

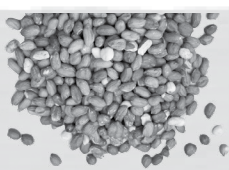


The Bird Store and more...

Fall Seed Sale! October 1st -31st

News

from the bird store



FALL Seed Sale



The Seed Saver Cards will be on sale during the month of **October**.



Please use the balance on your 2024 seed card by the end of September. Any remaining balance may be used toward the purchase of a 2025 seed card or as a regular gift card (no discount).

From **October 1st through the 31st** you will be able to purchase a **SEED SAVER CARD** in any denomination that you choose. The **SEED SAVER CARD** will be good for all **SEED** purchases throughout the year regardless of the bag size. All seed purchased with the **SEED SAVER CARD** will receive **15% off** up to the value of your card. The **SEED SAVER CARD** will not be valid with any other offers, promotions, discounts, or bucks.

You will have to purchase your card **in the store** or by **calling us during business hours at 508-347-2473**. **SEED SAVER CARDS** are not available on our web store.



Marshmallow's Musings

Notes from Marshmallow the Cockatiel

Hi this is Marshmallow the Cockatiel. I wanted to show you my new feather. It was a gift from my Pileated Woodpecker friend. He thought I should have some color in my feathers so he donated one of his beautiful black and white feathers. I think it would look pretty attractive on my tail. It's actually one of his flight feathers, but as you know he is much larger than me so it would really make me fly in circles if I tried it on my wing! My Pileated Woodpecker friend is 16 – 20 inches in length, that's crow sized, much bigger than me. If I added it to my tail I would have very beautiful dressed up tail feathers!

Your friend, Marshmallow



SAVE THE DATE Friday, December 5th, Annual Night Owl Christmas



Interesting Fact

The only bird with nostrils at the end of its beak is the Kiwi. This placement helps it sniff for food, such as worms and insects on the ground. It often snorts to clear its nostrils.



Cozy Up to Fall With These New Items



Bethany Lowe Vintage Inspired Fall and Halloween Decor

I have been obsessed with this version of Halloween for many years and decided to seek it out and share it with you. If you also long for the older, more unique style I have selected a small, curated collection with limited quantities. No two are exactly alike. Stop in and get them while they're available. –Dezeree

Bethany Lowe Designs is a family owned business founded in 1985. Known for their artisan craftsmanship with a love for vintage aesthetics creating vintage-style holiday decorations and collectables. A cherished addition to your home.



Candle Warmers Etc.

I have recently brought in a line of candle warmers and scents to cozy up your home. They are a great alternative to the open flame of a candle.

Candle Warmers Etc. was the original alternative to lighting a candle. In 2001 the company founder invested his family's savings into 5,000 mug warmers and the original candle warmer was born.

The company has created an art form out of these humble beginnings by combining home fragrance with high end home decor, Candle warmers allow you to enjoy the candle fragrance with out flame, soot or other pollutants.



Did You Know?

Pileated Woodpeckers are native to North America, and they are the largest confirmed existing woodpecker species in North America.

Pileated Woodpeckers are the third largest existing species of woodpecker in the world. The largest is the Great Slaty Woodpecker found on the Indian Subcontinent and in Southeast Asia and second largest is the Black Woodpecker found in the Palearctic or Palaearctic (also called eurosiberia). This biogeographic realm of the earth stretches across Europe and Asia north of the foothills of the Himalayas, and North Africa.



Bird ID

Pied Billed Grebe



Pied-billed Grebes are common across much of North America. They inhabit sluggish rivers, freshwater marshes, lakes, and estuaries. Pied-billed Grebes are rarely seen in flight and often hidden among vegetation. In winter they occur on larger water bodies, occasionally in large groups.

Pied-billed Grebes are resident to short-distance migrants. Individuals in northern North America and the Great Plains, where bodies of water freeze, migrate south as far as northern Central America. Populations in the southern U.S. and Mexico do not migrate. Migrants tend to move at night, landing on the nearest body of water at dawn.

