



THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences & Family and Consumer Sciences

Bird Songs, Bird Feeding & More

Renee' Carleton

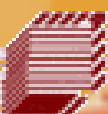
Linda Johns, Leann McNeil,

Candice Sims, Mary Willis

Barbara Todd

UGA Extension Master Gardener Volunteers

BARTOW



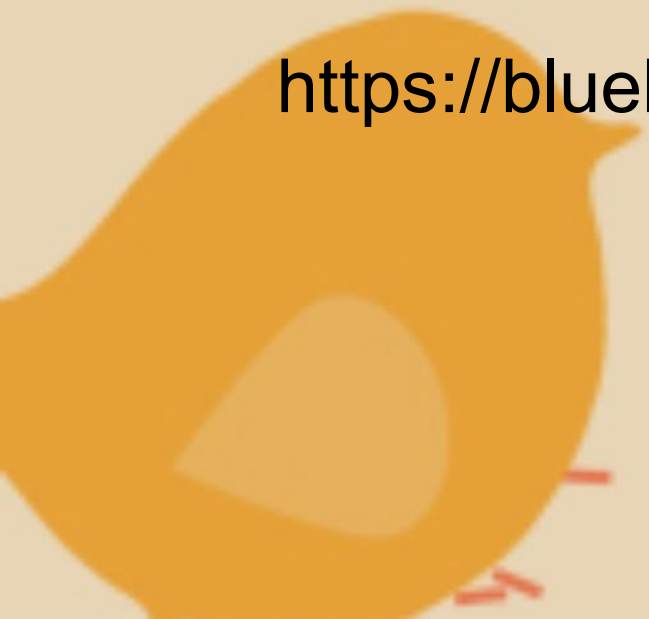
Learning *for* **Life**



Supplementary Handouts for
Today's Workshop are available for
download

Bluebird Haven Farm website
in the Library section

<https://bluebirdhavenfarm.com/library.shtml>



The days are getting longer....

The birds are singing

- Birds vocalize to communicate
 - ~ Announce arrival
 - ~ Defend territories
 - ~ Attract a mate
 - ~ Alert of danger



Types of Vocalizations

- Songs
- Calls
 - ~ Contact, Flight
- Chips
- Drumming
- Scolding
- Begging



© Gena Flanigen Photography

Which bird is the song champion?

- "Plant a seed, plant a seed, bury it, bury it, cover it up, cover it up, let it grow, let it grow, pull it up, pull it up, eat it, eat it."

