



BIRD Tracks

October 2015
Issue 29.10

Wild Birds Unlimited — Middleton, WI

8402 Old Sauk Rd., Middleton, WI 53562, 608-664-1414 www.wbumadison.com

Caching: Why Some Birds Hide Food Now to Find it Later

Dear Friend of Nature,

During fall and winter, chickadees, nuthatches and titmice will hide food to retrieve and eat at a later time, a behavior called "caching." Caching helps birds survive during bad weather and when food sources are low.

These birds store hundreds of seeds a day, and each seed is placed in a different location. Amazingly, they remember where each one is, and they can find each site accurately even a month later.

By providing an easily accessible food source, you can help your chickadees, nuthatches and titmice with their caching needs. Below is more detail on some of your favorite birds' caching behaviors.



Chickadees

- Cache seeds (in the shell and out), nuts, insects and other invertebrate prey
- Food is typically cached about 100 feet (30 m) from feeders
- Cache more during the middle of the day
- May carry off several seeds at a time, but each item is stored in a separate location, and remembered!
- Store food in knotholes, bark, under shingles, in the ground and on the underside of small branches



Nuthatches

- Prefer to cache hulled sunflower seeds, because they are easier and faster to cache; occasionally mealworms
- Choose heavier seeds (because they are larger or have a higher oil content)
- Food is typically cached about 45 feet (13.5 m) from feeders
- Most active caching time is early in the day
- Store food in bark crevices on large tree trunks and on the underside of branches



Titmice

- Cache sunflower, peanuts and safflower
- Food is typically cached about 130 feet (40 m) from feeders
- Cache one seed at a time and typically choose the largest seeds available
- Often remove seeds from their shell (80% of the time) before hiding them

Visit us during our **Bird Food Sale** to save on ALL

bird food. We'll also make sure you have everything you need to see more of these perky visitors at your feeder.

Happy Birding!

Bob & Jan Ross for all of us at *Wild Birds Unlimited*

Your Backyard Birdfeeding Specialists

OCTOBER 2016
Fresh Bird Food SALE
10% OFF
Now through October 31st
ALL Bird Food is ON SALE
Seed, Suet, Mealworms, Bark Butter, Cylinders

Daily Savings Club® Members:
Receive 15% OFF
All Bird Food All the Time
PLUS an extra 5% OFF
During Bird Food Sales

Not a DSC Member? Join any time!

FREE October Seminar
Saturday, October 22nd, 10:00 am
The Ice Age Trail



Eric Sherman from the Ice Age National Scenic Trail Alliance will be speaking about this natural treasure.

Trivia: Bob and Jan Ross live atop the Johnstown Moraine just west of WBU.

Talk: Ice Age Trail

Our seminars fill quickly.
 Please call ahead for a reserved seat, 608-664-1414.
 Seminar held at Wild Birds Unlimited on Old Sauk Rd.

Great Seasonal Additions

Preparing Your Yard for Winter

As Fall comes around and Winter prepares to roll in there are several ways you can prepare your yard to help your birds during the coldest time of the year in Wisconsin.



WBU EcoClean w/ tray

Take Stock of Feeders

Now is the perfect time to clean and repair your feeders, or to replace any that cannot be fixed. Also, be sure to clean out any debris under your feeders. Adding a weather guard to your feeder will protect the birds and the bird food from inclement weather.

Clean your feeders with warm, soapy water and sanitize them with a 10% bleach solution. If you're looking to replace a feeder, try a Wild Birds Unlimited EcoClean Feeder.



Quick Clean Feeder with Weather Guard and Tray

If you find your feeders are just too far away to fill in the winter, consider moving them closer to your house or porch so that filling them is more convenient when snow is on the ground. Our APS Pole system is a grand way to revamp your feeding system before the snow flies.

Provide Shelter

Cold winds strip heat from birds very quickly. Birds will seek refuge from the wind in dense vegetation, natural cavities, vacant bird houses, or roosting boxes.

Offer Water

Birds need water in Winter to maintain their feathers for effective insulation as well as for drinking. Use a heated bird bath or add a heater to your existing one. This will help make some water available even on the coldest days. Some concrete baths with an added heater may not be able to handle freezing weather. To be safe, place a plastic bird bath dish with a heater on the existing pedestal. Ask our Certified Bird Feeding Specialists which would be best for you and your birds.



WBU Heated Bird Bath

Bluebird lovers: now is the time, before the ground freezes, to replace or install a new bluebird house in preparation for Spring. We have a special pole system and baffle just for bluebird house mounting.



