



NEW LEAF News

January
2021

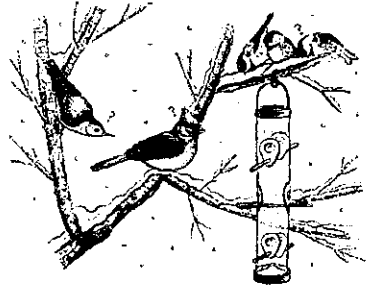
ADA STORE
0395 S.R. 235 – 2½ miles North of Ada
419-634-0351

Visit our website at:
www.newleafgardencenter.com

KENTON STORE
927 E. Columbus, Rt. 67 by Shopping Plaza
419-675-2718

Winter hours for both Stores until early March: M, W, F: 9-4, Sat. 9-1, Tues-Thurs-Sun: CLOSED
Ada store Tues. & Thurs.: *By chance only*

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Ways to Help Birds in Bad Weather

Wintertime and the livin' ain't easy. Birds are hungry, and the snow's piling high. Birds can survive without our help in the winter and some ornithologists have even suggested that bird feeding is more beneficial to us (humans) than to the birds. Studies have shown that birds with access to bird feeders in winter survive at a higher rate than birds without. A blast of snowy weather can

mean extra effort to keep the feeders going for the birds, so these tips, rooted in common sense, can be used as a checklist to help you prepare your feeders for the worst weather.

Make sure seed is accessible and dry. Hopper or tube feeders are good at protecting seed from wet weather, and they dole out food as it is eaten. Sweep snow off of platform feeders, or clear a place on the ground where you can scatter seed for ground-feeding birds such as sparrows, juncos, and doves.

If snow build-up is a problem, make a windbreak. If we get a dry, blowing snow that drifts and buries feeders make a windbreak. Use an old Christmas tree, the remains of a brush pile, and two large pieces of plywood. Place the tree on its side near the brush pile. Wedge the plywood pieces into the snow and the brush pile to serve as walls that drastically reduced the wind. On the sheltered side clear the snow from a patch of ground and scatter seed. Birds will swarm to your new, wind-free spot.

Keep extra feeders for use in bad weather. Keep an extra-large-capacity tube feeder in the garage for use when nasty weather comes. It not only gives the birds another place to eat, which means more birds can eat at one time, but it also cuts down on trips outside for refilling. Other extras to consider having: peanut feeder, suet feeder, and a hopper feeder. Scatter seed in sheltered places. Not all birds will venture to your feeder, as some prefer thickets, brambles, and other secure places. For these species, consider scattering some seed under your deck, in your hedges and bushes, or along the edge of a wooded area.

Put out high-energy foods such as suet, meat scraps, and peanut butter. –These all have fat that gives the biggest energy boost to winter birds, and without enough energy to keep them going, many songbirds would not survive a cold winter night. To feed peanut butter, drill one-inch holes in a foot-long section of a small log. Insert a screw eye into one end of the log. Smear peanut butter into the holes and suspend the feeder from the screw eye or smear on big pine cones and roll in bird seed and hang. A great winter craft for the kids!

Use a birdbath heater wisely. A water heater can keep your birdbath open in the cold weather, which is good and bad. It's good because birds need water to drink when it's cold and there's no snow for water. However, there is some birds will bathe in open water in very cold weather (below 0° F), and the water may freeze on their feathers before it dries up. This can be very bad, even fatal, for birds. Place several large rocks in your bath so there is not enough room for a bird to bathe, but still plenty of places for a thirsty bird to get a drink. When the weather warms up you can remove the rocks and let your birds take a bath

Keep abreast of the weather developments you'll know when bad weather is coming, and you'll be able to stock up on seed, suet, and other goodies. You can also be ready to take on some of the activities listed above. Conversely, when the weather breaks, take advantage by cleaning and disinfecting your feeders (one-part bleach to nine parts hot water). Don't let yourself be caught totally unprepared for harsh winter weather. The birds don't *HAVE* to live off of your feeder's bounty, but it sure helps make the winter livin' a little easier and enjoyable for us to watch.

We carry lots of different styles of feeders and the following kinds of bird feed:

- 3 Wild Bird Mixes
- Whole Peanuts in Shell
- Sunflower Chips
- Nyjer Thistle
- Safflower
- Peanut Splits
- Black Oil Sunflower
- Cracked Corn
- White Millet
- Striped Sunflower
- Suet Cakes & Holders

Winter Specials

Specials good thru Feb. 28
(No coupon needed)

All
**Houseplants
& Succulents**
50% Off

Baccto Lite
Premium potting soil
8 qt. – reg. \$ 4.99
\$ 3.99
No limit

Suet Cakes
reg. \$ 1.29
99¢ each

All
Bird Feeders
25% Off

Sale prices good thru
Feb. 28, 2021

All
**Christmas
Décor**

**50-60%
Off**



Until the end of January
(or until put away!)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The most noteworthy thing about gardeners is that they are always optimistic, always enterprising, and never satisfied. They always look forward to doing something better than they have ever done before.

VITA SACKVILLE-WEST

Garden To Do List January - February



Garden:

- Start planning this year's garden. Remember to always rotate crops. Repeat successes or correct mistakes from last year.
- Top-dress asparagus and rhubarb beds with well-composted manure for a great crop in spring.
- Continue to compost vegetable & fruit scraps.
- Test the germination rate of saved seeds.
- Check seed pkgs. to see when to start indoors. Count backwards from the time you can plant to determine when to start seeds. Start cool-season crops to go in the ground in late March or April.
- For other vegetables, count backwards from May 15 (which is our avg. frost free date) and mark that date on your calendar.

Perennials

- Check stored bulbs every couple of weeks. Discard rotten ones and mist dry ones with water.

Landscaping

- Check plants for frost heaving and animal damage. Feed the birds and provide water supply. We carry bird bath heaters to keep water unfrozen.
- Prune dormant trees, shrubs, fruit trees and grapes in late-winter to early spring. Remove any dead, damaged, crossed branches or sprouts at the base of trees. Do not trim spring blooming trees and shrubs or you'll remove the blooms!
- Don't remove snow from plants unless it threatens to break the plant. Do Not attempt ice removal.
- Bring spring-flowering branches indoors for forcing such as forsythia, pussy willow, quince or spirea.

Lawn

- Do not walk or drive on frozen grass or ground-covers as they are brittle & easily damaged.

Houseplants

- Check indoor plants for pests and treat if needed. Increase humidity by setting pot in a saucer filled with pebbles and water.
- Close drapes or blinds on chilly nights to keep plants away from cold glass.
- Repot plants that are pot-bound.

2021 Seminars Cancelled

With the uncertainty of the COVID virus and the inability to social distance everyone in our greenhouses, we have decided to **CANCEL the Seminars** this year.

Easter Flowers

Easter - Sunday April 4, 2021

We are a provider of Easter flowers for local churches. If your church needs flowers for Easter, check either store for details.



Shop at New Leaf

ALL WINTER

for the following items...

- House Plants
- House Plant Supplies
- Potting Soils
- Fertilizers
- Seed Starter & Peat Pots
- Pre-packaged seeds coming early Feb.
- Bird Feeding Supplies
- Wild Bird Feeds

Memorial Items

- Remembrance Items
- Cemetery Saddles & Wreaths
- Angels - Wind chimes
- Concrete Memorial Stones & Benches

We provide FREE delivery of memorial items to: Hanson-Neely, Ada and Price or Schindewolf, Stout, Crates in Kenton.

We carry... **K-1 Kerosene Wicks**
And do... **Kerosene Heater Repair**