



Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. What are the most popular bird seeds to use?

A. Black Oil Sunflower Seed is the most popular bird seed. It has a thinner shell and higher oil content than the traditional sunflower seed enabling birds with smaller bills, such as the sparrow, junco and goldfinch. This seed will attract a great variety of birds.

Mixed Seed is also popular. It is best to buy the mixes that contain white proso millet, a tiny cream colored seed with a shiny shell. Mixes containing finely cracked corn and black oil sunflower are also preferred by a large number of birds.

Thistle comes from the seed of the African yellow daisy. Thistle won't germinate, however, it has a tendency to become moldy due to lack of air circulation. If you notice mold on the seed, it must be removed from the feeder and the feeder must be cleaned thoroughly.

Q. How do I clean my bird feeders?

A. Before filling your feeder with fresh seed, it is recommended that the following precautions are taken:

1. Remove all old seed.
2. Soak feeder in a light water/bleach solution (9 parts water to 1 part bleach).
3. Scrub feeder and allow to air dry.
4. Thoroughly wash hands after handling and cleaning feeders.

Q. What is the importance of providing water for wild birds?

A. Wild birds need fresh, clean water to stay healthy. Birds use water for drinking, bathing, and cleaning their feathers. Waterers are a good option to consistently provide birds with fresh, clean water that is not contaminated by dirt, falling leaves, or from the birds bathing. In hotter climates or seasons, providing water for birds makes it easy for them to have access to a water source and retain their energy. By adding a water source, you also can attract a larger variety of birds to your yard. You may even attract more colorful birds that don't eat seed, but are in need of water!