WBU Recycled Bluebird House on APS Pole with Raccoon Baffle

Now is the time to clean your feeders before winter.



www.wbumadison.com

High Protein Foods ON SALE

Seed Cylinders: Two Sizes Available



Cylinders last longer with less mess!! Use a Decorative Seed Cylinder Feeder to protect your bird food from

inclement winter weather. Try our new Hot-Pepper Cylinder to discourage squirrels.



Suet & Suet Dough

Try our new Hot-Pepper Suet Dough to discourage squirrels.



Jim's Birdacious Bark Butter

Still the favorite of many bird lovers, Jim's Bark Butter has been known to attract over 100 species of birds. Spread it on a BB feeders and sit back. They'll come!



Bark Butter Bits

Jim's Birdacious Bark Butter Bits allow you to easily offer Bark Butter in tray, specialty or hopper feeders,. Offer alone or mix with your favorite WBU bird seed blend. All clingers love them.



Peanuts - In the Shell or Not!

Have you ever watched a Blue Jay grab a peanut shell, shake it, and toss it away, only to grab another and try again? Jays are picky that way. Not only do Jays love peanuts; our woodland birds do to: Chickadees, Titmice, Woodpeckers. Use them in the shell or out of the shell and you'll enjoy some great bird antics.



Purchase this EcoTough Hopper Feeder for \$49.99, Get a 10# bag of Supreme Blend FREE



Remember ... A High-Protein Diet Will Help All Birds Survive Winter

High Protein = Suet, Peanuts, Cylinders, Seed Blends with Nuts, Nyjer & Bark Butter Products.

All Are ON SALE in October.

20% OFF EcoTough™ & EcoClean™ Feeders



Save on Our Most Durable Earth Friendly Feeders



EcoTough™ “state of the art” feeders are made from recycled plastic jugs. EcoTough™ feeders won’t rot, crack, fade or warp like wood can. They also come with a limited lifetime guarantee.



EcoClean™ feeders are infused with a patented antimicrobial product that inhibits the growth of bacteria and mold inside feeders. They are only available at Wild Birds Unlimited.



Both are Made in the U.S.A.!

15% OFF All APS

*Advanced Pole System Hardware Poles & Accessories

Feeders sold separately



You Also Might Like ...

To light up the darkness: Nightlights, Lighted Vases & Flashlights

The Looker Dual Window Feeder has lots of room for a Cardinal Packer and Badger Doormats, Flags & Ornaments

Plush Bird Throws

Native Prairie Plant Seeds need to go in the ground now.

Window decals help deter window strikes.

New Bird Themed T-shirts.

Audubon Singing Birds

20% OFF Heated Bird Baths

30% OFF All In-Stock Bird Baths*

*Granite, Stone, Aggregate & Glass

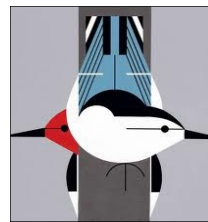
Through October 31, 2016

Happy 30th Anniversary WBU!

Join us for our Anniversary Celebration & Sale
November 4, 5, & 6, 2016



Charlie Harper Lovers:



Simple, bold, unique and imaginative all describe Charlie Harper’s ability to capture the essence of birds and wildlife. WBU has many Charlie Harper items in stock: puzzles, gift cards, calendars for 2017 and Christmas items. Visit us soon for the best selection.



BOON!

Halloween Spinner SALE
20% OFF
In October



8402 Old Sauk Rd., Middleton, WI, 53562
M-F: 9-7 Sat: 9-6 Sun: 11-5 608-664-1414

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**Our Binocular Experts Say
Wild Birds Unlimited Has
Top Quality Binoculars & Scopes***

**Eagle Optics Denali
8x42 Binocular**
List price \$229.00
Oct. Sale Price \$162.00



Get these quality optics for an affordable price. They're waterproof, with case, strap, caps and a lifetime no-fault warranty. Also available in 10x42 (\$170.00)
Sale ends October 31, 2016

You can also sign-up for one of our personalized Binocular Workshops led by Steve Sample. Ask us for more details.

Bottom Line: See what premium optics can do for your bird watching fun. These are great deals while they last.

20% OFF

One regularly-priced item

One discount per purchase. Excludes bird food, gift cards, Daily Savings Club membership, optics & tripods. Valid on one non-sale item only, and only at WBU Middleton. Expires October 31, 2016.



**Visit
Wild Birds Unlimited
today!**

Mon - Fri: 9-7
Sat: 9-6 Sun: 11-5
608-664-1414

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Next to Walgreens where Junction
and Old Sauk Roads intersect.
Seniors Save 10% on non-sale items
each Wednesday!

**We are Your Experts
on Bird Feeding.**
Got a question?
Ask our certified
bird feeding specialists.



Red
Shouldered Hawk



Blue
Jay



American Redstart



Tufted Titmouse