

Steve & Regina Garr are the owners of **Birds-I-View** wild bird and nature store and have spent many years committed to helping others enjoy and learn more about the Native Wild Birds that can visit their "space". They have been presenting programs on attracting Backyard Wildlife for decades, with a special emphasis on attracting desirable wildlife to almost any setting! Birds-I-View helps to support many conservation organizations and Steve & Regina are avid backyard birders who have made it a point to be involved in all aspects of creating a backyard habitat for wildlife. Steve spent nearly nine years as a columnist for the **Nature Society News**, and has co-founded two separate state Bluebird Societies.

They are enthusiastic supporters of the work of the **Missouri River Bird Observatory**. Please consider membership in this wonderful



organization that helps so many of our native neotropical migrants! This not-for-profit organization supports Conservation through the very important avenues of Research, Education, and

Outreach. Find them at :

[www.mrbo.org](http://www.mrbo.org)

Steve and Regina also encourage you to check out your local **Audubon Chapter** and state ornithological society. They are proud members of **River Bluffs Audubon Society**.

Stop by Birds-I-View to see the latest issue of the RBAS newsletter ("The Timberdoodle") and information on upcoming events & programs!

An Adult male Baltimore Oriole gathers live mealworms from a feeding station to take to babies in a nearby nest.



## Feeding Orioles (and other non-seed eating birds!)

Simple dishes to hold **Jelly, mealworms, chopped fruit, orange halves, suet nuggets, homemade suet, Sunflower hearts** ( with no shell), or even sugar water is a great way to provide food for Ori-

oles and other non-seed eating birds , especially during migration! Keeping the dishes protected from heat & rain is a good idea ( see photo above & front of this brochure) .

**Putting out several shallow dishes of jelly and replenishing them as needed is preferred over putting out a large, deep jar or dish of jelly.** Shallow dishes present less risk of the jelly spoiling, plus they keep the birds from getting

feathers covered in jelly as they eat. Add or reduce the number of feeders offered as the number of birds visiting your feeding stations changes.

**The most successful feeding stations for Orioles** provide a *variety* of food stuffs early in the season. Plenty of **perch area** on and near Oriole feeders is also a big plus. **(look inside for more tips!)**



An immature Bluebird and an immature Baltimore Oriole share live mealworms at a feeder in **mid summer**. The cage keeps out larger, aggressive birds that would take all of the food!



Oriole feeder stocked with nectar, plus jelly and mealworms on the lid.



A female Baltimore Oriole feasts at a feeder filled with Sunflower HEARTS



**Left:** a male Baltimore Oriole inside the BIV "Treat Tower" feeder to restrict larger birds form entering. Multiple levels allow for feeding a variety of foods and more birds!

**BIRDS - I - VIEW**  
Jefferson City, MO

# Orioles!

## Spring AND Summer



Baltimore Orioles enjoy Fruit, Jelly, & Live Mealworms at the Oriole "Spiral Café"!

Committed to providing information & products that benefit wildlife.

**573-638-BIRD(2473)**  
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## Baltimore and Orchard Orioles

are neotropical migrants and members of the “Blackbird” family.

### Baltimore Orioles



An adult female (left) and adult male (right) Baltimore Oriole enjoy orange halves in a Mid-Missouri back yard. Note the brighter coloring of the male, but also note the band of bright “orange over black” on the shoulder of the male as well as the black center feathers and orange corners on the tail.

**Right:** A first year male Baltimore Oriole. Although the coloring is similar to a female, the black center tail feathers and orange corners on the tail of this bird would indicate that it is a first year male.



Photo by Cinderella Morff

**Baltimore Orioles Spend their Winters in Central & South America, although some regularly winter in Florida and even Georgia. They nest in much of the US and southern Canada east of the Rockies.**

**Baltimore Orioles** are about 7-8 inches in length and weigh about 1.09-1.23 ounces.

Male Baltimore Orioles will use their song to attract a mate, but also to defend their territory.

Older males arrive first to breeding grounds, followed by first year males and later by females.



Male Baltimore Oriole

Want Orioles to spend more of the season at YOUR house? Be certain to provide a habitat suitable for nesting, feeding young, and provide a clean water source! A variety of food stuffs is always desirable, but it is important to note that the Oriole’s diet consists mostly of insects, so providing plants that host insects and providing “live” food (such as mealworms) can be a real draw to the Orioles. **Problems with BEES at your nectar, jelly & fruit feeders??**

**Two juvenile Baltimore Orioles make a first visit to a jelly feeder!**



**Below:** Providing moving water (such as this re-circulating waterfall) is a terrific way to attract both migration and nesting Orioles!



**Great Resources for learning more about Orioles:**  
Missouri River Bird Observatory [www.mrbo.org](http://www.mrbo.org)  
[www.birds.cornell.edu](http://www.birds.cornell.edu)

**“Native Landscaping for Wildlife and People”**  
by Dave Tylka  
**Missouri Department of Conservation**  
**The Oriole Book** by Nancy Flood



Orchard Oriole Nest

**Switch to feeding only live mealworms during peak bee season to keep your Orioles but lose the bees!**

Baltimore Orioles and Orchard Orioles tend to arrive into Mid-Missouri about mid to late April and have mostly left for their wintering grounds in Central & South America by the end of September. Although many Orioles nest in Mid-Missouri, naturally we see the greatest number during Spring migration.

### Orchard Orioles

**Orchard Orioles: our smallest Oriole.**

About 7 inches long and weighing in at .67 to .81 ounces it has sometimes been mistaken for a warbler! The dark Chestnut and Black coloring or the adult male Orchard Oriole is very distinct. Female Orchard Orioles are a lemon color as opposed to the orangish-yellow coloring of the female Baltimore Oriole. First summer males have the lemon color (or sometimes green tint) with a very distinct black throat.



Adult male Orchard Oriole



Adult female Orchard Oriole

Orchard Orioles winter in Honduras, Panama, Venezuela and Colombia. They do not nest as far north into Canada as Baltimore Orioles and tend to nest further south into Florida, Texas and Mexico. They tend to be more social with other birds than Baltimores and have been known to nest in the same trees with Baltimore Orioles and very near other birds. Where the populations of nesting Orchard Orioles are heaviest (southern US) they have even been known to nest in loose colonies!



First Spring / First Summer Male Orchard Oriole

*Steve & Regina Garr*  
**Birds-I-View**

512 Ellis Blvd. / Jefferson City, MO 65101  
573-638-BIRD(2473) [www.birds-i-view.biz](http://www.birds-i-view.biz)