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# BIRD'S-EYE *View*

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*A winter Northern Cardinal.*  
*Photo by Jason Farrow*

## 2025: *Through the Lens* Weekly Holiday Gift Specials Seasonal Notes

### WEEKLY HOLIDAY SPECIALS

By Guest Contributor **KATRINA HASE**

## *Share the Joy* of Feeding Birds

*Bird feeders make thoughtful gifts for bird and nature enthusiasts. This December, we're featuring weekly specials on our most popular feeders and products—perfect for seasoned birders or new backyard naturalists.*

### DECEMBER 1-7:

**\$10 off any Brome bird feeder.**

Brome Bird Care is known worldwide for designing high-quality, durable, and innovative feeders. Their Squirrel Buster® line of feeders are trusted favorites that combine clever engineering with dependable performance.



*Squirrel Buster® feeders: Classic, Evolution, Finch, Legacy.*

Models such as the *Buster Classic*, *Evolution*, *Finch*, *Legacy*, *Mini*, and *Plus* are built with chew-proof materials and patented weight-sensitive mechanisms that close access to seed whenever a squirrel tries to feed. Easy to take apart and clean, and backed by Brome's lifetime care guarantee, these feeders are a gift that bird lovers will appreciate for years.

### DECEMBER 8-14:

**20% off all Mr. Bird products.**

Mr. Bird seed cylinders, bells, and cakes are customer favorites for their convenience and irresistible



**Mr. Bird compressed seed cylinders, cakes and bells are simple to use.**

appeal to wild birds. With no waste and no mess, these products make bird feeding simple and rewarding. Pair them with the *EZ Feeder*, which holds both small and large seed cylinders, for a gift that's as easy as it is thoughtful. Popular cylinders such as *Flaming Hot Feast* and *Wild Bird Feast* provide hours of bird-watching enjoyment.

*Continued on page 2...*

## Thank You, Sue: Honoring 16 Wonderful Years

It's with both joy and a little sadness that we share some big news—our Ridge Square Store Manager, Sue Penk, will be retiring at the end of 2025.

Sue first joined us back in June of 2009 as a part-time sales associate at our Wayzata store, and it wasn't long before her natural warmth, customer care, and knack for leadership shined through.

In 2016 she became Store Manager, and ever since, she's been a steady hand guiding the store through changes big and small.

Over the years, Sue has been part of so many important moments — from leading her team through a store move to stepping up and managing our Store-to-Door Home Delivery service. She's been an incredible leader, a wonderful teammate, and above all,

a friendly face that so many of our customers have come to know and love. Her dedication has helped shape our little family business into what it is today.

As Sue heads into retirement to spend more time with her growing family and grandkids, we know she'll be dearly missed — by us, by her coworkers, and by all of you who have had the joy of getting to know her.

On behalf of our entire family and the All Seasons Wild Bird Store team, thank you, Sue, for all you've given us. We couldn't be more grateful, and we wish you nothing but the best in this next chapter.

—  
Dave Netten,  
Co-owner, All Seasons Wild Bird Store



**Sue Penk (second from left), with retired Wayzata Manager Melissa Block, KSTP's Belinda and Bobby Jensen, and Dave Netten in 2020.**

**“I heard a bird sing in the dark of December. A magical thing. And sweet to remember.”**

—from Oliver Herford's short poem "I Heard a Bird Sing", first published in his collection *The Bashful Earthquake and Other Fables and Verses* (1924)

### WEEKLY HOLIDAY SPECIALS (continued from page 1)

#### DECEMBER 15–21:

**\$5 off any hummingbird or oriole feeder.**

Bring the wonder of nectar feeders into someone's life. Hummingbirds and orioles dazzle with their color and activity, making nectar feeding a delightful choice for those who may not be able to serve seed, such as apartment dwellers. They're also a wonderful introduction to bird feeding—perfect for new homeowners eager to welcome nature into their backyards.



**Recycled Oriole Feeder, Oriolefest, Jewel Box Window Feeder, Best-1 Hummingbird Feeder**

Nectar is simple to make with sugar and water, and orioles can be drawn in with a dollop of grape jelly. Favorite options include

the 32 oz *Best-1 Hummingbird Feeder*, *Aspects Jewel Box window feeder*, *Oriolefest* nectar feeder with bee guards, and *Green Solutions recycled oriole feeder*.

#### DECEMBER 22–28:

**\$5 off any suet feeder over \$20.**

Suet feeders are among the easiest and most effective feeders for attracting birds. Just slide in a suet cake—or suet plugs for a birch log feeder—and enjoy the show. Woodpeckers from Downy and Hairy to Pileated are frequent visitors, along with chickadees, nuthatches, and more. These feeders make excellent gifts for anyone who wants a low-maintenance yet highly rewarding way



**Recycled Double Suet Feeder, Large Suet Log Feeder**

to attract birds. Popular picks include the *Recycled Double Suet Feeder* with tail prop and the *birch log suet feeder*.

