Birdhouses

Today on Gardening in a Minute: birdhouses.

In Florida, 25 species of birds need cavities or holes in trees for their nests. But nest sites for cavity-nesters are often in short supply. Birdhouses are one way gardeners can contribute to the health of the bird population.

In general, birdhouses should include ventilation holes, and a hinged door or other way to easily check and clean out the house.

Your birdhouse should have an overhang above the entryway to keep out rain, but also include several small holes to drain any water that does get in. Attach your birdhouse firmly to a post, tree, or building.

Many cavity-nesters have specific requirements for their homes, so birdhouses should be targeted to a particular species.

Do your research, and they’ll flock to your birdhouse!

For more about this and many other gardening topics, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.