



**Shop**

Our Web Store  
[Shop.thebirdstoreandmore.com](http://Shop.thebirdstoreandmore.com)

**News**  
from the bird store

## NEW Products

### Regal Solar Light Double Flower Stake to Light the Night

These will look gorgeous in your garden! 2 large glass flowers are the centerpiece of Regal's Double Flower Solar Stake, rising gently from a bronze finished metal pole with leaves to match. A soft string of solar LED lights sits in the center of each flower, casting light in multiple directions. Includes a 2-pronged ground fork for additional stability. 42 in. tall.

### Counter Art Coasters To Keep Your Summer Drinks Neat

These beautiful coasters have natural absorbent ceramic stone that absorbs drips and condensation from cold glasses and protects surfaces from the heat of hot beverages. The coasters have a cork backing to protect your furniture, tabletop or desktop from scratches. They are easily cleaned with mild detergent and water.



**Massarelli Bird Baths** are scheduled to deliver in early June. We have a large order arriving just in time to add the finishing touches to your garden for the summer season.



### Thank You For Your Patience

Our "forced upgrade" to a new Point of Sale system is a giant step back in time. It's hard to believe that a company that had such a nice product would upgrade to a cloud-based product that was so incredibly lacking. That said we have had to come up with some creative workarounds to get a customer list for our newsletter. It appears that we

will no longer be able to create the customer list as we have for our newsletters in the past. We will only be able to pull a list based on sales. We are trying to make sure that we attach your name to the sale so it will trigger a newsletter. We apologize, some of you may get missed, we are not happy about this but we will always have newsletters available in the store for you.

### Did you know?

According to the ABA (American Birding Association) Massachusetts boasts a state bird list in excess of 500 species!

If you want to make sure that you don't miss any of our newsletters please give us your email address. We post all the newsletters on our website and send out an email with the link to them.

We want to thank you for your patience with us as we have to process many additional steps to do what used to take a single step. We're sure you have seen our many frustrations in action!

**Shop.thebirdstoreandmore.com**

See our most updated store hours and policy at [thebirdstoreandmore.com](http://thebirdstoreandmore.com)



## Spring/Summer Reminders

### Summer Suet

If you are using **raw suet** (from the butcher or the supermarket), change to prepackaged suet that can take the warmer temperatures. Raw suet is great in the winter but can become rancid and make the birds sick in temperatures higher than 40 degrees. Suet is a great source of energy for our birds, especially during nesting season. Don't take it down, just replace it with a year round suet.

### Hummingbirds and Orioles

have returned. Make sure that your hummingbird and oriole feeders are kept clean and full for those colorful migrants.

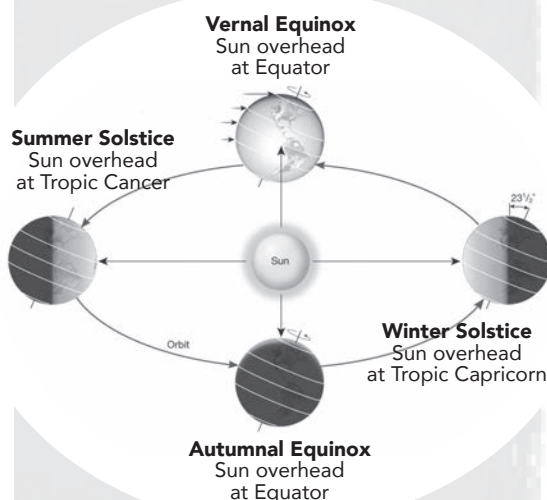
### Father's Day, June 20

Treat Dad to some Bird Houses, Books, and Binoculars.

### Summer Solstice

**June 20, 2021 at 11:32pm**

The June solstice occurs on Sunday, June 20, marking the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. The solstice occurs when the Sun reaches its highest and northernmost points in the sky. This event marks the start of summer in the northern half of the globe (It's the longest day of the year! (In the Southern Hemisphere, it's the opposite: the June solstice marks the start of winter, when the Sun is at its lowest point in the sky.



## Pileated Woodpeckers



A big, dashing bird with a flaming crest, the Pileated is the largest woodpecker in North America. This species became rare in eastern North America with clearing of forests in centuries past, but has gradually increased in numbers again since about the beginning of the 20th century.

Like other woodpeckers, the pileated woodpecker relies on its powerful claws to grip trees while boring into the wood with its sharp beak. These birds feed mainly on the insects that eat dead wood – including carpenter ants, beetle larvae, termites, and other boring insects.

Excavating deep into rotten wood to get at the nests of carpenter ants, the Pileated leaves characteristic rectangular holes in dead trees. Pileated Woodpeckers are capable of creating massive cavities in dead trees. Aided by the boreholes of the insects they are hunting, they can easily turn a solid tree into a pile of wood shavings in only a few days. Pileated woodpeckers typically only bore into trees that have already been infested by ants, termites, or beetle larvae.

### Did you know?

Another member of the woodpecker family, the Northern Flicker, is known to ingest over five thousand ants in one sitting.

The Pileated is perfectly equipped to harvest the insect feast it uncovers. Pileated Woodpeckers have a sticky tongue that's more than five inches long. The Pileated stretches its tongue into the trunk, lapping up hundreds of ants and swallowing them whole. Ants make up more than half of a Pileated Woodpecker diet. Woodpeckers, as a group, eat far more ants than most other birds do. Many other vertebrates tend to avoid ants because of their stings or because of the noxious chemicals they contain, like formic acid.

