

# Bluebird Nesting Boxes



## Nesting Schedule

Nest Building	1-6 days
Egg Laying	5-7 days
Incubation	2-14 days
Brooding	6 days
Fledging	day 16-21

We are fortunate in Southern Ontario to fall within the natural range of the Eastern Bluebird. The Bluebird has suffered population declines in the past due to the introduction of non-native birds, changes in habitat and the increased use of pesticides, insecticides and herbicides. The growing human interest and Bluebird box programs has been a significant factor in their recovery! Building and placing boxes on your land will continue to contribute to the Eastern Bluebird population in our area.



Photo by: Bill O'borne

## Building, Placement & Maintenance TIPS

- Entrance hole should be 1 1/2" in diameter and 6 1/2 " from the bottom to discourage sparrows and starlings
- The floor board is cut short to allow for drainage
- It is best to use cedar and leave the wood in a natural state
- Include ventilation holes or small spaces between the roof and side boards to avoid overheating
- Make grooves on the interior front surface to allow young to reach the entrance hole
- Place facing the south-east to catch the rising sun light
- Empty the contents of the nest box each Spring
- Bluebirds are shy so keep your distance during the nesting season
- Placing several (6-12) boxes in a "bluebird trail" is often effective
- Fence posts in open fields, meadows and lawns with short grass are ideal
- It is ideal to place box within 10 to 12 feet of a tree or shrub to provide a landing spot
- Boxes should be placed 5 feet off the ground on a 2x2 post or metal t-bar
- To avoid predation, fasten an 8 inch piece of central vacuum tubing over the post directly beneath the box

## **HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER**

Place your order for unassembled kits (\$5 each) and / or pre-built boxes (\$8 each) by contacting:

**Betty Coutu — Bancroft Area Stewardship Council**  
Tel: 613-332-3464 or Email: [bettycoutu@yahoo.ca](mailto:bettycoutu@yahoo.ca)

Proceeds from sales support the BASC Tree & Shrub Planting Program and Bancroft Field Naturalist Club projects and events.



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