Portalen Centre & ...

Garden Club Newsletter

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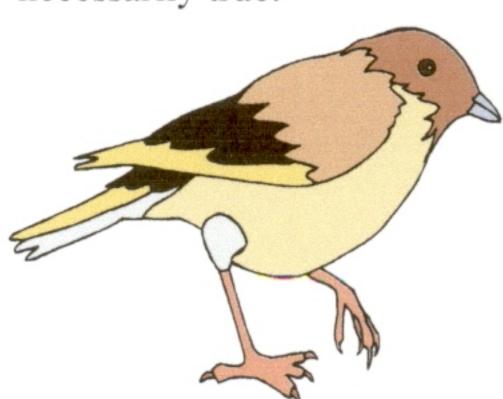
Issue 1

Spring 2005

Spring and summer bird feeding

As a homeowner who loves to have birds visit their yard for feeding, you may think that as soon as April rolls around it makes sense to put away the seed feeders and pull out the nectar feeders and nest boxes.

You naturally assume due to the warm temperatures that natural food becomes abundant. That is not necessarily true.



The energetic demands of molt, territorial defense and nesting compound the impact of declining natural food supplies.

Though it is most obvious on male goldfinches at this time of year, many birds replace their feathers in the spring.

Male titmice, song sparrows, blue jays and chickadees already spend much of their day in song, advertising their territories and vying for mates. Nest building begins for many species as well.

All of these activities require energy (food). Until new crops of plant and insect

food are available, supple mental foods are at a premium.

Birds will visit feeders as long as food is available. Keep one or two feeders filled all spring/summer long and you will be amazed at the birds that continue to visit.

The biggest excitement for a spring/summer feeding program that you will experience is when the parent birds introduce their offspring to the feeders

Shopping list of essential garden tools:

- Gloves
- Bucket
- Hand trowel
- Pruning shears
- Scissors
- Shovel
- Rake
- Big hat
- Sunglasses
- Bug spray
- Do not forget the sun tan lotion!

Parkland has a wide selection of garden tools

Ten ways to accessorize your garden

- 1. Sculpture/statuary
- 2. Neat or unusual objects such as pots
- 3. Rocks or boulders
- 4. Garden benches
- 5. Sundials
- 6. Edging
- 7. Bird feeders and houses
- 8. Archways
- 9. Chimes
- 10. Globes

Come visit us today for these accessories!