Common Kansas Birds

Feeding the birds in your backyard is a fun winter activity. Birds need food, shelter, and water to stick around your home. Here are a few common visitors you might see at your feeders and birdhouses.



Cardinals

- As with most birds, the brightly colored is a male. Female cardinals also have red feathers just not as many.
- Can be found year-round
- Food: Seeds, insects, fruits
- Fun Fact: The name comes from Latin word *cardinalis*, which means "important"

Finch

- Mainly white with brown steaks- males have red/ orange sections
- Can be found year-round
- Food: seeds, fruit, leaf buds
- Fun Fact: Very social bird





Post Rock

Downy Wood Pecker

- Small woodpecker with an all-white belly, black and white spotted wings- males have a red spot on the head
- Can be found year-round
- Food: insects, seeds, visits seed and suet feeders
- Fun Fact: Stiff tail feathers help brace the bird to a tree



Nuthatch

- Slate gray with white face and belly, long thin bill
- Can be found year-round
- Food: insects, seeds, visits seed and suet feeders
- Fun Fact: Its name comes from the bird's habit of wedging a seed into a crevice and hacking it open





Blue Jay

- Large bright-light-blue and white bird with a black necklace, female is similar to male
- Can be found year-round
- Food: insects, fruit, seeds, nuts
- Fun Fact: Known as the alarm of the forest, screaming at intruders in the woods

House Wren

- A small all-brown bird, often holds its tail erect
- Migrates to southern states and Mexico
- Food: insects
- Fun Fact: loves to sing! Will often sing from dawn to dusk during mating season. Easily attracted to nesting boxes





If you have any questions about birds or need help identifying a bird contact Cassie Homan at 785-738-3597 or choman@ksu.edu