



Title: A New Primer on Backyard Birding

Speaker: John Barber

Topic:

How can we best feed birds in our yards? The accepted wisdom of many feeders brimming with commercially-grown seeds is increasingly seen as one of the lowest priorities for helping both nesting and migrating birds.

Are we supporting birds that are relentless predators on open-cup nesting species? The answer lies in designing and planting a wide array of native trees, shrubs, and perennials to host the widest possible array of native insects, while avoiding the temptation to plant non-native and potentially invasive plants sometimes sold as "bird-friendly". Recent research suggests the highest probability of success for nesting Black-capped Chickadees results from yards planted with more than 70% native plants. We'll talk about turning yards of any size into truly bird-friendly habitats.