

Steve & Regina Garr are the owners of **Birds-I-View** and have spent many years committed to helping our native cavity nesting songbirds prosper!

Most "Bluebird Societies" provide wonderful information on other native cavity nesters as well—including "Little Birds".

Steve & Regina have assisted in co-founding two separate State Bluebird Societies. Steve is a past President, Vice-President and Board Member of the North American Bluebird Society, and is a life member of that organization. He is the current President of the Missouri Bluebird Society and Regina serves as the Society's Secretary & Newsletter Editor. Steve is also the **Bluebird Columnist** for the *Nature Society News*. Much of Steve's research has been focused on bringing our native cavity-nesting birds "back to the city". **Birds-I-View** is a proud Corporate member of the **North American Bluebird Society** and supports many other conservation organizations through our membership and donations.



Carolina Wren

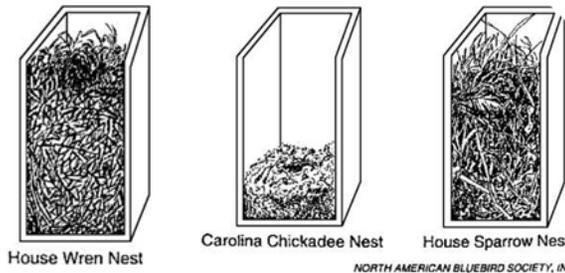
### **2013 Kit Prices**

\$21.95/Kit plus \$9 Shipping/Handling  
**Scout/School project pricing :**  
**( Six kit minimum)**

\$17.95 per Kit plus  
 \$5.00 per Kit Shipping /Handling  
 ( all Kits must be shipped to the same location at this price level)

## Who's Nesting in your Box?

Many desirable native songbirds will use your **Birds-I-View "Little Bird" Nest Box**. The non native "House Sparrow" will also attempt to use your nest box and it is important for the safety of our native songbirds that House Sparrows not be permitted to nest in these nest boxes. To assist you in nest identification, we provide you with the information and sketches below.



House Wren Nest

Carolina Chickadee Nest

House Sparrow Nest

NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBIRD SOCIETY, INC.

**Chickadee Nest:** starts with moss and finishes with fur or hair type material. They will cover bean-sized eggs with hair when away from the nest— making it difficult to see when the first egg was laid.

**Tufted Titmouse Nest :** ( Not Pictured) similar to the Chickadee's nest with moss & fur, but perhaps more leaves  
**Carolina Wren nest:** ( not pictured) This wren uses moss, many dried leaves, and a "roof" made of the nest material on top.

**House Wren Nest:** made up of small twigs . The nest cup itself is very fine twigs and grass woven together. The male often builds many "false" nests in nearby cavities.

**House Sparrow Nest:** loose grass, feathers, small wild flowers, trash. Weaves a nest that completely fills the cavity and has a tunnel to the bottom. **DO NOT ALLOW** House Sparrows to nest.

**Nuthatch Nest:** ( not pictured) Fine grass, shredded bark, rootlets, fur & hair. There will be some variation in nest material depending on species of nuthatch. White-breasted Nuthatch is the species that typically nest in Missouri.

**Downy Woodpecker:** ( not pictured) While Downy Woodpeckers have been known to nest in nest boxes, they are much more likely to utilize this nest box to roost in the winter for warmth. They typically excavate a nest site in dead wood of a tree.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** ( not pictured) nest made up mostly of moss, with some twigs and leaves. Generally nest very near water.

BIRDS - I - VIEW  
 Jefferson City, MO

## The Birds-I-View "Little Bird" Nest Box

*A Birds-I-View Exclusive  
 easy to monitor and easy to clean nest box  
 designed for our small Native  
 Cavity-Nesting birds*



*Nest box Top  
 swings out of the  
 way for easy  
 inspection &  
 cleaning!*

Committed to providing products & information that benefit wildlife.

**573-638-BIRD(2473)**  
[www.birds-i-view.biz](http://www.birds-i-view.biz)

# How you can Help Native Cavity-Nesting songbirds!

Loss of habitat (due to introduction of non-native birds species and to land being cleared for development) has certainly been the greatest challenge for all of our native cavity nesting songbirds. You can help these lovely little birds prosper and enjoy their “company” by providing man-made cavities for them to raise their babies. Here are a few tips on attracting the small native cavity nesters that will gladly call your “space” home, plus important information on proper care & nest box placement .

