



CCFA
Nature Expert

In this newsletter:

- Welcoming spring migrants to your backyard
- The Bird Quiz
- New products and suggestions

Opening hours:

Tue/Wed : 9:30 - 6:00

Thurs/Fri : 9:30 - 7:00

Saturday : 9:30- 5:00

Sunday/ Monday:

Closed

5120 rue de
Bellechasse, Montréal,
QC H1T 2A4

Métro Viau

CCFA - Nature Expert

Centre de Conservation de la Faune Ailée

Spring 2012

Dear birders,

Spring is now here and the early wave of warm weather has taken everyone by surprise. The pleasant weather also means that many bird species are coming back early. In this newsletter, you will find tips on how to prepare your backyard for those early spring migrants.

As we have moved into our new location, we are looking forward to our Grand re-opening which we are planning for a **Saturday June 9th, 2012**. Throughout the day, we will have numerous activities, live birds of prey and many special guests. We hope that you and your family will join us for this exciting day. Watch for all the details in a future email from us.

Martin Bowman, Joel Coutu, Frédéric Hareau and I, the Laughing Bonaparte's, will be taking part in the 24 hour Baillie Birdathon in May. Funds collected will be donated to Bird Studies Canada and the Tadoussac Bird Observatory. If you would like to donate, you can do so by clicking the following link: [Donate to Bird Studies and Conservation via the Laughing Bonaparte's](#).

Happy spring birding,

Alain Goulet, Owner

Photo: Alain and Isabelle observing a flock of birds flying closeby.



If you would like to contribute to bird conservation and thereby ensure that Isabelle still has birds to enjoy when she is older, click on the photo.

Preparing your backyard for spring birds

In order to attract more birds to your backyard, it is important to cover all of their basic needs: food, water and shelter. Let's look at these three elements in more detail.

www.ccfa-montreal.com

We are now located at 5120 de Bellechasse near the Montreal Botanical Garden. Come and see our new boutique! Click on the map below to see the new location.



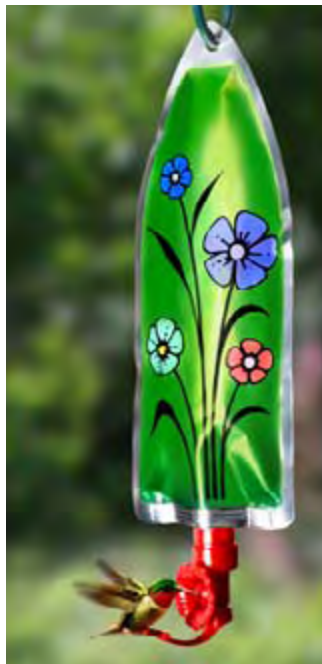
Bird Quiz

Why don't birds fall off tree branches when they sleep?



Answer to last quiz: I often attack cats and will rob eggs and nestlings from other birds' nests. Which bird am I?

Blue Jay



New: Papaya hummingbird feeder

Food

All birds, including backyard birds, can find the necessary food they need in nature. Bird feeders are an added bonus for the birds that are found in your neighbourhood. Many species have migrated early this year causing potential problems as they search for food that may be scarce in cold weather. This is especially true of birds that feed on flying insects.

Hummingbirds are amongst the species that have migrated a little sooner this year and have already been observed in southern Quebec. In order to welcome hummingbirds and to make sure that they have enough food available in this colder climate, you can put up a nectar feeder. Mealworms can be an added source of protein and energy for many migrating species and are especially useful for bluebirds, swallows, Purple Martins, chickadees, woodpeckers and many other species. Mealworms can be kept for weeks in a refrigerated area (5 to 10 to degrees C).

Water

Water is essential for birds but they don't always feel at ease drinking at ground level where they become vulnerable to feline predators. Bird baths are a welcome addition to any backyard and will also attract birds that don't usually come to bird feeders as well. There are different types of bird baths and waterers. Some bird baths have trickling water or solar fountains which attract birds by the sound of running water. Other waterers and water containers have a good storage capacity and can be hung anywhere. All baths need to be kept clean and should be washed regularly. An all natural, non-toxic solution can be added to the bath water in order to prevent stains, sludge, mineral deposits and organic contaminants. Bird baths, like bird feeders, should be located in an area that is safe from predators such as cats.

Shelter

Planting trees and shrubs strategically can provide birds with the necessary hiding places to escape predators. Conifers work best and provide year-round shelter. If you want to kill two birds with one stone (pardon the expression), plant trees, shrubs and plants that will also provide food for birds. Planting native plants works best in our climate and provides the best food for our native birds. Some recommended fruit-bearing plants are: mountain-ash, staghorn sumac, elderberry, dogwood and crabapple. The advantage of having fruit and seed bearing plants is that they will provide food for birds for years to come.

Our new products and suggestions

Friends,
Join us on Facebook!
It's a great way to
send us your questions.



Solar Garden Owls



At night, these owls' eyes light the way and cheer up your garden or patio area. During the day, solar energy recharges the batteries for the upcoming night.

Unique design feeders



These attractive and practical bird feeders can be used to attract birds and embellish any backyard. Filled with sunflower seeds, these feeders will attract cardinals, chickadees, goldfinches, nuthatches, finches and many others.

CCFA-Nature-Expert
5120 rue de
Bellechasse
Montréal, Qc,
H1T 2A4

Métro Viau

ccfa@videotron.ca
www.ccfa-montreal.

Tel: 514-351-5496
Tel: 1-855-OIS-EAUX

www.ccfa-montreal.com