



Wild Bird Center of Boulder



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# Wild Bird Center of Boulder presents "Boulder Backyards"

Your Backyard Bird Feeding and Bird Watching Experts

September 2007

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## Welcome to Wild Bird Center's Boulder Backyards eNewsletter

Here's the second in a series of eNewsletters from the staff of Wild Bird Center of Boulder -- your backyard bird feeding and bird watching specialist. We value your relationship. **To receive our eNewsletter by email, go to <http://wildbird.com/stores/bld> and fill out the eNewsletter form on our homepage.** Wild Bird Center of Boulder adheres to a strict privacy policy that means your information will not be shared, sold, or otherwise distributed.

## Wild Bird Center Saturday Walks:

**From 7:30 am** (promptly)  
**to 9:45 am** (approximately)  
**every Saturday year-round.** Every last Saturday of the month we travel further afield than normal and return a little later.



## September - Change is in the Air

As summer draws to an end, change is in the air. Our summer bird residents have been leaving, but there are new birds coming through. Fall migration has begun! The immatures you helped hatch have survived their first summer and now join the adults for the long flight south. September is the time to prepare for winter by building brush piles from fall clippings. We suggest cleaning out your nesting boxes in September. The nesting season has finished and if you clean your boxes now they will be ready for nesting next March. Continue to maintain water features for your birds. September is still hot and water will be highly attractive to migrants and residents alike. As activity at your feeding station picks up, by the end of September you may want to make sure your feeders are full every day. We have been having a siskin invasion this month. Siskins love nyjer seed and sunflower chips. Could this be an indication of other finch species such as evening grosbeak coming to our region this fall and winter? Let's hope so, but only time will tell.



## Upcoming Events

**Annual Fall Sale**  
October 23-28

1641 - 28th Street • Boulder

Mark your calendars for our annual Fall Sale. This year we will have a variety of things on sale, not just seeds. More information as we get closer to the sale.

## How Do Birds Find Their Food?



Most birds have a poor sense of smell, so they find their food by sight. No other living animal possesses the visual acuity of birds. Though they look small-hidden behind the lids and set in protective rings of overlapping bone-birds' eyes are, relatively speaking, enormous. Since most birds must locate their food while flying, the image must be big and sharply detailed. Imagine

the extraordinary vision needed by a hawk cruising over a meadow in search of a mouse; a loon in pursuit of its underwater prey; a hummingbird gleaning a minuscule insect from a trumpet vine; or a chickadee searching for a source of black oil sunflower seed. Raptors, such as owls, eagles, and hawks, have eyes located to the front of their heads and possess exceptional binocular vision. Because these birds hunt lively prey, binocular vision is vital. To see to the side or to the rear, raptors turn their heads. An owl can rotate its head about 270 degrees, but not, as myth would have it, completely around. Most other birds have eyes set on the sides of their heads. They feed on seeds and insects and need some forward binocular vision, but they must also be able to see far to the side to avoid predators. Because your backyard birds locate their food by sight, your feeders should be placed so that they can be easily seen by the birds.



Our eNewsletter Special Offer:  
-Jays Delight-

**\$5.00 Off of a 25# bag  
of in-shell peanuts**

Mention **PROMO CODE WB0918.**

Call (303) 786-9508 or bring in Code to redeem. Some restrictions may apply.

Not valid in combination with other promotions. Expires: October 17, 2007.

**Thank you from the staff at Wild Bird Center of Boulder!**

We sincerely appreciate your patronage. Happy Birding!

-- Steve, Marlene, Scott & Bill