

WHERE TO PLACE YOUR BIRD HOUSES

INFORMATION FROM CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY

Type of Birdhouse	Species	Nesting Habitat	Box Height From Ground	Minimum Spacing
Standard Birdhouse	Black-Capped Chickadee	Forests, woodlots, and yards with mature hardwood trees, forest edges, meadows; area should receive 40-60% sunlight, hole should face away from prevailing wind; 1" wood shavings can be placed in box	5-15 feet	650 feet
	Brown-Headed Nuthatch	Open stands of pine-hardwood forests, clearings scattered with dead trees, forest edges, burned areas, cypress swamps	5-10 feet	1 box per 6 acres
	Carolina Chickadee	Forests, woodlots, and yards with mature hardwood trees, forest edges, meadows; area should receive 40-60% sunlight, hole should face away from prevailing wind. Unlike other chickadees, Carolina Chickadee does not do much excavating, so wood chips are not necessary.	4-15 feet	30 feet
	House Wren	Variety of habitats, farmland, openings, open forests, forest edges, shrub lands, suburban gardens, parks, backyards; near trees or tall shrubs	5-10 feet	100 feet
	Prothonotary Warbler	Lowland hardwood forests subject to flooding, stagnant water, swamps, ponds, marshes, streams, flooded river valleys, wet bottomlands; box should be over or near water	4-12 feet	235 feet
	Red Breasted Nuthatch	Mixed coniferous-deciduous forests, shrub lands, swamps, farmlands, suburban parks; hole should face away from prevailing wind; 1" wood shavings can be placed in box	5-15 feet	150 feet
	Tufted Titmouse	Deciduous forest, thick timber stands, woodland clearings, forest edges, woodlots, riparian and mesquite habitats; hole should face away from prevailing wind	5-15 feet	580 feet
	White-Breasted Nuthatch	Deciduous woodlands, mature forests, woodlots, near open areas, forest edges, orchards, often near water; hole should face away from prevailing wind; 1" wood shavings can be placed in box	5-20 feet	1,040 feet
Bluebird House	Eastern Bluebird	Open field or lawn; orchards; open, rural country with scattered trees and low or sparse ground cover; entrance hole should face open field, preferring east, north, south, and then west-facing directions	3-6 feet	300 feet
	Tree Swallow	Open fields near water, expansive open areas, marshes, meadows, wooded swamps; on a post in open areas near tree or fence, east facing	5-6 feet	35 feet
Carolina Wren Birdhouse	Carolina Wren	Forests with thick underbrush, forest edges, woodland clearings, open forests, shrub lands, suburban gardens, parks, backyards; near trees or tall shrubs	3-6 feet	330 feet
Northern Flicker Birdhouse	Northern Flicker	Pastures, groves, woodlots, orchards, fields, meadows, woodland clearings, forest edges, urban parks, on pole or tree at forest edge or along fence rows bordering crop fields; south or east facing; box should be completely filled with wood chips or shavings	3-12 feet	330 feet

Note: The "type of birdhouse" is the name of the birdhouse as seen on the tag at Sycamore Spring Farm and is not necessarily a standard birdhouse name. All the birds in this listing are common birds to both Maryland and Pennsylvania. – SycamoreSpringFarmPA.org