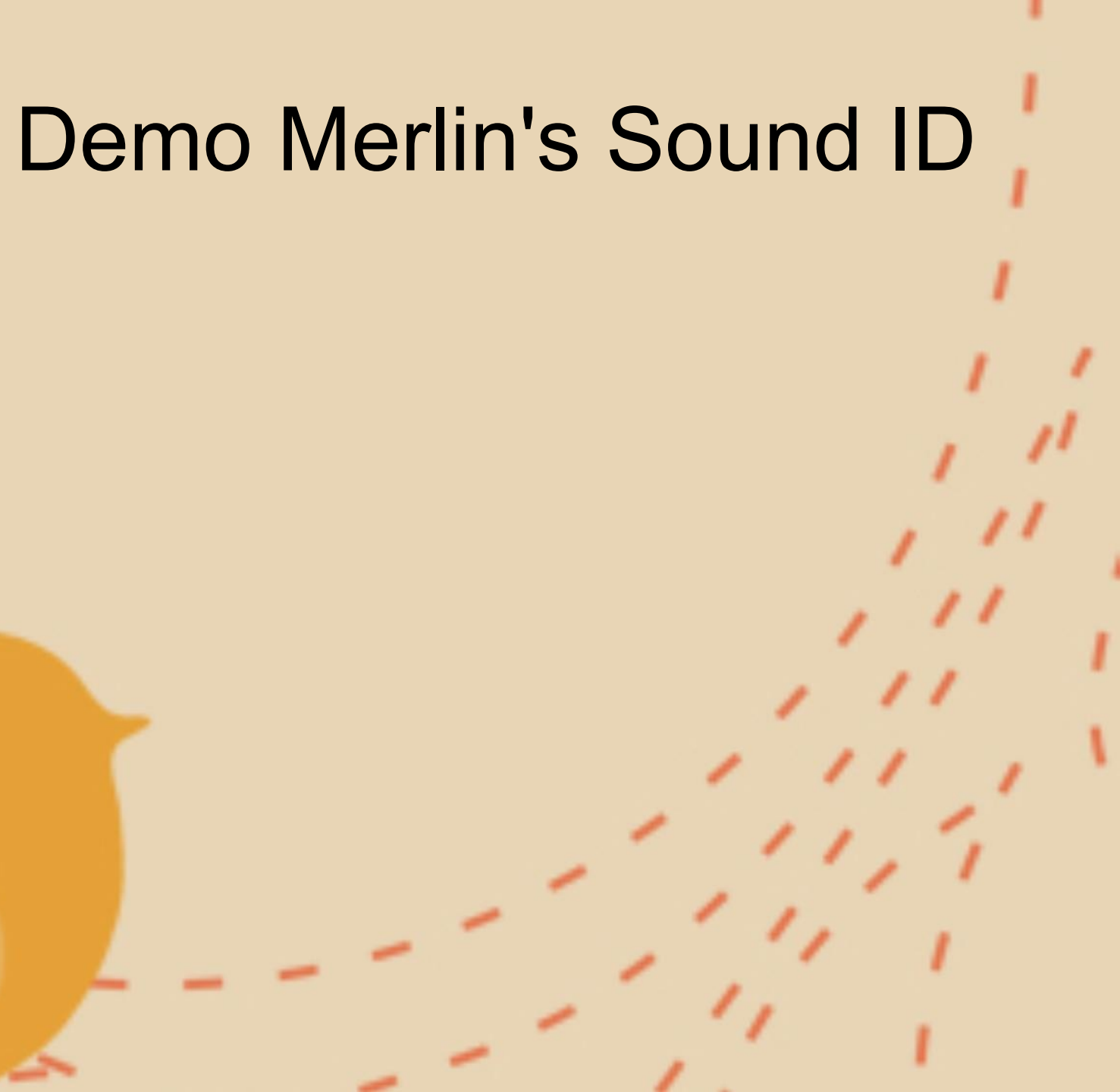
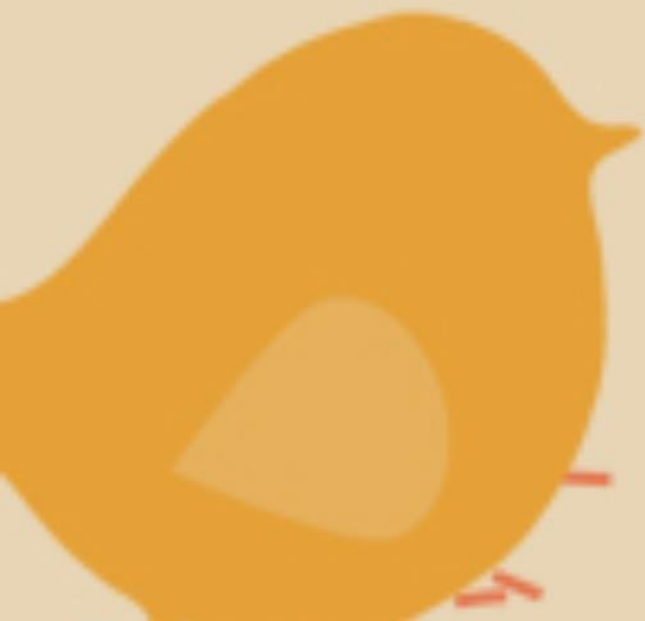


Using Sounds to Identify Birds

- **Phone Apps**
- **Merlin** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xmSUOLxyatY&t=26s>
- **BirdNet** <https://www.youtube.com/embed/f144CSEoYuk>



Let's Demo Merlin's Sound ID



Want to attract birds to your yard?

Birds are beautiful!

Birds are beneficial!

Birds need our help!





Let's keep our
common birds
COMMON!

We can do better than this!



***How about
this!***



or this



Notice the **layers**
of vegetation



or this



**And less grass
to mow!**

The Basics

- Food
- Water
- Shelter



Food

- **Fruit-producing plants**
- **Seed-producing plants**
- **Nectar plants**
- **Insect host plants**
- **Supplemental food** (seeds, nectar, jelly, suet, mealworms)
- Take a packet of sunflower seeds home today! Buy native plants at our Roselawn May Market booth!

