

# Attract & Report Birds In Your Own Backyard!



If you are searching for a simple way to support conservation efforts this Spring, creating a bird feeder for your backyard is the perfect option. These animals play a vital role in the ecosystem by controlling pests and helping pollinator communities thrive. Birds rely heavily on weather, climate, and phenology (the life cycles of plants) in order to survive. You can help scientists track bird species coming into your area by reporting your sightings to [eBird.org](http://eBird.org)!

## Toilet Paper Roll Bird Feeder

### Materials

- Peanut butter
- Birdseed
- Empty toilet paper roll
- String or yarn

Reusing toilet paper rolls helps prevent trash from polluting our watersheds and the Bay!

It doesn't get much easier than this! Simply spread a medium coat of peanut butter on the outside of an empty toilet paper roll. Then, pour birdseed onto a plate and roll the toilet paper roll over it until completely covered. Find a tree branch outside, slip it over, and you are all set! And if you would rather hang them up, just thread a piece of yarn through the middle.



Photo Credits: Student Conservation Association (SCA)

Reference: <https://www.thesca.org/connect/blog/giving-back-birds>

# Report Species Sightings

Did You Know?: You can help scientists study bird migration patterns by reporting species you see in your own backyard!



**Step 1:** Download the Merlin Bird ID app - this is a great and super easy tool to use if you are new to birding or are unsure of what species you are observing.

**Step 2:** Download the eBird app - this is where you will report the species that you see!

**Step 3:** Create your own DIY Toilet Paper Roll Bird Feeder.

**Step 4:** Hang your bird feeder outside in a spot that allows birds to see it, but also provides some protection from predatory birds.

**Step 5:** Observe and record the birds that you see! Always keep a safe distance, as you do not want to scare the birds away but also want to keep you and your family safe.

**Step 6:** Share pictures of your bird feeder and what you saw with us! Email [watershedwatchers@sfbayws.org](mailto:watershedwatchers@sfbayws.org) to share & we will send you some stickers, resources, and more!

## How the Refuge Supports Birds

The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge is home to over 280 species of birds, some of which live at the Refuge year-round and some that migrate from thousands of miles away! The Refuge is an important resting point for birds who migrate along the Pacific Flyway - a flight path that spans from the Arctic to the coast of Mexico.

The Refuge manages and protects a variety of habitats that support a diverse range of bird species. Birds that you see in your backyard might also use the Refuge, but there are so many more that you won't see every day! If you enjoy observing the birds you see in your backyard, visit the Refuge to discover even more!

Habitats protected by the Refuge not only benefit birds, other animals, and plants, but our communities as well! Wetland habitats act as natural flood protection from storms and rising sea levels, produce high levels of oxygen, and filter urban runoff. To find out how you can help protect these habitats, keeping wildlife and our communities healthy, visit: [mywatershedwatch.org](http://mywatershedwatch.org)



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