

DID YOU KNOW: Fall Migration is Underway?

Each fall, Florida becomes an important rest stop for millions of migrating birds traveling south to wintering grounds in Florida, the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. Warblers, vireos, thrushes, and Baltimore Orioles, and many other species may stop in our yards to rest and refuel before continuing their remarkable journeys.

How You Can Help

 **Plant Florida natives.** Native trees, shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers provide birds with insects, berries, seeds, nectar, shelter, and safe places to rest.

 **Provide fresh water.** A clean, shallow birdbath can provide much-needed drinking and bathing water. Change the water daily.

 **Turn off unnecessary lights at night.** Many birds migrate after dark. Bright outdoor lighting can disorient them and increase the risk of collisions with buildings.

 **Make windows bird-safe.** Reflections of trees and sky can fool birds into flying into glass. Exterior screens or closely spaced window markings can help prevent collisions. For a quick, effective fix, apply a specialized window treatment, like Solyx Bird Safety Film, or Bird Friendly decals.

What NOT to Do

Avoid unnecessary **insecticides and pesticides**. Migrating birds rely heavily on insects for the protein and energy they need to continue their journeys. Also, resist the urge to make every corner of the landscape perfectly tidy. Leaf litter, dense native vegetation, and natural areas provide insects, food, shelter, and hiding places.

Give Our Visitors a Safe Place to Rest

That tiny bird you notice among the branches this fall may have already traveled hundreds or thousands of miles. By providing **native plants, clean water, dark nights, safe windows, and a pesticide-conscious landscape**, our Pine Ridge community can provide valuable rest stops for these amazing travelers.

This fall, welcome our feathered visitors—and help send them safely on their way!