

Just for Kids

On the Bluebird Trail

Eastern bluebirds are seen more now than they were 20 years ago. They nest in cavities (like holes in trees), which became less common when land was cleared for development. Also, when two foreign birds, the European starling and house sparrow, were released in this country, they competed with the bluebird for the nest cavities and the bluebird lost.

Sky on his back and earth below....

The male eastern bluebird has a blue back and rusty-colored chest. Females are less blue than the males. Henry David Thoreau, a famous writer, thought the bluebird wore the sky on his back and the earth on his breast.

Watching and Listening for Bluebirds

Bluebirds are easy to spot. The males have a beautiful call that sounds like "tru-al-ly" and both birds can usually be seen perched on a wire, tree branch or post. They will fly down to the ground to catch an insect and then quickly fly back to the perch. This type of behavior is common to bluebirds.

Habitat Hunt

Bluebirds live in orchards, parks, farmlands and meadows with low plants and a few trees. Sometimes this habitat is hard to find in Connecticut where there are many forests.

Nifty Nest Boxes

People can help bluebirds by making nest boxes, avoiding pesticide use and planting favorite bluebird foods, such as dogwood and shadbush. If you would like to make a nest box, call the Wildlife Division (860-675-8130) for plans.



Bugs and Berries

Bluebirds eat insects and spiders in spring and summer and fruits, like berries, in fall and winter.