

Make Your Own Pine Cone Bird Feeder!

Downeast Lakes Land Trust Online Learning

Birds of Downeast Maine

There are 188 species of birds that visit the Downeast Lakes region of Maine each year. They provide ecosystem services like seed dispersal, pollination, and pest control. Recent studies suggest 29% of birds have vanished since the 1970s, which equates to about 2.9 billion less birds sighted.



There are ways that you can help the birds! During the colder months when there isn't as much food for birds to forage on, put out a feeder. It doesn't need to be fancy—in fact you can make your own pine cone bird feeder to put in your backyard! Below is a step-by-step guide to make one.

Step-By-Step Guide

- ◇ Find a pine cone in the woods.
- ◇ Tie a string or wire to the top end of the pine cone.
- ◇ Cover the pinecone in peanut butter (if you have a peanut butter allergy Crisco works fine too).
- ◇ Pour birdseed onto a plate or otherwise flat and easily containable surface.
- ◇ Roll the pine cone in the bird seed until thoroughly covered.
- ◇ Hang the bird feeder up outside and enjoy the company of your fine feathered visitor friends.