



## Beyond the Bird Feeder : Winter Gardening for Bird Lovers

Once the garden is cleaned up, the perennials tucked in for the winter, and the last load of mulch has been spread out, many gardeners will want to welcome their feathered friends to give color, movement, and birdsong to their winter landscape. In addition to providing feeders near your favorite window and a heated water source, winter is a good time to plan for next year's garden. Aim for an array of plants that will be an inviting, supportive environment year-round. Include plants that provide nesting materials, nourishing seeds and fruit, attract delicious insects, and can give protective shelter during the cold months. Emphasis should be placed on native plants for their ability to attract birds. In our list, an [N] indicates one or more available native species. Cultivars of natives and non-native plants, however, might also produce bountiful food and shelter and may prove desirable in terms of design and beauty. We have chosen these Bowood Farms selections because of their continuing usefulness during the winter months. Enjoy sharing your garden with the birds!

ANNUALS: Allow to go to seed at the end of summer and don't cut back	Size/Type	Buntings, Cardinals, Grosbeaks	Chickadees & Titmice	Finches	Jays	Mockingbirds & Thrashers	Nuthatches	Orioles	Robins	Sparrows, Juncos, Towhees	Waxwings	Woodpeckers	Warblers
Botanical/Common Name													
<i>Amaranthus cau</i> /Love-Lies-Bleeding	48"/seed			✓						✓			
<i>Calendula off</i> /Pot Marigold	24"/plant	✓		✓						✓			
<i>Celosia</i> /Cockscomb	24"/seed	✓		✓						✓			
<i>Centaurea cya</i> /Bachelor's Buttons	30"/seed	✓		✓						✓			
<i>Cosmos spp</i> /Cosmos	48"/seed	✓	✓	✓						✓			
<i>Helianthus ann</i> /Sunflower	60"/seed	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
<i>Impatiens bal</i> /Garden Balsam	24"/seed	✓								✓			
<i>Mirabilis</i> /Four O'Clock	30"/seed	✓											
<i>Nigella</i> /Love-in-a-Mist	24"/seed			✓									
<i>Pennisetum glau</i> /Pearl Millet	48"/seed			✓						✓			
<i>Petunia</i> /Petunia	24"/plant									✓			
<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> /Black-Eyed Susan [N]	28"/plant	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓			
<i>Tagetes spp</i> /Marigold	18"/plant	✓		✓						✓			
<i>Tithonia rot</i> /Mexican Sunflower	48"/seed	✓	✓	✓						✓			
<i>Verbena bon</i> /Vervain	48"/plant	✓								✓			
<i>Zinnia spp</i> /Zinnia	24"/plant	✓	✓	✓						✓			

PERENNIALS: Allow to go to seed at the end of summer and don't cut back														
Botanical/Common Name	Size: H x W	Buntings, Cardinals, Grosbeaks	Chickadees & Titmice	Finches	Jays	Mockingbirds & Thrashers	Nuthatches	Orioles	Robins	Sparrows, Juncos, Towhees	Waxwings	Woodpeckers	Warblers	
<i>Actaea</i> spp /Doll's Eyes	36" x 24"					✓			✓			✓		
<i>Coreopsis</i> spp /Coreopsis [N]	18" x 24"	✓	✓	✓						✓				
<i>Echinacea</i> spp /Coneflower [N]	24" x 18"			✓						✓				
<i>Eupatorium</i> spp /Joe Pye Weed [N]	36" x 18"									✓				
<i>Helenium</i> spp /Sneezeweed [N]	48" x 30"	✓		✓						✓				
<i>Helianthus</i> spp /Perennial Sunflower [N]	48" x 24"	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓				
<i>Heliopsis</i> spp /Ox-eye Daisy [N]	30" x 24"			✓						✓				
<i>Oenothera</i> spp /Evening Primrose [N]	18" x 12"			✓										
<i>Persicaria</i> spp /Knotweed	30" x 36"	✓		✓				✓		✓				
<i>Ratibida</i> spp /Mexican Hat [N]	24" x 18"			✓										
<i>Rudbeckia</i> spp /Black-eyed Susan [N]	36" x 24"	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓				
<i>Sedum</i> spp /Sedum	12" x 12"		✓	✓										
<i>Silphium</i> spp /Cup Plant [N]	72" x 24"			✓						✓				
<i>Solidago</i> spp /Goldenrod [N]	30" x 18"	✓		✓						✓				
<i>Symphyotrichum</i> spp /Aster [N]	30" x 24"	✓		✓			✓			✓				
GRASSES:														
Botanical/Common Name	Size: H x W													
<i>Andropogon ger</i> /Big Bluestem [N]	8' x 3'			✓						✓				
<i>Bouteloua cur</i> /Sideoats Grama [N]	3' x 1'	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓				
<i>Carex mus</i> /Palm Sedge [N]	3' x 3'									✓				
<i>Chasmantium lat</i> /River Oats [N]	3' x 2.5'	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓				
<i>Panicum vir</i> /Switch Grass [N]	6' x 3'	✓						✓		✓				
<i>Schizachyrium sco</i> /Little Bluestem [N]	3' x 1.5'	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓			✓	
<i>Sorghastrum nut</i> /Indian Grass [N]	5' x 2'			✓						✓				
<i>Sporobolus het</i> /Prairie Dropseed [N]	2' x 2.5'			✓						✓				
Other grasses that provide cover and possibly have seeds and/or attract insects as an additional food sources are: <i>Deschampsia ces</i> /Tufted Hairgrass [N]; <i>Festuca glau</i> /Blue Fescue; <i>Hakonechloa mac</i> /Hakone Grass; <i>Miscanthus sin</i> /Maiden Grass; <i>Muhlenbergia cap</i> /Muhly Grass [N]; <i>Pennisetum alo</i> /Fountain Grass as well as cultivars of the above native grasses.														

