

WHITE CREEK













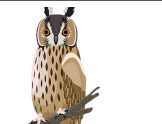




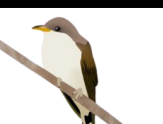


TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
The Gardens

FEATHERED FRIENDS OF SUMMER



Filter Strip

	American Robin - While earthworms and insects are a large part of their diet, Robins also love to munch on fruit and berries. See if you can spot one in the Fruit Orchard.		Painted Bunting - These rainbow birds occupy open grasslands, like our meadow area, where they will hang from grass stalks picking off seeds or search for insects.
	Barn Swallow - These migrators from Latin America build their nests out of hundreds of tiny mud pellets that they pick up from nearby puddles and streams.		Purple Martin - Hollowed out gourds, like the ones grown on our gourd tunnel, are often used to invite these summer residents to backyards and farms alike.
	Blue Jay - Oak trees are the perfect place to look for these vibrant birds as they feast on acorns and caterpillars throughout the day.		Red-bellied Woodpecker - Although our Loblolly Pines are very much alive, Woodpeckers will utilize dead trees, telephone poles, and fence posts for their nests.
	Carolina Chickadee - These busy little songbirds flit around looking for insects such as bees and spiders, which means you might spot one around the wildflower areas.		Red-tailed Hawk - Look to the tree tops and light poles for these raptors as they keep watch for their next meal of small mammals or snakes.
	Carolina Wren - Preferring nooks and crannies for their nesting sites, the Sabal Palms in the Mexican Heritage Garden are an ideal home for Wrens and other birds.		Ruby-throated Hummingbird - The Gardens unofficial mascot, these hummers love the bright colored blooms of Turk's Cap, Honeysuckle, Bee Balm, and more!
	Common Nighthawk - Keep an eye open over the meadows (where future gardens are planned) for these insect devouring birds, especially around dusk!		Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - As the name would suggest, their scissor shaped tail acts as a rudder to guide their twists and turns in midair as they hunt for insects.
	Eastern Screech Owl - Often heard more than it is seen, these owls are no larger than a Cardinal. You can sometimes catch their song at twilight along White Creek.		Sparrow - With a diet of protein-rich spiders, caterpillars, beetles, and grass seeds, you can almost always spot these little flyers in the wildflower areas.
	Dove - A couple different species of dove can frequently be seen scouring the Food & Fiber Field looking for easy seed pickings.		Tufted Titmouse - Oak trees serve as host plants for numerous species of caterpillars, making them all you can eat buffets for these birds.
	Northern Cardinal - Cardinals prefer to build their nests in dense pockets of foliage, which makes them common residents in the Bird Garden and along White Creek.		Western Kingbird - Another flycatcher, these birds will often build nests in trees adjacent to open areas for insect catching, like our Pecan Grove.
	Northern Mockingbird - There are not many places you won't see the state bird, but when the grapes in the Vineyard are almost ripe, they just can't help themselves.		Yellow-billed Cuckoo - Dining on hairy tent caterpillars, these birds actually help out the trees they reside in from these sometimes destructive larva.