"Love Birds"

The Benefits of Birds in Your Backyard

Beckey Watson, HMGA

October 7, 2019

Resources

National Audobon Society (audobon.org)

 The Great American Backyard Bird Count February 14-17, 2020 (gbbc.birdcount.org)

 Richmond Audubon Society

 PO Box 26648

 Richmond - VA 23261

 (richmondaudobon.org)

National Wildlife Federation (nwf.org)

 Ranger Rick for kids (rangerrick.org)

 Certify your backyard, schoolyard, work landscape

 (nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife/certify)

Virginia Bluebird Society (virginiabluebirds.org)

 $10 annually to join, get newsletter

*Bringing Nature Home* by Douglas W. Tallamy

 How you can sustain wildlife with native plants.

The Cornell Lab (www.allaboutbirds.org)

 "Merlin" Bird I.D.

Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries - "Habitat for Home" booklet

Per Richmond Audobon Society: If you feel a young bird is orphaned, call the A.R.K. hotline at (804) 598-8380.

If a wild animal has been injured or truly orphaned, locate a licensed wildlife rehabilitator by calling the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries’ toll-free wildlife conflict helpline at 1-855-571-9003, 8:00AM-4:30PM, Monday through Friday

(www.dgif.virginia.gov/wildlife/injured/rehabilitators)

Licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator:

Kimberly Cameron Bumpass (540) 205-7681

Amphibians, Birds, Fawns, High Risk Rabies, Lizards, Raptors, Small Mammals, Snakes, Turtles, Waterfowl

Directions for making safe hummingbird food:

Mix 1 cup of sugar with 4 cups of water until the sugar is dissolved.
Do not add red dye.

Extra sugar water can be stored in a refrigerator.

nationalzoo.si.edu

With this vegetarian version of suet (traditionally it's made from rendered animal fat) you can provide the perfect winter substitute for birds that normally feast on insects.

Materials:

• 1 1/2 cups shortening (look for palm oil free options)

• 3/4 cups nut butter (any kind)

• 3 1/2 cups wild bird seed

• 1 cup quick oats

• 1/2 cup corn meal

• Ice cube tray

Steps:

1. Mix the dry ingredients of birdseed, oats, and corn meal together and set aside.

2. Combine the shortening and nut butter in a separate bowl and melt. Stir until completely combined.

3. Pour the melted mixture into the dry ingredients and stir until combined.

4. Spoon mixture into the ice cube tray.

5. Freeze for one to two hours, then place in your suet feeder.

*Note: Not recommended for outdoor temperatures above 50 degrees.*

"The Misfit Baker" *blog.*