

Other ways...

Basin Naturalization

Problem: Engineered stormwater basins are often covered in only grass for easy maintenance.

Facts: Naturalized basins reduce maintenance, reduce erosion, slow and clean water runoff, and improve the natural esthetics of the area.

Solution: Determine who owns the land and consult with professionals to determine the cost and logistics to convert the basin.



Turf Management

Problem: Lawns require frequent mowing, feeding, and watering.

Facts: Lawns are attractive but are very costly.

Solution: Plant meadows or bird gardens where lawns are not needed. Adopt the practice of organic lawn care, using natural fertilizers and pesticides to control unwanted weeds and insects.

Birds, insects, and native plants are integral components of a healthy ecosystem. Audubon encourages closing the ecological loop by inviting birds with those plants with which they have adapted into your yard.

This fact sheet brochure is intended to provide solutions to some common problems or perceived issues by creating a bird-friendly yard.



Your local Audubon Bird-friendly Communities Coordinator can help with all of the solutions you have found in this brochure.



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Creating a Bird-friendly



Bird Friendly
COMMUNITIES



Birdhouses
Bird Nestboxes
Native Plantings
Lawn Alternatives



BIRD TOWN
PENNSYLVANIA

Birdfeeders

Problem #1: They attract rodents

Facts: Most rodents do not travel very far to find food.

Solution: A baffle on every feeder will keep animals out of the feeder and away from seeds and from scaring off your birds.



Problem #2: They make a mess

Facts: This is true, but most of the mess is uneaten seeds or seed husks.

Solution: High quality shelled seeds will have less mess. Also, buy a feeder with a catchtray underneath to prevent ground waste.



Problem #3: Birds Poop!

Facts: No escaping this fact!

Solution: Place your feeders a distance from your home or structure and birds will choose to sit on natural perches instead of your home, shed, etc.



Problem #4: Birdfeeders are ugly

Facts: Birdfeeders come in an endless variety of shapes, sizes and colors.

Solution: Require that everyone in the HOA uses a uniform type of attractive feeder.



Problem #5: Nectar feeders attract wasps and other insects.

Facts: There are bee-proof and ant-proof hummingbird feeders available.

Solution: Using the proper type of hummingbird feeder will allow for the most enjoyment and ease of cleaning.



Nestboxes

Problem: They are ugly, messy and noisy

Facts: Some, yes, are ugly.

They are not actually messy because the parent birds take away the droppings.

Baby birds can be noisy.

Solution:

Pre-approved nest box designs placed in the correct locations will help birds find the perfect home to raise a brood while still being a joy to watch.



Native Plants

Problem: Not typically chosen for standard landscape practices.

Facts: Native plants can provide the same ornamental and esthetic design while providing for the wildlife.

Solution: The HOA should develop a list of acceptable native plants for use in the neighborhood. For a lost tree or shrub a native should be used as a replacement.

