



Birds of the National Garden



Since its creation in 2006, the National Garden has provided habitat for

than 30 bird species have been recorded in the garden to date. These birds are an important part of the garden, and are great indicators of its health and we think of plants as useful only to humans, without thinking of the habitat they provide for local wildlife.

Covering three acres of downtown Washington, D.C., the National Garden serves as a lush haven in the midst of the city. The native plants in the Region and shelter, as natural areas in the mostly urban environments of D.C. recede.

The birds of the National Garden list is designed to serve as a companion to the existing plant information in the garden, providing a more complete view and the relationships between them. Understanding how plants, animals, and their environments interact is necessary to conserving and better understand

| Bird Common Name | Scientific Name | Companion Plant | Scientific Name | Relationship |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| American Crow | <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i> | black oak | <i>Quercus velutina</i> | roosting site, nesting site, food |
| American Robin | <i>Turdus migratorius</i> | trumpet honeysuckle | <i>Lonicera sempervirens</i> | food source |
| Barn Swallow | <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | American black elderberry | <i>Sambucus nigra</i> | food source |
| Blue Jay | <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i> | black oak | <i>Quercus velutina</i> | food, dispersal, shelter |
| Brown Thrasher | <i>Toxostoma rufum</i> | Eastern red-cedar | <i>Juniperus virginiana</i> | nesting |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | <i>Molothrus ater</i> | highbush blueberry | <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> | shelter |
| Cedar Waxwing | <i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i> | Atlantic white-cedar | <i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i> | food source (berries) |
| Common Grackle | <i>Quiscalus quiscula</i> | black oak | <i>Quercus velutina</i> | food source |
| Common Yellowthroat | <i>Geothlypis trichas</i> | buttonbush | <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> | shelter |
| Cooper's Hawk | <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> | highbush blueberry | <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> | attracts mourning doves, a food |
| Downy Woodpecker | <i>Picoides pubescens</i> | goldenrod | <i>Solidago erecta</i> | contains fly larvae, which are a |
| Eastern Kingbird | <i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i> | coastal serviceberry | <i>Amelanchier obovalis</i> | food source |
| Eastern Towhee | <i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i> | highbush blueberry | <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> | food source |
| European Starling | <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> | hackberry | <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> | food source |
| Golden-crowned Kinglet | <i>Regulus satrapa</i> | pitch pine | <i>Pinus rigida</i> | nesting, hunting ground for inse |
| Goldfinch | <i>Spinus tristis</i> | loblolly pine | <i>Pinus taeda</i> | Shelter |
| Gray Catbird | <i>Dumetella carolinensis</i> | blackberry | <i>Rubus 'Shawnee'</i> | food source |
| Green Heron | <i>Butorides virescens</i> | Carolina willow | <i>Salix caroliniana</i> | Nesting |
| Hairy Woodpecker | <i>Picoides villosus</i> | sunflower | <i>Asimina triloba</i> | food source |
| House Finch | <i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i> | blackberry | <i>Rubus 'Shawnee'</i> | food source |

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|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| House Sparrow | <i>Passer domesticus</i> | sunflower | <i>Asimina triloba</i> | food source |
| Killdeer | <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> | switchgrass | <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | shelter |
| Mallard Duck | <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | sweetgum | <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | food source |
| Mourning Dove | <i>Zenaida macroura</i> | bighbush blueberry | <i>Vaccinium corymbosum</i> | food, dispersal, shelter |
| Northern Cardinal | <i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i> | American holly | <i>Ilex opaca</i> | food, dispersal, shelter |
| Northern Mockingbird | <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> | common spicebush | <i>Lindera benzoin</i> | dispersal |
| Ovenbird | <i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i> | common buttonbush | <i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i> | attracts insects for food |
| Purple Finch | <i>Haemorhous purpureus</i> | tulip poplar | <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> | food source |
| Red Wing Black Bird | <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> | switchgrass | <i>Panicum virgatum</i> | food, shelter |
| Red-Bellied Woodpecker | <i>Melanerpes carolinus</i> | loblolly pine | <i>Pinus taeda</i> | nesting, food |
| Red-Tailed Hawk | <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> | Virginia pine | <i>Pinus virginiana</i> | shelter |
| Rock Pigeon | <i>Columba livia</i> | sunflower | <i>Asimina triloba</i> | food source |
| Ruby Throated Hummingbird | <i>Archilochus colubris</i> | cardinal-flower | <i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> | pollination |
| Rusty Blackbird | <i>Euphagus carolinus</i> | Carolina willow | <i>Salix caroliniana</i> | Nesting |
| Song Sparrow | <i>Melospiza melodia</i> | fuij cherry | <i>Prunus incisa</i> | food source |
| Wood Thrush | <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> | sweetgum | <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i> | shelter, nesting |



Birds in the stream in the U.S. Botanic Garden's Regional Garden of native plants by Liz Kylin

Source URL: <https://www.usbg.gov/NGbirds>