

## Protecting Birds from Window Strikes

- Millions of birds are killed each year from window collisions.
- Installing screens, tape strips, external shutters, external sun shades or awnings will help prevent window collisions.



## Cats indoors! Better for cats, better for birds, better for people

- Domestic cats make wonderful pets, but when allowed to roam outdoors, they become predators, resulting in serious consequences.
- Outdoor cats can threaten birds and other wildlife, disrupt ecosystems, and spread diseases.
- The American Bird Conservancy estimates cats kill approximately 2.4 billion birds every year in the U.S., making cat predation by far the largest human-caused mortality threat to birds.

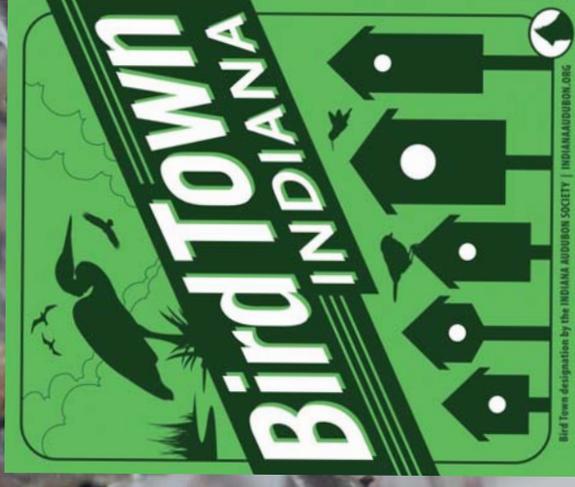


## FOR MORE INFORMATION

City of Carmel, IN  
Department of Community Services  
One Civic Square  
Carmel, IN 46032

Phone: 317-571-2417

[www.carmelurbanforestry.com](http://www.carmelurbanforestry.com)



# City of Carmel Bird Town Indiana

Photo by: A. Scott Mobley

In 2016, the City of Carmel became a Bird Town Indiana through the Indiana Audubon Society.

Carmel is the only municipality that is a Bird Town Indiana in Hamilton County.

In Hamilton County there have been sightings of over 150 species of birds. Over 15 of those bird species are of special concern or state endangered species.



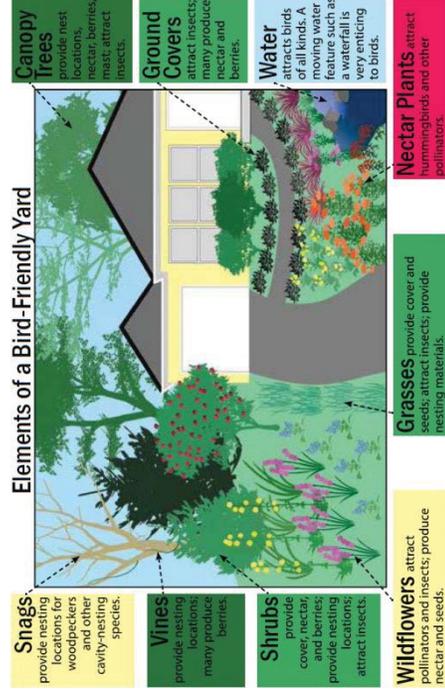
**Carmel is committed to:**

- environmental sustainability by protecting, preserving, restoring, and enhancing the natural environment
- creating a viable and sustainable system for wildlife through parks and preservation areas

Sanford University estimated that 10% of all bird species will be extinct by 2100 because of the many challenges birds face. It's imperative our local communities create backyard habitats for birds.

Ways to attract birds to your backyard include: planting native plants and providing safe havens for them to eat, drink, and nest.

Means to establish bird habitats include: converting turf areas on homeowners' property, workplaces, schoolyards, and HOA common areas; removal of invasive exotic plant species in woodland areas; replacing invasive exotic plant species with native plant species in landscape areas.



1. Take Audubon's Healthy Yard Pledge to promote bird-friendly communities. Pledge to remove invasive exotic plants, plant native species, reduce pesticide use, conserve water, protect water quality, and support wildlife.

2. Begin small and have a plan. If you take something out, be ready to replace it. This can be a hobby. For instant results, hire someone to do the work. If you pay to have your lawn cut and cared for, consider putting a portion of your budget toward managing your yard in a way that is more beneficial to birds.

3. Purchase only native Indiana plant species. Try to avoid cultivars of the native plants you're buying, these plants may become less desirable or even incompatible with the insects that evolved to eat them.

4. Reject the misconception that gardens filled with native plants look weedy. There's power in numbers, enlist your neighbors and wider community to incorporate bird-friendly planting.