

Birds

How do I provide year-round resources and habitats for birds?
This guide will help you plan an area that will provide flowers, fruits, insects, and protection for birds.

Attracting birds is essential for a healthy garden and ecosystem. By choosing native plants for your area, you'll provide the right food and habitat for local species while promoting biodiversity.

How do I provide natural food sources?

- **Berries and Seeds.** Many native shrubs and perennials produce berries and seeds birds rely on, especially in fall and winter.
- **Nectar.** Native flowers support hummingbirds and other pollinators.
- **Insects.** Native plants attract local insects, a critical food source for most bird species—especially during nesting season.

How do I offer shelter and nesting sites?

- Dense shrubs and evergreens provide cover from predators and harsh weather.
- Layered vegetation offers nesting options for a variety of birds.
- Dead wood, snags, and brush piles are valuable habitat for cavity-nesting and other birds.

How do I create a year-round habitat?

- Include a mix of plants that provide food and shelter across all seasons.
- Aim for evergreen plants for winter cover and flowering plants for spring and summer food sources.

What are other considerations?

- The scale of your area and surrounding area can help determine what birds to expect.
- Consider when you are in your yard.
- Nest boxes, feeders, and management of bird predators.
- Use plants for caterpillars production for birds.

Go Natives! Website

<https://gonativesnursery.com/>

[Birds Connect Seattle](#)

[WA Native Plant Society, Pacific Northwest Plants and the Birds that Use Them](#)

[Audubon, Find Bird-Friendly Native Plants](#)

Pacific Northwest Native Plants for Birds



red-flowering currant
Ribes sanguineum
Spring nectar, fall berries



serviceberry
Amelanchier alnifolia
Summer berries



Pacific ninebark
Physocarpus capitatus
Insect attractor



red-osier dogwood
Cornus stolonifera
Fall berries



salal
Gaultheria shallon
Summer berries, low cover



evergreen huckleberry
Vaccinium ovatum
Summer to fall berries



beach strawberry
Fragaria chiloensis
Larval host



Douglas' aster
Symphyotrichum subspicatum
Fall seeds



yarrow
Achillea millefolium
Insect attractor