## A Proper Nest Box for small Cavity-Nesters

Your “Little Bird Nest Box Kit” has been designed with the following features to provide the safest nesting site possible for small cavity-nesting birds.

- Well Ventilated, water tight, has drainage holes, is easy to monitor, easy to clean, and has adequate roof overhang ( to protect from weather and predators).
- Made from durable Western Cedar with a PVC nest cup. If you decide to paint the box, only paint the outside a light color. ( to prevent over-heating) Do not paint or stain the inside of the box.
- Treated Lumber should not be used for nest boxes because of it’s toxic content. ( the “Little Bird Nest Box” is not made from treated lumber)

## Native Cavity- Nesting birds that could use the Birds-I-View “Little Bird Nest Box”:

- Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Carolina Wren
- Nuthatch
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Downy Woodpecker
- House Wren

## NEST BOX PLACEMENT

- Your “Little Bird Nest Box” is designed to be hung. It may hang from a shepherd’s hook, eve of a house, or from a tree limb, but we do not recommend mounting it directly on a tree trunk. Doing so would make it easier for predators like squirrels, raccoons, and cats to get to the nestlings. Also, ants are a serious problem with boxes on trees.
- Hang the box so the entrance hole is at least five feet above the ground and try to face the box away from any prevailing winds. Birds will often nest much higher or lower than this, hanging the box this height allows for the best protection of the birds, and the best possible monitoring of your nest box.

## Estimated hatching/fledgling rates

**Chickadee:** 12-13 day incubation  
Fledge in 14 days

**Tufted Titmouse:** 12-14 day incubation  
Fledge in 17 days

**Carolina Wren:** 12-16 day incubation  
Fledge in 12-14 days

**House Wren:** 13 day incubation  
Fledge in 16 days

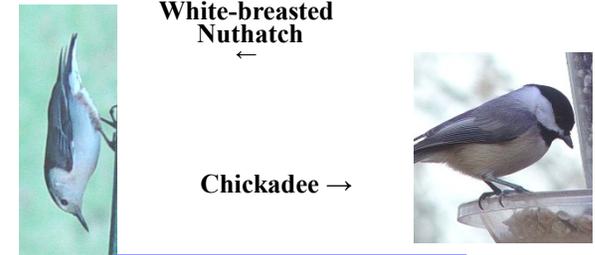
**Nuthatch:** 12-13 day incubation  
Fledge in 16-20 days



## Great Resources for learning more about our small Native Cavity-nesting birds:

www.missouribluebird.org  
www.nabluebirdsociety.org  
www.sialis.org  
www.birds.cornell.edu

**The Bluebird Monitor’s Guide** by Berger, Kridler & Griggs



## Nest Box Monitoring:

***We recommend putting up a Nest Box only if you intend to Monitor it.***

- Check your nest box a minimum of once per week during the nesting season until the chicks are close to fledging. ( see chart to left). Studies have repeatedly shown that a well-monitored nest box will raise more (and healthier) babies!
- What are we “checking” in the nest box? Check to make certain there are no ants, or other parasites on the inside of the box. If an egg is still unhatched several days after the rest of the clutch has hatched, that egg should be removed so that it does not draw predators.
- It is only a myth that wild birds will abandon their nest if humans touch their nest or babies. Really, most songbirds do not have a very well-developed sense of smell. **Still** it is important to remember that our wild birds are **not** pets, and should not be “handled” in the same way. Constant disturbance of their nest can cause birds to abandon it. **Make visits to inspect the nest box thorough , but brief.**
- Remove the nests after each nesting as soon as the young have fledged. Do not discard old nest material directly below the house, or you will attract predators.
- Avoid monitoring in rainy or cold weather.
- Keep records!! We have monitoring forms for you here at Birds-I-View ( or print one off of our website). We urge you to turn your nest box data into the Missouri Bluebird Society or your local Bluebird organization.
- We believe that Good Stewardship dictates that you do not allow the non-native house sparrows to nest in your boxes.

*Steve & Regina Garr*

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