### Size Matter

Females pick their mates based on the best roost offered so size and location are both very important. Courtship displays include spreading wings and showing off the white wing patch, raising crest, swinging head back and forth, and a gliding display flight. Once the female picks her mate, they will work together to line the roost with soft materials suitable for a nest and the female will lay 3-5 eggs.

Both parents feed nestlings, by regurgitation. Young leave nest 26-28 days after hatching, may remain with parents 2-3 months.

Take a look at the Pileated Woodpecker holes in Bill & Nancy's tree.

At the store we have a log on display showing a borehole that goes directly to the area where the carpenter ants were.





# IS IT A Bluebird or a BIRD that is BLUE?

Everyone loves Bluebirds, but sometimes we hear someone speaking about a blue bird. So we decided to come up with a list of blue birds, including the Eastern Bluebird.

How many blue birds can you come up with? Here is our local list: Eastern Bluebird, Indigo Bunting, Blue Jay, Blue gray Gnatcatcher, Belted Kingfisher, Great blue Heron, Purple Martin, White breasted Nuthatch, Red breasted Nuthatch, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Black throated Blue Warbler, Cerulean Warbler.



Purple Martin



Blue gray Gnatcatcher



Cerulean Warbler.



Indigo Bunting



Belted Kingfisher



Eastern Bluebird

There are more if you count the birds in other parts of the country. We even found a website dedicated to Small Blue Birds Identification. There are some beautiful blue birds out there [www.beautyofbirds.com/smallbluebirds.html](http://www.beautyofbirds.com/smallbluebirds.html)

Did you ever wonder what makes a blue bird blue? Unlike many other bird colors, blue is not a pigment but a color produced by the structure of the feathers. Tiny air pockets and melanin pigment crystals in each feather scatter blue light and absorb the other wavelengths. The even finer structure of the feather gathers the bouncing blue wavelengths together and directs them outward. Different shapes and sizes of these air pockets and keratin make different shades of blue.



Great blue Heron

## ARE YOU GETTING THE LATEST UPDATES?

If you haven't signed up for our enews you are missing out on the specials, events, and Monthly News reminders that are sent by email in between our quarterly newsletters. If you want the most up to date information, specials, and reminders join our mailing list at [thebirdstoreandmore.com](http://thebirdstoreandmore.com)

We are also on FACEBOOK, click the link on our store web site or search for The Bird Store and More.

## News from our Vendors

We have worked hard to keep our store stocked with the items you need. It has been a challenge as many of our vendors are months behind in processing their orders. Our larger distributors are also out of many items. Dezeree keeps a close eye on what becomes available weekly so that we can get the stock we need. We ordered our hummingbird nectar and Bird Berry Jelly in February when it showed in stock with the distributor. I don't think we have ever in our history ordered it that early! Birdbaths were ordered in January and their arrival is scheduled for June, it was the earliest date we could get. It certainly is a challenge.

Across the board materials are in short supply. Steel pricing is up; our hardware vendor has had to add temporary surcharges to their products to keep up with the demand.

Another of our vendors that relies on poly lumber for their products said their vendor is months behind on delivery, and as the poly lumber comes from West Texas where the power outages were the poly lumber company lost all of its resin products to produce the poly lumber. They told our vendor, accept the surcharges or cancel the order. They had to accept the surcharges to keep going, and now have passed temporary surcharges to us as well.

Our seed company has seen a huge surge in demand; they are not taking on any more customers so that they can continue to service the customers they have. Seed that is running low has to be repurchased through the commodities market with no negotiation. They told us they also have to accept the price, unlike in the past where there was the ability to negotiate. This is why there is a price fluctuation, the likes that we have not seen in the past.

With that in mind we are moving forward, finding new vendors, and keeping things as stocked as we can for you.

## IN 2020

Our customers purchased 246 cans of hummingbird nectar. That's 29,520 ounces of nectar served up to our local hummingbirds!

## What we've learned this past year!

- ✓ That we are grateful for your support
- ✓ That there are so many more people who want to know about the birds
- ✓ That our customers are very kind
- ✓ That "store pickup" in the shed works well
- ✓ That it's the first year we have ever had Bluebirds in our Secret Garden
- ✓ That moving 8000 pounds of seed in 1 week is tiring!
- ✓ That more people than ever want a bear proof bird feeder pole
- ✓ That you need to take more time to watch nature  
Life is Good...Enjoy each Day

## Temporary Store Hours Change

### We are taking a vacation!

The Bird Store will be **CLOSED** on the following days:

Sunday May 16, 2021

Monday May 17, 2021

Sunday May 23, 2021

Monday May 24, 2021

Sunday May 30, 2021

Monday May 31, 2021

We will be open 10-6 from  
Tuesday to Saturday each of these weeks.

Please see special vacation hours  
Sunday May 16 - Monday May 31, 2021

11:00am-5:00pm Sunday  
10:00am-6:00pm Monday - Saturday

### Bird Store Hours:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 736, Fiskdale, MA 01518

Phone: (508)-347-BIRD

thebirdstoreandmore.com

Sturbridge, MA 01566

(Route 20, Cedar Street Intersection)

4 Cedar Street,



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