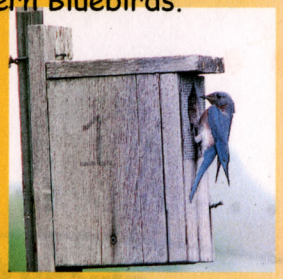
How can we help the Eastern Bluebirds?

This is a question that Girl Scout troop 434 helped to answer. As a service project to benefit the community, we built Eastern Bluebird boxes and placed them throughout the parks. Look out for them as you travel through the park and see if you can spot any Eastern Bluebirds.



Eastern Bluebird Box

Check out the Bluebirds!

Pictures and information from:

http://www.noble.org/Press_Release/Ag/NestBoxes/index.htm

http://www.birdsofoklahoma.net/Bluebd05.htm

http://www.kennewcombe.com/bluebird.html

http://k1bluebird.tripod.com/ebluebird.html

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/BOW/EASBLB/

http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/Infocenter/i7660id.html

http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Sialia_sialis.html

Check out the Bluebirds!

Eastern Bluebird *(Sialia sialis)*

Male Eastern Bluebird

Information about the Eastern Bluebirds found at Granger Lake!

Where do they live?

Eastern Bluebirds can be found all over North America except in the western United States. They prefer open fields with scattered trees, wood edges, and near water sources. Their normal nesting place is in tree cavities. This poses a problem due to the modern forestry practice of removal of dead hollow trees which has caused a decline in their population. This has lead people to begin building bluebird boxes in order to help them repopulate. There are more than 36 bluebird boxes in place around Granger Lake at this time.

Eastern Bluebird

Quick Facts:

- Typically around 5.5 to 7 inches in length
- Adult Males: Bright blue upperparts, orange throat, breast, and sides, white belly
- Adult Females: duller blue than males, white eye ring, gray crown and back, white belly
- Juveniles: same as females, but spotted underparts
- Southwestern U.S. birds are paler
- Eat mostly insects and small quantities of fruits
- Live in the southeastern U. S. all year
- Parents raise the young together
- Eggs are white or light blue and they usually lay 3 to 7
- Have an average life span of 6 to 10 years
- Very social and territorial birds
- Communication is visual as well as audible -chir wi- or -chur lee- sounds

Check out the Bluebirds!