



Eastern Bluebirds



Bluebird Houses

A good bluebird box should be well ventilated, watertight, have drainage holes, be easy to monitor, and easy to clean. To enjoy this treasure it must open easily to be cleaned and monitor the eggs and babies as they develop. Always knock before you open the box so you do not get a bluebird in the face!

Valentine's Day is a good marker for our area to make sure your bird houses are cleaned for the season. Open your bird house to clean it out; brush it out or scrape if necessary and then brush out after each brood of birds have fledged, but most definitely every season. Rub the inside of the top with a strong smelling soap (like Irish Spring etc.) to deter the wasps from building in there.

Bluebirds love meal worms and you can put some out for them in a flat container and enjoy their picnic. Very helpful to Mommy Bluebird when she is feeding her babies. We have found ours have seemed to like the live ones better than the dried.

Bluebirds start looking for housing for the season starting in February, making Valentine's Day a great day to remember to clean out your house(s) in preparation for the nesting season.

The bluebirds will use the nest boxes during the winter for shelter and many times you will see multiple bluebirds entering the same box to stay warm overnight.

*The North American Bluebird Society is a wealth of information about our Eastern bluebirds:
<http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org/Fact/bluebirdfacts.htm>*

Thank you for caring for our beautiful bluebirds.

Barb Baumgardner,

Towns-Union Master Gardener Association

Bluebird Chairman – perennialpals.com