



### **HOW TO HELP BACKYARD BIRDS**

1. Keep all cats inside at all times. Free roaming cats, not just feral cats, kill BILLIONS of birds a year.
2. Keep feeders away from windows to reduce collisions - Window glass kills at least 100 million birds every year in the United States.
3. Wash and disinfect all feeders and bird baths at least once every two weeks.
4. Clean and disinfect all hummingbird feeders at least once a week.
5. Place "bird tape" over windows to reduce likelihood of collisions – buy bird tape at [www.abcbirdtape.org](http://www.abcbirdtape.org) .
6. Watch out for fledgling birds during the spring and summer. Most birds learn how to fly from the ground up. Just because it can't fly doesn't mean it's injured.

If you find an injured bird, place it into a small box with air holes and something soft in the bottom. Keep the box somewhere warm and quiet. Call our hospital at 310-458-WILD!



### **3 ways to clean a bird feeder**

Take it apart and wash in the dish washer on hot

Hand wash with soap and boiling water

Hand wash with a diluted bleach solution (9 parts water 1 part bleach) Rinse well, then let air dry

Be sure to clean up under the feeder!

### **Hummingbird feeders**

Change sugar water at least every 3-5 days to prevent mold and potentially deadly fermentation.

Clean feeder at least once a week with hot water and a bottle brush. Do not use soap or detergent.

You can also disinfect with a 9 parts water 1part water solution. Rinse out very well and let air dry.

For more information on how to help songbirds go to [www.allaboutbirds.org](http://www.allaboutbirds.org) .It is a very reputable website created by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology crammed full of helpful hints.