

HOME&GARDEN

This yard's for the birds!

Want to attract more birds to your yard? No problem! It's easy to create a bird-friendly environment. All you have to do is take their needs into account while landscaping.

Classic Garden Ornaments in



Eva Stone Garden Gentre

2 Spring Vista Lane **North East Corner of** Stouffville Road & Kennedy Road Stouffville Road

Like all animals, birds need food, water, shelter and suitable spots for reproduction if they are to survive and thrive year-round. How can you satisfy all these needs? Start by getting to know the feathered friends that are already present. Which species are attracted to your yard, and in what numbers? Do they build nests, or are they just passing through? Where do they spend most of their time? Don't forget to look closely at the rest of your neighbourhood as well, for the surrounding environment will have a direct influence on the diversity of species that visit your little corner of the world. Is there a large park nearby, offering many different types of habitat? Is your property near a lake or other body of water?

Next, determine which changes you can make to your yard to make it more bird-friendly. Keep in mind that a greater range of shrubs and trees will provide habitat for a wider variety of birds. Select the plants and shrubs that are most preferred by birds, such as evergreens, deciduous trees, fruiting shrubs and seed-producing plants. Include plants of all heights, to accommodate species that feed on the ground, those that prefer bushes and those that like to stick to high treetops. Don't forget that old, dead and dying trees also attract many species of birds, since they are usually good sources of insects and can be used to hide or build nests. To attract even more species, reduce the size of open spaces or lawn, and keep in mind that native plants are best for attracting native birds.

POND TOUR Saturday, June 14

Self Guided Tour of Eight Local Water Gardens

Tickets: \$10/person Registration at greenhouse begins 9:30 a.m. Tour Time 10 - 4 p.m. Draw for \$100 water gardening gift certificate. Proceeds to Uxbridge-

Scugog Animal Control Centre Visit the garden centre for quality annuals, perennials, shrubs, aquatic plants &



May 1 to June 20. Sat-Tue 9am-6pm Wed-Fri 9am-8pm

www.goodwoodgardens.com 378 hwy 47, 1 km east of Goodwood (905) 640-4852