

## Useful Websites!

<http://brevard.ifas.ufl.edu/> This site has information on the Brevard County Extension office.

<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/> Look under the Info Center in the left hand column and click on Plant Info Databases for info on trees, shrubs and other plants.

<http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody> To search for the right tree, click on selection in the left column under Trees. At the bottom of the page click on tree selection software, then hardiness zones 8-11, then under Tools, in left column, click on tree selection.

<http://search.ufl.edu/web?site=edis.ifas.ufl.edu/> This site will search for all of the bulletins written by specialists from the University of Florida.

<http://www.floridaconservation.org/viewing/inyourbackyard/refuge.htm> This site has all of the information in the book Planting a Refuge for Wildlife. It covers birds, mammals, reptiles & amphibians, butterflies and hummers.

<http://www.wec.ufl.edu/> Site for the Wildlife and Ecology Conservation Department.

<http://myfwc.com/> This site has information on all of the animals that live in Florida. Check under wildlife and then wildlife viewing.

<http://www.nsis.org/bird/index.html> This site has information on Florida's birds. They have information on gardening for birds, feeders & water and nest boxes.

<http://www.google.com/> Type in the scientific name of any plant and click on search to get information on the plant. Search under Images and you will get photos of the plant, birds, etc.

## Providing cover!

Provide cover by simply layering the plant material in your yard so that the plants are multi-tiered. Aim for a mixture of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. Other ways to provide cover include keeping brush piles around the landscape, making nest boxes and when a pine tree dies just cut it off at 15 feet high and leave the trunk (or snag) for the woodpeckers.

## Providing water!

What birds look for in a birdbath:

- No deeper than 3 inches
- Rough texture so they won't slip
- The sound of dripping water attracts birds – an easy way to do this is fill a 2 liter bottle with water and poke tiny holes in the side so the water slowly leaks out.
- Keep the birdbath away from shrubs and other cover that a cat could hide in and attack the birds from. (Speaking of cats, if you won't keep them inside then at least put a bell on their collar to give the birds a fighting chance!)

If you are really ambitious and have some spare time build a **POND!**

## Special Note on Pest Control

- Don't use harsh pesticides
- Use Insecticidal soap or Ultra-fine horticultural oil.
- Use liquid seaweed (Maxicrop) too.

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## University of Florida/ Brevard County Extension



## Attracting Birds

### Two Office Locations:

3695 Lake Drive	1455 Treeland Blvd. SE
Cocoa, FL 32926	Palm Bay, FL 32909
(321) 633-1702	(321) 952-4536

# Attracting birds – it's easy!

There are three main areas to cover.

Food      Cover      Water

## What's the best source of food?

Native plants – no doubt about it! Here are some of the plants that you can add to your yard to feed and/or shelter birds.

### Trees

**Common name** (*Scientific name*)

Blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica*)

Blue beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*)

Cherry laurel (*Prunus caroliniana*)

Chickasaw plum (*Prunus angustifolia*)

Hollies (*Ilex* spp.) (*I. cassine*)

Elms (*Ulmus* spp.)

Flatwoods plum (*Prunus umbellata*)

Fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*)

Geiger-tree (*Cordia sebestena*)

Green cocoplum (*Chrysobalanus icaco*)

Gumbo limbo (*Bursera simaruba*)

Hercule's club (*Zanthoxylum clava-hercules*)

Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*)

Oaks (*Quercus* spp.)

Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*)

May hawthorn (*Crataegus aestivalis*)

Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*)

Pigeon plum (*Coccoloba diversifolia*)

Hickories (*Carya* spp.) (*C. glabra, floridana*)

Pond apple (*Annona glabra*)

Pygmy fringetree (*Chionanthus pygmaeus*)

Redbay (*Persea borbonia*)

Red mulberry (*Morus rubra*)

Satinleaf (*Chrysophyllum oliviforme*)

Seagrape (*Coccoloba uvifera*)

Simpson's stopper (*Myrcianthes fragrans*)

Southern magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*)

Southern redcedar (*Juniperus silicicola*)

Sparkleberry (*Vaccinium arboreum*)

Sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*)

Summer haw (*Crataegus flava*)

Swamp bay (*Persea palustris*)

Swamp dogwood (*Cornus foemina*)

Sweet acacia (*Acacia farnesiana*)

Sweetbay magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*)

Wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*)

White stopper (*Eugenia axillaries*)

Wild lime (*Zanthoxylum fagara*)

Wild olive (*Osmanthus americanus*)

Winged elm (*Ulmus alata*)

Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*)

### Shrubs

Bahama coffee (*Psychotria ligustrifolia*)

Beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*)

Christmas berry (*Lycium carolinianum*)

Fiddlewood (*Citharexylum spinosum*)

Firebush (*Hamelia patens*)

Florida privet (*Forestiera segregata*)

Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*)

Indian hawthorn (*Rhaphiolepis indica*)

Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*)

Inkberry (*Scaevola plumieri*)

Jamaica caper (*Capparis synphallophora*)

Marlberry (*Ardisia escallonioides*)

Myrsine (*Rapanea punctata*)

Necklace pod (*Sophora tomentosa* var *truncata*)

Pyracantha (*Pyracantha coccinea*)

Saltbush (*Baccharis halimifolia*)

Shiny blueberry (*Vaccinium myrsinites*)

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*)

Walter's viburnum (*Viburnum obovatum*)

White indigo berry (*Randia aculeate*)

Wild coffee (*Psychotria nervosa*)

### Palms

Cabbage palm (*Sabal palmetto*)

Dwarf palmetto (*Sabal minor*)

Florida thatch palm (*Thrinax radiata*)

Key thatch palm (*Thrinax morrisii*)

Paurotis palm (*Acoelorrhaphie wrightii*)

Sargent's cherry palm (*Pseudophoenix sargentii*)

Saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*)

Silver palm (*Coccothrinax argentata*)

### Vines

Coral honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*)

### Herbaceous perennials

Milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.)

### Flowers

Asters (*Symphyotrichum* spp.)

Black eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia hirta*)

Blanket flower (*Gaillardia pulchella*)

Coreopsis (*Coreopsis* spp.)

Marigolds (*Tagetes* spp.)

Mexican sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)

Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Sunflowers (*Helianthus* spp.)

Zinnias (*Zinnia* spp.)

### Birdfeeders

Single type of seed causes less waste. Hang it where you can see it. Can also use suet baskets or seed cakes.

### Right Plant, Right Place:

Make sure the plant you choose will work in your yard. Check the plants.....

pH (many plants can tolerate a wide range)

light conditions (full sun, partial sun, shade)

soil moisture (dry/droughty, moist or wet)

hardiness zone (hardy 9B or tender 10A+)

mature height & spread (will they fit the area)