

What OBS does

The Ohio Bluebird Society (OBS) provides information and encouragement for those wishing to engage in the conservation of bluebirds and other native cavity nesting species through the following activities:

- Sponsors and supports educational events.
- Holds educational conferences where state-of-the-art information and approaches to bluebirds are featured.
- Publishes the Bluebird Monitor, a quarterly journal with practical suggestions, research results, advances in bluebirding, and stories from the field.
- Works closely with the Ohio Division of Wildlife and other state and local conservation organizations.
- Provides encouragement and companionship for those wishing to work on saving our native cavity nesting species.

Ohio Bluebird Society

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Become a member!

Visit www.ohiobluebirdsociety.org to become a member, or fill out the form below and mail it with a check payable to Ohio Bluebird Society to *Jeff Blosser, 3091 Devonshire Dr., Delaware OH 43015.*

First & Last Name _____

Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

County in which you reside _____

Phone Number _____

Membership Type

	<u>ANNUAL</u>	<u>3 YEARS</u>
☐ Regular	\$20	\$50
☐ Student	\$10	\$25
☐ Senior	\$15	\$40
☐ Organization	\$50	\$140
☐ Lifetime	\$300	
☐ Tax Deductible Donation	\$_____	

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☐ Email ☐ Mail Printed Copy



**Supporting the
return of the
Eastern Bluebird
and other native
cavity nesters**



www.ohiobluebirdsociety.org



Ohio Bluebird Society, Inc. (OBS)

was formed in 1987 for the purpose of supporting the return and the perpetuation of the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) and other native cavity nesting birds in Ohio. To this end, OBS will strive for the best methods to use, conserve and create habitat for the protection of such species.

How you can help

- Increase nesting sites by erecting a proper nest box or creating a bluebird trail of many houses.
- Monitor your nest boxes to identify and correct nesting problems to improve the bluebird's chance of survival.
- Keep records on your nest boxes and send the information to the Ohio Bluebird Society to help its research programs.
- Plant berry-producing plants and provide bluebird food at your feeders.
- Tell you friends about the bluebird's plight and encourage them to help.
- Join the Ohio Bluebird Society and donate your time and dollars to help ensure the bluebird's future.

Factors in the decline of native cavity nesters

Steep declines in the populations of bluebirds and other cavity nesters were caused by habitat loss, the introduction of non-native competitors and predators, pesticide poisoning and other factors. Recognizing these declines, understanding their causes, and finding solutions has resulted in significant recovery. However, continuous threats to our native bird populations means that bluebirds need our support to survive and thrive.



Nest box placement

- Bluebirds are insectivores and prefer open areas with low grass that are interspersed with trees such as: cemeteries, golf courses, large lawns, along rural roads, and in meadow and pastures.
- Boxes should be in place by the end of February.
- Boxes should be 4-5 feet above the ground, with the opening facing away from the wind (typically southeast).
- Ideally, good perching sites, such as power lines, trees, or the like, should be within 10-100 yards of the box.
- Male bluebirds are territorial so keep nest boxes 80-100 yards apart. (If tree swallows use a box, place another one 10-15 feet away and a new pair of bluebirds might accept it).
- Try to avoid placing boxes in areas where pesticides are used, in play areas, or in yards with cats or house sparrows.

Nesting schedule

MID-FEBRUARY

Bluebirds return to breeding areas

MARCH 15 - APRIL 15

Nest building, egg laying & incubation

APRIL 15 - MAY 15

First hatching

JUNE 1 - JULY 15

Second hatching

AUGUST 1 - 15

Third hatching