#### A GIFT FOR YOU, TOO!

**For every \$100 you spend (after discounts), you'll receive a \$10 gift card to use on a future visit.**

Holiday shopping at All Seasons Wild Bird Store comes with its own rewards. It's our way of saying thank you for sharing the joy of bird feeding this holiday season. ■



# A Year in *Birds*

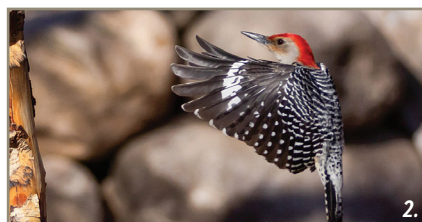
## Customer-Captured Bird Moments from 2025

Each season brings its own rhythms and surprises to the natural world, and for those who pause to notice, birds offer some of the most memorable moments. Sometimes it's the thrill of seeing a species for the very first time, other times it's a familiar bird revealing something new—a flash of behavior, a tender gesture, or simply its presence in an extraordinary setting. The year's changing scenes invite us to look more closely, to appreciate more deeply, and to celebrate the joy of sharing these discoveries with one another. ■

1. Indigo Bunting *Bob Metzger*
2. Red-bellied Woodpecker *Scott Knight*
3. Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Roger Williams*
4. Yellow-rumped Warbler *Peter Fruehling*
5. Barred Owllet *Terri Zuehlke*
6. Bald Eagle *Scott Knight*
7. Green Heron with fish *Scott Knight*
8. American Goldfinches *Lorinda Karageorgiou*
9. Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Audrey Manka*
10. American Bittern *Richard Gotz*
11. Great Blue Herons *Russ Sandstrom*
12. Baltimore Oriole *Larry Hollar*
13. Black and White Warbler *Mary O'Neil*
14. Cedar Waxwing *Bob Berlute*
15. Blue Jay *Gail Conley*
16. Northern Flicker juvenile *Andrew Schlick*
17. Great Horned Owl *Trina Greene*
18. Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Rena Langowski*



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18.



16.



# November & December

*Find tips and seasonal updates online!*  
instagram: @allseasonswildbirdstore  
facebook.com/allseasonswildbirdstore  
youtube.com/@allseasonswildbirdstore

**Many species of ducks, geese, shorebirds, and swans migrate** in a V- or wedge-shaped formation. This drafting pattern allows the birds to fly farther with less effort by traveling in the wake of the preceding bird. November brings large migrations of waterfowl.

**Prevent flocks of migrating Red-winged Blackbirds and Common Grackles from eating all your seed:** switch at least one feeder to Golden Safflower. They find it less appealing than black oil sunflower mixes, but finches, cardinals, and chickadees love it.

**White-throated and Fox Sparrows can often be seen feeding on the ground beneath bird feeding stations.** Help them out by offering Finches' Choice or White Millet directly on the ground.



**Fill heated birdbaths with cold water to reduce evaporation.** Cedar Waxwings and American Robins may visit, though they rarely use seed feeders. Sprinkling dried mealworms under bushes is another way to attract these species.

**European Starlings, in their winter plumage of black bills and speckled feathers,** may visit feeders throughout the season. Use Bye-Bye Starling, Golden Safflower, upside-down suet feeders, and Nyjer® feeders to enjoy other birds while discouraging starlings.

**Northern Flickers may join other woodpeckers at suet feeders** in winter. They eat suet cakes, suet pellets, and dried mealworms.



**By the third week of November,** snow cover typically persists through winter, and ponds and smaller lakes usually freeze.



**Nyjer® feeders may attract Pine Siskins, redpolls, House Finches, Purple Finches, and goldfinches** (now in dull winter plumage). Keep feeders full of fresh seed and shake them periodically to loosen frozen seeds. These birds also flock to heated birdbaths.



**Blue Jays are entertaining to feed.** They cache peanuts in preparation for colder weather. Offer in-shell peanuts in a peanut wreath or fly-through feeder. Red-bellied Woodpeckers enjoy peanuts as well.

**December 1st marks the start of our coldest stretch of the year,** with more than 15 hours of daily darkness. Combat winter blues—daily encounters with birds can improve well-being, enhance relaxation, and strengthen feelings of connection to nature.

**Use weather guards over tube feeders and EZ feeders** for compressed seed cylinders to keep seed dry.



**Black-capped Chickadees, nuthatches, Downy Woodpeckers, and Hairy Woodpeckers** may roost in well-insulated birdhouses or roosting boxes for nighttime protection.

**There are 1,154 bird species in North America, with 446 documented in Minnesota.** Participate in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count to record your sightings. Learn more: [audubon.org/community-science/christmas-bird-count/join-christmas-bird-count](https://audubon.org/community-science/christmas-bird-count/join-christmas-bird-count).

**In winter, Northern Cardinals are less territorial and may visit in flocks.** They are often the first birds at feeders at dawn and the last to leave at dusk. Cardinals also ground feed and may be joined by American Tree Sparrows, Mourning Doves, and Dark-eyed Juncos.