



Alabama Outdoor Classroom Program

Songbird Habitat Spring Maintenance Checklist

Below are the supplies/tools needed to complete each maintenance task along with an estimated cost, an estimated amount of time needed to accomplish each task, and the frequency each task should be done.

Task Description	Supplies/Tools Needed	Estimated Cost	Est. Time Needed	Frequency of Task
WEEKLY SPRING MAINTENANCE TIPS				
Fill the bird feeders with suet & seeds, and clean outside of each one with a disinfecting wipe.	Songbird Food & Baby Wipes	\$5 (for food per month)	10 - 15 minutes	Once per week
Clean bird baths & then add clean water.	Scrub Brush	n/a	5 min	Once
If it hasn't rained, water to a depth of 2" inches.	Water Hose	n/a	15-30 min	Twice
Pull weeds and clean out the garden.	Gloves	n/a	15-30 min	Once
JANUARY				
Prune winter-damaged branches & limbs.	Gloves & pruners	NA	30 min	Once
Clean bird feeder(s) in a bucket of 1:9 bleach water for 24 hours to disinfect them.	Bucket, bleach & a scrub brush	NA	20 min	Once
Remove old nesting material from bird house(s), scrub inside with 1:9 solution of bleach & water. Rinse well & leave it open to dry.	Antibacterial liquid, water, bleach & brush	NA	1 hour	Once
FEBRUARY				
Prune woody shrubs/bushes if necessary. Do not prune spring blooming plants such as camellias which may have buds.	Gloves and Pruners	n/a	1 hour	Once
If replanting seeds from last fall or starting new ones, now is the time to plant in trays inside.	Seeds, Soil & Containers	\$10	1 hour	Once
MARCH				
Put hummingbird feeders back up in garden. Report hummingbird sightings on Journey North's website throughout the spring.	1:4 Sugar water	\$5	30 min	As Needed
Apply Preen Weed Preventer Plus Plant Food.	Fertilizer	\$15	15 min	Once
Add 2" of mulch as a weed barrier if needed.	Mulch	\$2 per bag	1 hour	Once
APRIL				
Prune the bushes that weren't pruned in February	Gloves & pruners	NA	30-60 minutes	1 time this semester
Plant perennials and/or annuals such as black-eyed susan's and purple coneflowers	Gloves & trowels	\$10 - 30 for plants	30 - 60 minutes	1 time this semester
MAY				
Clean bird feeder(s).	Bucket & brush	NA	20 min	Once
Update the Garden Plant ID Map if needed.	Plant ID Map	n/a	15 min	Once
Work with the planning committee to create a summer watering schedule for all of the gardens.	n/a	n/a	30 min	Once