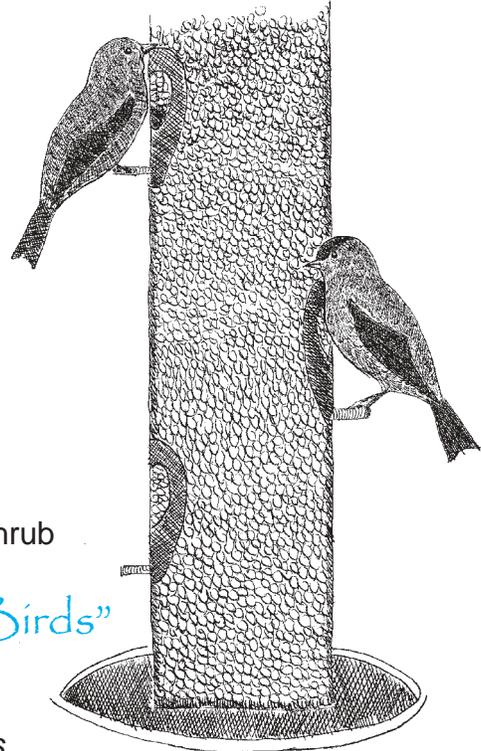


City Gardens

People who live in apartments, condominiums or townhouses can provide habitat for wildlife. There are almost no limitations to the types of habitat elements we can provide in an urban setting, and there are a limited number of wildlife species likely to be present. However, with a little creativity, habitat can be provided for wildlife even in limited space.

Space Savers for City Gardens

- Tube feeders
- Hanging baskets
- Trellis for climbing plants
- Hummingbird and Oriole feeders
- Branches trained out past railings
- Dwarf varieties of trees and shrubs
- Suction-cup bird feeders on windows
- Nesting shelves for phoebes and robins
- Window box with nectar or seed-producing plants
- Container gardens on balconies, decks, or roof tops
- Interplantings of trees, shrubs and annuals
- Annuals placed in a larger container with a tree or shrub



Food Preferences of some “Downtown Birds”

Blue jay	<i>peanuts, sunflower seeds</i>
Cardinal	<i>sunflower seeds, fruit</i>
Hummingbird	<i>sugar water, nectar from flowers</i>
Robin	<i>worms</i>
Rock dove (pigeon)	<i>seeds</i>
American crow	<i>wheat, rice</i>

Containers

Never underestimate the effects of planting in containers! Small areas, such as fenced in backyards and porches, can be completely transformed by planters. You can use the more traditional pots, or branch out into anything that will hold soil and some moisture. Old wooden boxes or crates, tubs, tires, stumps, even old tin pails with a few holes drilled in the bottom can all be utilized to transform your city space into a gardener’s paradise. You could even create a perfect butterfly garden by putting some larger planters clustered together in an area of sunlight that is protected from the wind. *See the information on butterfly gardening to learn what to plant for butterflies.*

Window Boxes

A window box can support the same basic processes as any natural area; soil, water, sunlight and plants combine to produce life in a microcosm. Provide flowering plants in your window box like grasses and wildflowers that will produce seeds for songbirds. Place a heavy shallow pan filled with fresh water in the center of the box all year round.