mosquitoes.</li> <li>✓ <b>Eastern Wood Peewees</b> call.</li> <li>✓ <b>Purple Martins</b> hatch.</li> <li>✓ Fledgling <b>Downy</b> and <b>Hairy Woodpeckers</b> come to feeders with the adults.</li> <li>✓ Adult <b>Canada Geese</b> and <b>Trumpeter Swans</b> begin to shed flight feathers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tip:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Prevent just-fledged juvenile birds from hitting windows by applying <b>decals by WindowAlert</b>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Mid-June to mid-July is the best time to see the 15 species of fireflies in Minnesota.</li> <li>✓ June 19th is Father's Day and Juneteenth. Looking for a gift? Home Delivery or Feed and Fill Service are great choices!</li> <li>✓ <b>Robins</b> sing around 4:30am and call for 40 minutes after sunset.</li> <li>✓ June 21st is the official astronomical first day of summer and has the most hours of daylight: 15 hours, 36 minutes, 50 seconds.</li> <li>✓ Many birds fledge—<b>House Wrens</b>, <b>Song Sparrows</b>, <b>Blue Jays</b>, <b>cardinals</b> and <b>orioles</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ For a safe and healthy birdbath, add <b>Bird Bath Protector</b> to a just-cleaned bath.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ The first monarch butterflies of the new generation take wing. Swamp milkweed begins to bloom.</li> <li>✓ Waterfowl are flightless now as they molt.</li> <li>✓ <b>Common Nighthawks</b> feed in the evening sky.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tips:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Hang a new <b>Best Nest Builder</b> to provide nesting material for goldfinches.</li> <li>❑ Found an injured bird? Contact the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center at 651-486-9453. <a href="http://wrcmn.org">wrcmn.org</a></li> <li>❑ Found a baby bird? Watch our short video to see if intervention is needed: <a href="http://bit.ly/32YY7e3">bit.ly/32YY7e3</a></li> </ul>