The Pied-billed Grebe is a brown bird, slightly darker above and more tawny-brown on the underparts. During spring and summer, the crown and nape are dark and the throat is black. While breeding, the bill is whitish with a black band, but otherwise is yellow-brown. Juveniles have striped faces.

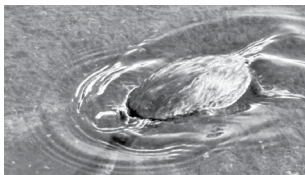
Pied-bill Grebes feet are located near their back end.



This body plan, a common feature of many diving birds, helps grebes propel themselves through water. Lobed (not webbed) toes further assist with swimming. Pied-billed Grebes walk awkwardly on land.

These opportunistic feeders consume a great variety of prey items, large and small, depending on what's available. Collecting most of their food underwater during foraging dives, they eat crabs, shrimp, snails, mussels, beetles, dragonfly nymphs, and aquatic insects and their larvae. The Pied-billed Grebe also eats large quantities of its own feathers. Feathers may at times fill up more than half of a grebe's stomach, and they are sometimes fed to newly hatched chicks. The ingested plumage appears to form a sieve-like plug that prevents hard, potentially harmful prey parts from passing into the intestine, and it helps form indigestible items into pellets which they can regurgitate.

When in danger, Pied-billed Grebes sometimes make a dramatic "crash-dive" to get away. A crash-diving grebe pushes its body down with its wings thrust outward. Its tail and head disappears last, while the bird kicks water several feet into the air.



Interesting Fact

"Pied" refers to something that is marked with two or more colors, especially in a blotchy or spotted pattern therefore defining the Grebe as a 2 color billed grebe

What the Heck is a

Confusing Fall Warbler?

Fall warblers can be challenging to identify because they often change to duller plumage compared to their bright spring colors, making them look similar to one another. Key identification tips include observing specific markings, behaviors, and habitat.

Here's a tip on how to identify them. This even works hours later at home with your reference guides. In the field with a hard-to-identify bird, write down every feature you see as if you were going to draw the bird. Don't forget habitat and behavior.

Details, details, details! The more details the better. If you get only a fleeting glimpse describe whatever jumps out at you.

Did You Know?

When enemies approach, Pied-billed Grebes switch to submarine mode by compressing their feathers to decrease their buoyancy and sink below the water's surface.

Habitat, where is it? What's it doing?

- Size and shape
- Chest Color
- Wing Bars
- Face Color
- Eye stripes or eye rings, solid or broken
- Beak Color and shape
- Leg Color
- Eye Color



Did You Know?

European Starlings can sing notes too high for humans to hear.



The warblers may not be in their beautiful breeding plumage and singing to the heavens as they do during the breeding season, in fact they rarely sing at all. That said, they are still interesting to identify.



BIRD & FLOWER Symbolism



In ancient times birds were considered signs from the gods. Augury was a Greco-Roman religious practice of observing the behavior of birds to receive omens. In Victorian times flowers had

their own "language" each type of flower having meaning. This was called Floriography and it was used widely in the nineteenth century. Here is a small sampling of birds and flowers with their meanings.

BIRDS:

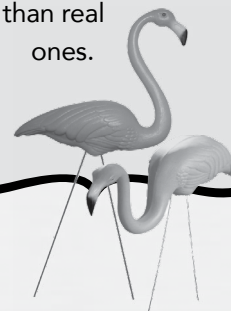
- The Robin – Meaning Hope
- The Blackbird – Meaning Transformation
- The Bluebird – Meaning Patience and hope
- The Catbird – Meaning Advantage
- The Finch – Meaning Domesticity
- The Grackle – Meaning Intrusion
- The Titmouse – Meaning Dishonesty

PLANTS:

- Basil – Meaning Hate
- Clover – Meaning Good Luck
- Crocus – Meaning Cheerfulness and youthful glee
- Fern – Meaning Magic
- Hydrangea – Meaning Boastfulness, Heartlessness
- Lavender – Meaning Distrust
- Sunflower – Meaning False Riches

Did You Know?

There are more fake flamingos on Earth than real ones.



Fall Seed Sale It's That Time of Year Again!

Bird Store Hours:
10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Monday - Saturday

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