

Birds in Iowa



Cardinals

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular but Tray or Platform Feeders Work Well

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Heats, Safflower, Cracked Corn, Suet, Peanut Butter

Other Notes: Cardinals prefer a steady stationary feeder about 5-6' above ground, they prefer sunflower seeds and stay within one to two miles of their nest.



Blue Jay

Type of Bid Feeder: Tray, Platform, Suet, or Fly Through Feeders

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Picks, Peanut Hearts, Peanut Butter, Safflower, Cracked Corn, Suet

Other Notes: Blue Jays are known for their beautiful blue color but also for being a bully at the feeder. They are very territorial over their nest and will dive at cats, dog, or humans.



Downy Woodpecker

Type of Bid Feeder: Suet

Type of Food: Suet, Peanut Butter

Other Notes: Downy woodpeckers will eat insects in the trees and suet from feeders. It prefers to nest inside trees.



Cedar Wax Wing

Type of Bid Feeder: Platform

Type of Food: Berries or Apples

Other Notes: They prefer a woodland like setting to nest in and forage. They are attracted to areas where maples and cedars grow, as well as sources of berries.



Indigo Bunting

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular

Type of Food: Millet, Thistle

Other Notes: Indigo Buntings migrate south for the winter.



Flicker

Type of Bid Feeder: Suet, Ground Feeder

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Peanut Butter, Cracked Corn, Suet

Other Notes: Prefer Black Oil Sunflower Seed or Suet Feeders. Flickers will use a properly constructed bird house for nesting.

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Junco

Type of Bid Feeder: Ground

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Millet, Peanut Hearts, Peanut Butter, Thistle

Other Notes: They are a monogamous bird with their partner.



Sparrow

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Cracked Corn, Suet

Other Notes: Are the most common birds in North America, many people consider them to be a nuisance that distract the "real" birds from coming to their feeders.



White Breasted Nuthatch

Type of Bid Feeder: Hopper or Suet

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Picks, Peanut Hearts, Peanut Butter, Suet

Other Notes: The white breasted nuthatch can go down a tree head first.



Chickadee

Type of Bid Feeder: Tube, Platform, Window

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Picks, Peanut Hearts, Peanut Butter, Suet, Thistle

Other Notes: Chickadees are very curious about their surroundings & will investigate humans and feeders quite quickly. Known for being a "cute" bird due their round head.



Gold Finch

Type of Bid Feeder: Tube, Window, Thistle Feeder

Type of Food: Thistle, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Hearts

Other Notes: This is Iowa's state bird. Males are the bright yellow pictured here while females are a paler muted yellow color. Eat mostly sunflower & thistle.



Purple Finch

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Hearts, Cracked Corn, Safflower, Thistle

Other Notes: Eat primarily black oiled sunflower seeds.

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Robin

Type of Bid Feeder: Ground

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Millet, Peanut Hearts, Peanut Butter, Thistle

Other Notes: When the robins appear it is considered to be the official sign that Spring has arrived.



Baltimore Oriole

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Whole or Cracked Corn, Nectar, Fruit

Other Notes: This bird is eagerly awaited in the spring time as it migrates north. Placing oranges on feeders can help attract these birds to your yard.



Brown Thrasher

Type of Bid Feeder: Platform or Suet

Type of Food: Peanut Butter or Suet

Other Notes: Brown Thrasher are known best for their aggressive song habits. They will also viciously attack humans or pets if they get near their nest.



Ruby Throated Hummingbird

Type of Bid Feeder: Hummingbird Feeder

Type of Food: Nectar

Other Notes: The most common species of Hummingbird in Iowa. Only found during the summer months.

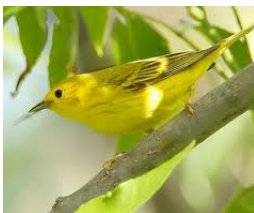


Rufous Hummingbird

Type of Bid Feeder: Hummingbird Feeder

Type of Food: Nectar

Other Notes: The other species of Hummingbirds found in Iowa, although these are less common. Only found during the summer months.



Yellow Warbler

Type of Bid Feeder: Not Particular

Type of Food: Seed Mix, Black Sunflower, Sunflower Hearts, Peanut Hearts, Cracked Corn, Safflower, Thistle

Other Notes:

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