SHRUBS:													
Botanical/Common Name	Size: H x W	Buntings, Cardinals, Grosbeaks	Chickadees & Titmice	Finches	Jays	Mockingbirds & Thrashers	Nuthatches	Orioles	Robins	Sparrows, Juncos, Towhees	Waxwings	Woodpeckers	Warblers
<i>Aronia spp</i> /Chokeberry [N]	6' x 4'				✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	
<i>Berberis</i> /Barberry	4' x 5'	✓				✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Callicarpa amer</i> /Beautyberry [N]	5' x 4'					✓		✓	✓			✓	
<i>Cephalanthus occ</i> /Buttonbush [N]	10' x 6'		✓	✓					✓	✓			
<i>Cornus spp</i> /Red Twig Dogwood [N]	7' x 6'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Cotoneaster spp</i> /Cotoneaster	3' x 6'	✓				✓		✓	✓		✓		
<i>Ilex x mes</i> /Evergreen Holly and <i>Ilex ver</i> /Winterberry [N]	10' x 8'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Juniperus spp</i> /Juniper	3' x 7'	✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Lindera ben</i> /Spicebush [N]	10' x 8'	✓				✓			✓	✓		✓	
<i>Opuntia</i> /Prickly Pear [N]	1' x 1.5'	✓										✓	
<i>Pyracantha</i> /Firethorn	16' x 12'	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Rhamnus car</i> /Carolina Buckthorn [N]	14' x 12'	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
<i>Rhus spp</i> /Sumac [N]	4' x 6'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Rosa spp</i> , especially <i>R. caro</i> , <i>R. pal</i> and <i>R. set</i> /Rose [N]	6' x 8'	✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓		
<i>Sambucus nigra</i> /Elderberry	15' x 10'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Symphoricarpos orb</i> /Coralberry [N]	5' x 6'								✓				
<i>Viburnum spp</i> /Viburnum [N]	10' x 8'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
VINES:													
Botanical/Common Name	Size: H x W												
<i>Celastrus scan</i> /Bittersweet Vine [N]	18' x 5'	✓				✓			✓		✓	✓	
<i>Lonicera flav</i> /Honeysuckle Vine [N]	18' x 5'	✓		✓		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Parthenocissus quinq</i> /Virginia Creeper [N]	40' x 9'	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓
<i>Passiflora inc</i> /Passionflower Vine [N]	7' x 5'					✓		✓	✓				
<i>Vitis spp</i> /Grape, especially <i>V. riparia</i> /Wild Grape [N] and <i>V. aest</i> /Summer Grape	30' x 5'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

TREES: Botanical/Common Name	Size: H x W	Buntings, Cardinals, Grosbeaks	Chickadees & Titmice	Finches	Jays	Mockingbirds & Thrashers	Nuthatches	Orioles	Robins	Sparrows, Juncos, Towhees	Waxwings	Woodpeckers	Warblers
<i>Acer</i> spp [except <i>A. rub</i> and <i>A. sacc</i> which set seed in summer] /Maple	25' x 15'	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	
<i>Betula</i> spp /Beech [N]	35' x 15'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Carpinus</i> spp /Hornbeam [N]	30' x 25'			✓								✓	
<i>Cercis can</i> /Eastern Redbud [N]	30' x 25'	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	
<i>Chionanthus ref</i> /Fringe Tree [N]	18' x 15'	✓			✓	✓			✓			✓	
<i>Cornus</i> spp /Dogwood [N]	25' x 20'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Corylus amer</i> /Hazelnut [N]	15' x 10'				✓							✓	
<i>Crataegus</i> spp /Hawthorn [N]	30' x 20'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓		
<i>Diospyros virg</i> /Persimmon [N]	50' x 30'					✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
<i>Fagus</i> spp /Beech	30' x 20'	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓		✓	
<i>Ilex aquif, I. opaca</i> /Evergreen Holly [N]	30' x 20'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
<i>Juniperus</i> spp /Juniper [N]	25' x 10'	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Magnolia</i> spp /Magnolia [N]	35' x 20'	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
<i>Malus</i> /Crabapple	20' x 15'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Nyssa</i> spp /Black Gum [N]	40' x 25'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
<i>Picea</i> spp /Spruce	40' x 20'	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓	✓	✓	
<i>Pinus</i> spp /Pine	40' x 20'	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<i>Populus trem</i> /American Aspen [N]	50' x 25'			✓				✓				✓	
<i>Quercus</i> spp /Oak [N]	60' x 50'	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
<i>Tsuga can</i> /Hemlock	50' x 25'		✓	✓						✓			

SOURCES AND WEBSITES: This tipsheet was compiled from numerous sources in an attempt to connect birds often found in winter gardens with plants generally available at Bowood Farms. Remember that most backyard birds are generalists when it comes to food choices. A buffet approach will be more successful than trying to find a specific plant for each bird! We highly recommend the following websites: Habitat Network, a citizen science website of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology with "live" local bird sightings at <http://content.yardmap.org/explore/recent-ebird-sightings-near-you/?latitude=38.64596&longitude=-90.25286> , as well as helpful native plant information. Cornell also has the best online bird guide at <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/search/> . Audubon also has a good bird guide at <http://www.audubon.org/bird-guide> and an email tool to select native plants at <http://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds> . GrowNative's plant database can be filtered for "wildlife - food/birds" at <http://grownative.org/native-plant-info/plant-picker/> . Two helpful books are: *Attracting Birds* [McKinley, Ortho, 2001] and *North American Birdfeeder Guide* [Burton and Kress, Audubon, 2009].