



Geneva Ace Hardware

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2024

Your Helpful Hardware Place... and so much more! We're not your ordinary Ace Hardware.

Bringing you what's new at your local family-owned Geneva Ace Hardware.

Our experienced associates can offer valuable tips on:

- Plumbing
- Small Engines
- Lawn & Garden
- Repair Projects
- Painting & Decorating
- Cleaning
- Hardware
- And More!

Please let us know if you have questions or comments on what you'd like to see featured.

Newsletter Editor:
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STORE HOURS

(Until Further Notice)

Monday- Saturday

8AM - 8PM

Sunday

9AM - 5PM

P | 630.208.6600

www.genevaace.com

Get to Know the Wild Birds in Your Back Yard!

Northern Illinois is a region teeming with wild birds, making it an ideal location for backyard bird watching. Feeding wild birds in your backyard not only supports the local avian population but also brings a delightful natural spectacle to your doorstep. Here's a look at some common backyard birds in Northern Illinois:

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*)

Known for their vivid red plumage, male Northern Cardinals are a striking sight against the greenery of your yard. Females, with their softer brown hues, are equally enchanting. These birds are frequent visitors to feeders, especially those filled with sunflower seeds.



American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*)

The American Goldfinch is easily recognizable by

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Kaytee® 8 Lb. Birders' Blend®, 7 Lb. Songbird Blend™ or 5 Lb. Nut & Fruit Blend™ Wild Bird Food
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Backyard Birds (continued)

its bright yellow feathers in the summer and a more subdued olive-brown color in the winter. These lively birds are attracted to thistle and sunflower seeds and bring a cheerful presence to any backyard.

Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*)

These small, agile birds are known for their distinctive black cap and bib. Black-capped Chickadees are curious and friendly, often found flitting through shrubs and trees. They are drawn to feeders with sunflower seeds, peanuts, and suet.

Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens*)

The Downy Woodpecker, the smallest of its kind in North America, is a common sight in Northern Illinois. With their black-and-white plumage and occasional red patch on the head, they are frequent visitors to suet feeders and enjoy pecking at tree bark in search of insects.

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)

House Finches are social birds with males sporting bright red feathers on their heads and throats, while females have more subdued brown-streaked plumage. These birds enjoy a variety of seeds, including sunflower and safflower.

Benefits of Feeding Backyard Birds

Supporting Bird Health

Providing food, especially during harsh winters or dry summers, helps ensure that local bird populations remain healthy and robust. High-energy foods like sunflower seeds, suet, and peanuts offer essential nutrients that help birds maintain their energy levels and breeding success.

Bird Conservation

Feeding birds can aid in the conservation of species by supporting their populations, especially those that may be declining due to habitat loss or climate change. By offering food, you create a micro-

habitat that supports avian diversity.

Pest Control

Many backyard birds, such as woodpeckers and chickadees, feed on insects. By attracting these birds to your yard, you can help naturally control pest populations, reducing the need for chemical pesticides.

Stress Relief and Enjoyment

Watching birds can be a serene and joyful activity. The sight and sound of birds in your yard can reduce stress and enhance your connection with nature. The vibrant colors and songs of various bird species add a dynamic and pleasant atmosphere to your outdoor space. By setting up bird feeders and providing fresh water, you create a welcoming environment for these delightful creatures. Not only do you get to enjoy the beauty and diversity of Northern Illinois' avian visitors, but you also contribute to their well-being and the ecological health of your region.

Geneva Ace Hardware is the place for all of your wild bird feeding needs. Stop by today and stock up for the season!

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The graphic features a large red arrow pointing from the 'FREE' text to the bird food products (a bag of Wild & Strong Reserve Wild Bird Food and a bottle of More Birds Ready-to-Use Hummingbird Nectar) and another red arrow pointing from the 'FREE' text to the Feit Electric Solar Smart Camera Bird Feeder. The bird feeder is shown with two birds perched on it. The background is a light gray with a subtle pattern.