



1100 W. Moana Lane, Reno, NV 775-825-0602
11301 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 775-853-1319
7655 Pyramid Hwy., Sparks, NV 775-425-4300

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"Nature News" from Wild Birds Unlimited at Moana Nursery

Clearance Sale Continues thru Jan. 15th

Check out our sale area at Moana Lane to save 30% to 60% on selected feeders and more, including bird baths.

WBU Tidy Cylinder Feeder

Featuring a tray that reduces the amount of uneaten seed debris that falls to the ground, our Tidy Cylinder Feeder makes offering seed cylinders easy. Simply drop one of our exclusive seed cylinders (2 lbs.) or No-melt Dough Cylinders into the feeder, hang it, and watch your birds enjoy.

Our exclusively-formulated Seed Cylinders and No-melt Dough Cylinders keep birds at the feeders longer because they have to work to remove seeds. So instead of birds swooping in, grabbing a bite and taking off, Seed Cylinders give you a few extra moments of enjoyment.

Dimensions: 15" x 8" diameter

Feeder height: 8¼"

Tube: 4½" diameter



Wild Birds Unlimited - Tidy Cylinder Feeder



January Bird-of-the-Month:
Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker
Northern Flickers are large, brown woodpeckers with handsome black-scalloped plumage that live year-round in Nevada. Their brown plumage is richly patterned with black spots, bars, and crescents. The red-shafted (western) and yellow-shafted (eastern) forms of Northern Flickers were once classified as different species. Red-shafted or yellow-shafted refers to the color of the undersides of wing and tail feathers. The two forms hybridize

extensively in the area between their two ranges. It is not unusual at all to see a hybrid here, sometimes with yellow wing and tail feathers and the red mustache; or red-shafted with red nape crescent instead of red mustache.

When flushed, flickers often perch erect on horizontal branches rather than hitching up or around a tree trunk like most woodpeckers. Flickers do fly like most woodpeckers do, rising and falling smoothly as they intersperse periods of flapping with gliding.

Like most woodpeckers, Northern Flickers drum on objects as a form of communication and territory defense. The object is to make as loud a noise as possible, so metal poles and pipes are sometimes preferred targets for this drumming. This is an interesting behavior unless it's your roof vent pipe he chooses at five in the morning!

[Click here for more information about Northern Flickers](#)

Providing High-fat Foods



Typically, your feeders serve as a supplemental source of food for birds in your yard. In contrast, during periods of cold and severe winter weather, your birds may switch to utilizing them as the critical source of food that enables them to survive from day to day.

A 3-year study in Wisconsin concluded that when temperatures fall below 10 degrees, Black-capped Chickadees without access to feeders have only a 37% survival rate as opposed to the much higher 69% survival rate for those able to utilize feeders.

If chickadees are representative of other feeder birds, then your feeders can make a big difference in the number of birds that survive the winter.

Also, birds may burn up to 10% of their body weight in stored fat each night to stay warm...and this fat must be replaced every day.

Be sure to keep your feeders filled with the high-energy, high-fat foods that provide your birds with the crucial nutrition they need to survive.

High on the list of best choices to meet this nutritional need is Jim's Birdacious Bark

Butter. This peanut butter-based treat is loaded with fat and protein and is known to attract more than 100 species of birds.

Stop by the store soon, and check out the wide selection of high-fat foods that will help your birds fatten up and stay warm.

Jacque Lowery, Manager
Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shops at Moana Nursery

How to Help Your Birds During Winter

You can help your birds stay warm by offering the right foods that have an attractive blend of fat, protein and carbohydrates ... [see the complete story with photos here.](#)

Bird Sightings by Jacque Lowery

PLANT IT AND THEY WILL COME!



Any of you who have flowering crabapple trees, pyracanthas or Russian olives know what I'm talking about, especially right now with the cold weather. For a couple of weeks the number of American Robins in the yard has multiplied from the normal numbers to a dozen or more -- their target being my crabapples. With this week's frigid

temperatures, the robins have been joined by Cedar Waxwings on a daily basis.

Robins fuss a lot when other birds dare to eat from "their" tree, but I watched the two

species gobbling apples together from the same tree yesterday. This morning the waxwings (my favorite bird!) were so hungry and intent on breakfast that they paid no attention to me standing right at the tree. How cool to be so close to watch them hang almost upside down to grab an apple, swallow it quickly and go for the next one. So, no matter the size of your yard, there is room for at least one of the many varieties of flowering crabapple which are truly beautiful, four season trees as well. Plant one and see what visitors you attract!

[Click here for the rest of Jacques's article.](#)

January Nature Happenings

- * Project FeederWatch continues, www.birds.cornell.edu/pfw
- * Rather than search for worms in the frozen soil, large winter flocks of robins will visit fruit trees for food.
- * Cedar Waxwings will visit yards in search of fruit, often staying for hours before moving on.
- * Watch for Bald Eagles along the rivers.
- * Beaver mating season.
- * Juncos will hunt for fallen seed, often before dawn.
- * Tree-loving birds such as chickadees, nuthatches and various woodpeckers will leave their winter night's cavity or roost box in search of high-calorie food.
- * Listen for Great Horned Owls' "hoot" as they pair up for mating season.
- * Now through late March is a difficult time for birds; providing food and an open source of water is important.
- * Winter is a great time to look for birds' nests. Admire the craftsmanship, but leave the nest in place.
- * Aldo Leopold's (Father of Wildlife Conservation) birthday Jan. 11
- * The smaller the bird, the earlier it hunts for food in the winter darkness.* Quadrantid Meteor Shower early in the month. See up to 60 falling meteors per hour

Lahanton Audubon Society

Meetings are held the fourth Tuesday, August through May, at the Moana Nursery Landscape and Design Center, 1100 West Moana Lane, in Reno. Social hour begins at 6:30 pm; meeting begins at 7:00 pm.

- January 22, 2013 - Bartshe Miller - Mono Lake on the Rise, Birds on the Wing
- February 26, 2013 - David Jickling - Whose Whoos In Nevada? Owls of the

Truckee Meadows and Northeastern Sierra Nevada

- March 26, 2013 - Peggy Robinson - Birds, Mammals, and Hunter Gatherers of Tanzania and Botswana

[Click here to read all of Jacque's article and the complete list of Nature Happenings](#)

[Click here for more information on the Lahanton Audubon Society](#)



[Learn more about the Great Backyard Bird Count here.](#)

Announcing Moana Nursery's New Birthday Club - Beginning in 2013

Easy to join - just give us your birthday month and you'll receive a birthday gift from Moana Nursery during your birthday month. Sign up at any location. If you're already a Rewards Member, just ask the cashier to add your birth month to your account.

Did You Know?



Tuesday is a special day at all three Moana Nursery/Wild Birds Unlimited retail locations. We call it Senior and Military Tuesday ... show your appropriate ID and if you are 65 or older, or if you are a current member of any branch of our armed services, we are pleased to take an additional 10% off your total purchase.

Tuesday is the day we honor our seniors and our military volunteers;

we appreciate your service to our country.



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Moana Nursery | 1100 W. Moana Lane | 11301 S. Virginia St. | Reno | NV | 89509