**BIRDS MATTER**

Did you know that……

- birds eat bugs like mosquitoes?
- birds help pollinate plants?
- birds help control pests like rats and mice?
- birds spread seeds and pollinate flowers?
- birds bring beauty, joy, and music to our city?

**CHECKLIST**

Have you seen these birds?

- American Crow
- American Robin
- Anna's Hummingbird
- Black-Capped Chickadee
- California Scrub-Jay
- Cooper's Hawk
- Dark-Eyed Junco
- Downy Woodpecker
- House Finch
- Northern Flicker
- Song Sparrow
- Western Tananger

**LIGHTS OUT PORTLAND**

Did you know that most songbirds migrate at night using the moon and stars to navigate?

Lights left on at night confuse birds, making them lose their way or crash into things. To help, you can turn off your lights at night, especially during migration periods: Fall (August 25 - November 15) and Spring (March 15 - June 7).

**4 WAYS**

To protect birds in your neighborhood:

1. **Keep your cat indoors!**
   - Cats are one of the biggest hazards to birds! They kill billions of birds each year. Keep your cat indoors, especially during the spring nesting season. Get your cat neutered or spayed!

2. **Help birds SEE windows**
   - Windows are usually invisible to birds! They see the reflection of sky and trees and fly right into them. Create beautiful patterns or paintings on your windows to make them visible, or stick a decal on the outside!

3. **Provide habitat for birds!**
   - If possible, plant trees and bushes which give birds food and places to hide and nest.

4. **Turn out the lights!**
   - Many birds migrate at night and get lost when they can’t see the stars. Participate in Lights Out Portland!

**POCKET GUIDE TO IDENTIFYING**

in your neighborhood

For more information:

- www.portlandaudubon.org
- www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/ee

Photographs taken by Scott Carpenter, Jim Cruce, Hayley Crews and Molly Sultany
**AMERICAN CROW**
aka “Smarty Pants”
Crows will eat almost anything: from worms, to seeds, to human garbage! They are extremely intelligent problem solvers. Crows can use tools and remember human faces.

**BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE**
aka “Cutie Pie”
This curious little bird eats lots of bugs! It also hides seeds all around your neighborhood, and can remember thousands of hiding spots. It nests and sleeps in holes in trees. It has many different songs to communicate with other birds, but people mostly recognize it’s “chicka-dee-dee-dee” call!

**AMERICAN ROBIN**
aka “Worm Eater”
Look for this common songbird hopping in the grass hunting for worms and bugs to eat. In the winter, they gather in large flocks in trees to eat and rest. Learn to recognize its lovely song!

**CALIFORNIA SCRUB-JAY**
aka “Eyebrows”
Look for this noisy and mischievous bird making bold hops on the ground or burying acorns to eat during the winter. They eat mostly insects in the summer.

**ANNA’S HUMMINGBIRD**
aka “Jellybean”
This hummingbird is often heard before it is seen. It makes loud buzzes and squeaks. It stays in Portland all year long, thanks to hummingbird feeders. It makes its nest out of lichen and spider webs, and lays eggs the size of jellybeans!

**COOPER’S HAWK**
aka “Bird Eater”
This smallish hawk is a fast flyer! It eats other birds almost exclusively. You might see it perched by your bird feeder, or hunting pigeons downtown. Another sign that a Cooper’s Hawk is nearby: a pile of feathers (and maybe bones) on the ground.

**HOUSE FINCH**
aka “Big Beak”
The house finch has a large beak for cracking seeds. They are almost entirely vegetarian! Males have cheerful red heads, and become redder depending on the food they eat.

**DOWNY WOODPECKER**
aka “Hammer Head”
This little woodpecker doesn’t sing! It makes a hammering sound by ramming its head against a tree or metal post. It mostly eats bugs it finds on trees. Look for it crawling up and down tree trunks searching for food!

**SONG SPARROW**
aka “Birdyoncé”
Male birds sing to attract a mate. They learn from older birds, and when they are young, their songs can be awful! A female chooses the mate with the most complex song.

**BLACK-EYED JUNCO**
aka “Hoodie”
The Junco is one of the most common birds in North America. Need another reason to keep your cat indoors? The Junco makes its nest on the ground, often in grassy fields.

**NORTHERN FLICKER**
aka “Lucky”
One of the only woodpeckers that feeds on the ground. You can find it eating beetles on sidewalks and in grass, or hear males hammering on metal poles during mating season. Look for beautiful neon-orange feathers around your neighborhood. These are good luck!

**BLACK-BACKED CHICKADEE**
aka “Cutie Pie”
This curious little bird eats lots of bugs! It also hides seeds all around your neighborhood, and can remember thousands of hiding spots. It nests and sleeps in holes in trees. It has many different songs to communicate with other birds, but people mostly recognize it’s “chicka-dee-dee-dee” call!

**DONNY WOODPECKER**
aka “Hammer Head”
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