



Wild Bird Chalet

705 Kentucky Street, Bellingham, WA, 98225 360-734-0969

Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2011

We're Open:

Monday-Friday
11:00 to 5:00
Saturday
10:00 to 4:00

WildBirdChalet.com

Three blocks south of
Trader Joes, behind
Les Schwab Tires

Feeder Fresh



Keep your feeder dry
with these silica
(similar to sand)
granules. Safe if eaten
by birds.
No more mold.

New Seed Cake

"Nutsie" is full of
mixed nuts and dried
fruit. It has no filler
seed like milo or millet -
Just the good stuff!



A clean way to feed
the birds.

Whole Peanut Feeders

Keep Stellar Jays busy
with food they love.



Chickadees and
nuthatches are also
drawn to this high
protein treat.

Stokes Field Guide To Birds of North America



Multiple pictures of
mature and juvenile
birds in flight and
resting. Beautiful book!
Includes song CD.

Seed Price Fluctuation

While sometimes our
seed prices go up
(because our supplier
charges more), we take
pride in lowering prices
whenever we can.

Last year we
dropped prices on
two dozen different
seed quantities!

Still the best seed in
Whatcom County!

Fresh Seed

Happy, Healthy Birds

Bird Bites

Whatcom County is rich in great birding spots, but nothing is as near as your own backyard for close-up viewing!

Scudder's Pond: Near the corner of Alabama and Electric, next to Lake Whatcom. Some sightings: Wood Duck, Virginia Rail, Bullock's Oriole, Green Heron, Red-winged Blackbird.

Stimson Reserve: On Lake Louise Road, 1.6 miles north of Lakeway. Almost 400 acres with old growth forest, ponds and hiking trails. Some sightings: Varied Thrush, Brown Creeper, Pygmy Owl, Red-breasted Nuthatch.

Sunset Pond: On James Street, just north of Sunset Drive, with a hiking trail on the north side. Some sightings:



Wood Ducks seen at Scudder's Pond.
Photo courtesy of Brian Jones.

Merlin Falcon, Olive-sided Flycatcher,
Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Osprey.

Bug Lake: Birchwood Avenue, just east of Meridian, below the hospital. Some sightings: Hummingbird nests, Red-tailed Hawk, Hairy Woodpecker.

Lake Whatcom & Whatcom Creek: East of Bellingham, running to the sea. Some sightings: American Dipper,

Hermit Thrush, Belted Kingfisher, Merlin Falcon, Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Lake Padden: On South Samish Way, east of I-5. Some sightings: Bald Eagle, Pileated Woodpecker, Western Tanager, Horned Lark, Vaux's Swift.

Tennant Lake: At Hovander Homestead in Ferndale, Main Street exit. Some sightings: Northern Harrier, Violet-green and Tree Swallows.

Drayton Harbor/Semiahmoo Spit: Last three exits before the border. Some sightings: Whimbrel, Snowy Owl, Peregrine Falcon, Caspian Tern.

Don't forget the Chuckanut Mountains (songbirds galore), Lummi Island (for hummingbirds), Skagit Flats (many migrants) and Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary in B.C. (more than 268 species sighted).

Northern Harrier:

superb rodent hunter



Predators at Feeders



Raptors are meat eaters that have excellent vision, strong feet with sharp talons and a curved beak. In order to survive, they eat varied diets, which include insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, small and medium-sized mammals, and dead animals, as well as other birds.

These hunter birds play an important role in keeping rodent (and even songbird) numbers in balance. Raptors make many attempts to capture prey, but miss most of the time. As with other predators, they tend to take the sick and old first.

To offer a safe feeding area, put your bird feeders near trees or shrubs, which provide a quick escape route for the more maneuverable small birds. Also consider using a feeder inside a cage for easy feeding access and protection from predators. In addition, keep areas on the ground clear, so stalking cats have nothing to hide behind.

Wrought Iron Hangers

These sturdy hangers offer an attractive way to secure your bird feeder. Free-standing Shepherd's Hooks can be easily moved from one location to another. They come in different heights, with the option of using extenders for just the right view from your window. Great for bird feeders, houses, baths, hanging baskets, even lanterns.



For decks, you can choose clamp-on or screw-on brackets that swivel in or remain stationary. They come in various lengths, sizes and shapes.

The Wild Bird Chalet carries a variety of parts, like ground stakes, stabilizers, chains and branch hooks, that you can mix and match to satisfy your unique situation.

We have searched for and found what we believe are the sturdiest and longest lasting hooks and hangers. Some are hand-forged for an artistic addition to your yard. Almost all are made in the United States.

Product Testing

At the Wild Bird Chalet we enjoy trying out the new feeders and accessories that come into the store. We also routinely ask customers how their new feeder and seed are working out. Feel free to ask what we've learned.



Useful Information:

- Birds sometimes take a little while to warm up to a new feeder or location. They also seem to prefer finding the same food day after day. Forget changing seed type for variety's sake. As often as they visit our feeders, birds still get most of their food from wild sources.
- Some feeders that work in other areas of the country, don't stand up well to our high wind and rain; others are fantastic!
- Cheap feeders end up costing more.
- Domes really do keep seed dryer.

After testing, we offer these used feeders for sale at 20% off the normal price. Check and see if we have any.