

Wild Bird Chalet

Bringing you the freshest, highest quality seed & feeders to last a lifetime

A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue N° 3 – Spring 2008

New Easy-Clean Aspects Feeder

Press the two toggles in and the bottom slides out. Wipe off any wet or dirty seed.



A simple way to help prevent the spread of disease.

Sustainable Bird Feeding Workshop

Saturday, March 8th, 9-10am. at the Wild Bird Chalet. Call for more details.

*FREE
Donations accepted for N.C. Audubon.*



Bug O' Cake Suet

New from Pine Tree Farms. Pure beef suet, with cricket and mealworms. Unappealing to crows, starlings, house sparrows and squirrels. Longer lasting.

Pine Siskin Size Drinking Cup

Ant moat of Aspects HummZinger hummingbird feeder provides fresh water.

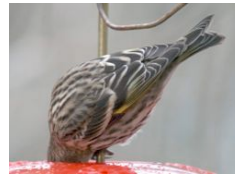


Photo courtesy of John Doerper.

Hummingbird feeders go out early

Anna's have been here all winter, but Rufous will be arriving soon and looking for food near nesting sites.



Nyjer Thistle

Put out fresh seed for Goldfinches. Many stay year round, but the rest are now returning.



Squirrels generally don't eat Nyjer.

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www.WildBirdChalet.com

Thank you for supporting this local business.
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Chipmunk

This local posed at Lake Ann below Mt. Shuksan

Northern Flying Squirrel



Photo courtesy of Bob Jacobson

If you live in a wooded area, go outside at dusk to search for these elusive natives. Their large eyes give away their nocturnal habit.

Northern flying squirrels nest together in groups of five or more, preferably in holes excavated in tree trunks or snags. Since they do not hibernate, the body heat they share in communal nests helps them get through the winter.

These small squirrels expand the loose skin folds at their sides to allow glides, called volplaning, of 150' or more.

They eat seeds, nuts, lichen, bird's eggs, buds, flowers and fungus including ectomycorrhizal fungi, whose spores help trees grow.

Douglas Squirrel & Barred Owl



Photo courtesy of Kirsten Smith

Another native, this Douglas squirrel is the more maneuverable one at this range. Owls depend on the surprise that specially structured feathers give them.

At 10" to 14" long, Douglas squirrels are slightly larger than flying squirrels. They have a distinctly orange or yellow belly and a white eye ring.

If you see piles (middens) of cone scales, you've probably found a Douglas squirrel's dining area. They lack the cheek pouches that most squirrels have, though they do stash green cones.

Litters of 4-6 kits are born in May or June, and sometimes a second litter in the fall.

Eastern Gray Squirrel



Photo courtesy of Aspects Inc.

These non-native squirrels, brought to Washington in the early 1900's, can be gray, brown or even black, with a big bushy tail.

They measure up to 20 inches long, including their tail, and as anyone knows who has watched them, are extremely agile.

Double jointed back legs and very sharp front claws help them enjoy the challenge of cracking into a new bird feeder.

Look for their twig and leaf nests between 15' and 50' up in both coniferous and deciduous trees.

Predators include owls, hawks, bobcats, coyotes, and domestic cats and dogs.