**Natives
are
best**

Supplemental Bird Seed

Black Oil Sunflower



White Millet



Mixed Seed



**“Wild Bird Mixes”
waste money!**

Seed Preferences

Sunflower Seed –
Striped or Black Oil

Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
House Finch
American Goldfinch
Northern Cardinal
Woodpeckers
Blue Jays



Seed Preferences

White Millet



House Finches
Sparrows
Red-winged Blackbirds
Mourning Dove
Indigo Buntings



Seed Preferences

Nyjer – The seed formerly known as Thistle

American Goldfinches
Pine Siskins



Seed Storage

Container Considerations

Animal proof

Moisture proof

Insect proof

Pantry Moths

freeze 72 hours

cedar chips



Feeders ~ many styles



Tube Feeders



Tray Feeders

Carriage Feeders



Nothing is entirely squirrel proof!



A word about feeders and disease



Keep Your Feeders Clean!

Feeders of *every* type should be thoroughly cleaned a least once a week!

**Scrub with soapy water and brush. Rinse well
Soak in dilute bleach solution 30 minutes**

1 part bleach : 10 parts water

Rinse very well, let air dry

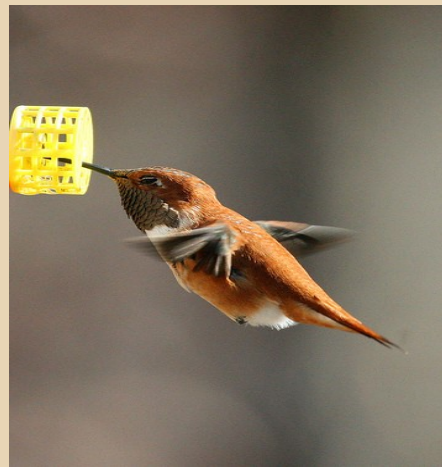
Purchase extra feeders so you always have one clean!

SUET

for winter feeding (<70 degrees)
lard or peanut butter, seed,
nuts, dried fruit



Nectar



Basic Nectar Recipe

No need to buy nectar mixes!

No need for red food coloring!

One part granulated sugar to four parts water

Change every 3 days, more frequently if the nectar gets cloudy!



Water



Birdbaths



Misters

Ponds



Shelter

Bird Houses / Nest Boxes

Bluebirds

Purple Martins

Chickadees, Wrens



Shelter

Nest Boxes

Other birds that use nest boxes

Red-headed Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Norther Flicker
Prothonotary Warbler
Barred Owl
Great-crested Flycatcher
House Finch
Tufted Titmouse
Brown-headed Nuthatch



Nest Boxes

**Proper Placement is Critical
Don't Create an Ecological Trap!**



Mounting on Metal Pole



Mounting recommendations

North American Bluebird Society

8' metal electrical conduit 1" diameter

~ Drive into ground 2' (ideally box is 6' off ground)

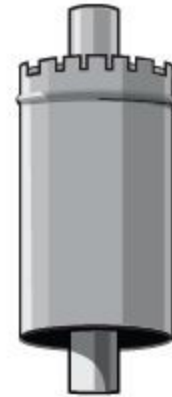
~ T post with 4" PVC sleeve or section of downspout

- Install mounting pole at least 10' from nearest tree
- Can wax pole to make it slippery
- Consider adding a predator guard

A



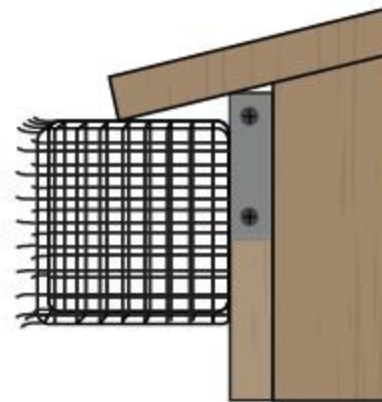
B



C



D



Maintenance

- Painting exterior is ok (use latex-based)
- Clean out after each brood fledges
 - ~ Flush with 10% bleach solution
 - ~ Check drainage holes
- Check for loose screws, brackets

Let's Make Suet!



Recipe

- 1 cup melted Lard & Crunchy Peanut Butter
- 1 cup Oats
- 1 cup corn meal
- ½ cup wheat flour
- ½ cup seeds of your choice
- Refrigerate for 24 hours before putting out or Freeze



Questions?

Call 1-800-ASK-UGA1

Go to www.caes.uga.edu/extension/bartow

Click on “publications” link at top of
webpage:

Please Return Seminar Evaluations
before you leave today!