



Backyard Winterizing Checklist

Clean Out Those Feeders

Make sure you use a vinegar and water solution, get all nooks and crannies and make sure they are completely dry before putting them back up.

Add New Feeders

If you have mostly one type of feeder, try one you haven't yet for variety.

Replace Leaky or Broken Feeders

Any feeder that looks like it has sharp edges or if it can't keep seed dry should be replaced.

Add New Food Options

Try to add peanuts, suet or safflower to your backyard for their higher fat concentration. This helps to keep your backyard visitors warm in the cold.

Create a Brush Pile

Birds love the safety and windbreak provided by a brush pile. Instead of chipping your landscape trimmings, stack them up in a not so neat pile for cover.

Put Up Roosting Boxes

A few birds, woodpeckers among them, love just hanging out in your nest boxes at night. Be sure to put some wood chips or other nesting material for added warmth.

Try Hand Feeding

Simply put, the best time to try your hand at hand feeding is when your birds are a little more eager to feed and less likely to balk at your offering. Be patient but don't make them starve before you quit. Just try again another day. Nothing will thrill you more than the first time you have a bird eat out of your hand. Trust me.

Checklist provided courtesy of BirdOculars.com