

# **Wild Bird Safety**

Clean bird feeders are as important to wild birds as clean dishes are to humans. Grimy bird feeders can be a source of contamination that can be fatal to birds. Please help to spread the word about the need for clean, healthy wild bird feeders.

# Cleaning

Wash the components of Squirrel Buster Mini with a solution of dish detergent and warm water. Rinse with a solution of white vinegar, a mild natural disinfectant.

DO NOT PUT IN DISHWASHER. The high temperatures generated in a dishwasher will damage feeder components.

### Owner's Guide

The spring mechanism is calibrated at the factory to close at 4.0 oz. / 115 g. The smaller Red Squirrels, as well as the larger Gray Squirrels, are shut out at this setting.

### Birds by weight

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Red-breasted Nuthatch	0.35 oz. / 10 g	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1.6 oz. / 45g
Chickadee	0.4 oz. / 11 g	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1.7 oz. / 50g
American Goldfinch	0.5 oz. / 14g	Red-winged Blackbird	2.0 oz. / 52g
Common Redpoll	0.5 oz. / 14g	Evening Grosbeak	2.0 oz. / 56g
Pine Siskin	0.5 oz. / 14g	Northern Cardinal	2.0 oz. / 56g
Dark-eyed Junco	0.7 oz. / 20g	Hairy Woodpecker	2.3 oz. / 66g
Tufted Titmouse	0.7 oz. / 20g	European Starling	3.0 oz. / 84g
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.7 oz. / 20g	Jay	4.0 oz. / 112g
House Finch	1.0 oz. / 28g	Common Grackle	4.0 oz. / 112g
Purple Finch	1.0 oz. / 28g	Mourning Dove	4.0 oz. / 112g
Sparrow	1.0 oz. / 28g	Northern Flicker	4.6 oz. / 130g
Downy Woodpecker	1.5 oz. / 42g	Domestic Pigeon	9.0 oz. / 255g

## Squirrels by weight



# Frequently asked questions

#### What seed should I feed wild birds?

Black Oil Sunflower seed is a good all-round birdseed. Specialty wild bird stores carry seed blends and information specific to your area. A little quidance from these experts will help you attract more birds. Avoid blends that use fillers such as cracked corn, wheat and millet. These fillers are thrown to the ground by the birds and can attract unwanted species.

### When should I feed birds?

Any time of the year is a good time to feed wild birds. Feeding birds during the fall and winter months helps them to survive the cold weather. Nature's food supply is actually at its lowest in the spring, making it an important feeding season. During the summer, birds are establishing their territory, nesting and raising young. This is a time of high activity for the birds and a steady supply of dry seed is a welcome addition to their diet.

### What happens if I stop feeding the birds?

Mother Nature has always provided for the birds. Birdseed from feeders is a bonus for wild birds and provides only a part of their nutritional needs. If you stop feeding the birds, they will continue to feed from natural sources just as they did before you began feeding

### Do metal perches cause any harm?

There is some concern that birds' feet will stick to metal perches in freezing weather. This cannot and does not happen. Birds do not have sweat glands in their feet and never stick to metal objects such as utility wires, metal fences or radio and TV antennas.

## What about chipmunks, raccoons, bears and other critters?

Squirrel Buster Mini is absolutely squirrel proof, but is not designed to deter chipmunks, raccoons, bears and other critters that can damage the feeder. Raccoons can damage the feeder when they drop it to the ground and roll it around to extract the seed. Latch your feeder with a snap hook to avoid raccoon damage.



Birdseed is attractive to a wide variety of wild animals. Usually these animals are nocturnal. If you have a problem, we recommend that you take your feeder in at night.

# **Factory Warranty.**

### What is a Factory Warranty?

It is a warranty that ensures an immediate answer to any problem or claim direct from the factory. Just call Brome Bird Care at 1-800-856-5685. The customer service desk has the expertise and the parts to ensure prompt service.

# **Squirrel Buster Mini Factory Warranty**

Squirrel Buster Mini is quaranteed to be free of material or manufacturing defects and against squirrel damage for a period of 24 months from the date of purchase. Brome Bird Care's sole responsibility will be to repair or replace a defective or damaged product.

The warranty applies only when the product is used according to manufacturer's instructions. The warranty does not apply to damage from attempted or unauthorized repairs, cosmetic scratches from squirrels or other animals, damage from accidents, dropped or fallen feeders, improper handling, shipping, misuse, abuse, neglect or damage from chipmunks, raccoons, bears or other animals.

No other warranties expressed or implied are made. Brome Bird Care shall not be responsible for any incidental or consequential damages. Proof of purchase and the prepaid return of a defective part or product may be required by Brome Bird Care.

All warranty claims must be made by calling Brome Bird Care customer service at 1-800-856-5685.

To activate your 24 month factory warranty, please complete and return the warranty registration card enclosed with this product or go to www.bromebirdcare.com, and click on Squirrel Buster Mini for the online warranty registration form.





331 Knowlton Road, Knowlton, Quebec, Canada, JOE 1V0 Toll Free 1-800-856-5685 • Fax: 450-243-1322 www.bromebirdcare.com • info@bromebirdcare.com Squirrel Buster™, Squirrel Buster Classic™, Squirrel Buster II™, Squirrel Buster Plus™, Detachable Component System™, Seed Tube Ventilation System™, are trademarks of Brome Bird Care Inc.

Protected by U.S. Patents 6,253,707, 6,543,384 and patents pending Printed in China PART NO. 1055-23





**How it works** 

the metal mesh shroud

seed tray and allow birds

When a squirrel climbs

onto the feeder, its weight

automatically forces the shroud down, closing access to

the seed tray. Squirrels are shut out but not harmed

are aligned with the

access to the seed.

in any way.

Openings in the bottom of

# **Squirrel Buster**



Mi̇̀ni™

Patented Squirrel Buster technology is truly squirrel proof. Over 500,000 very happy customers have confirmed it



Both **Patented Seed Tube** perching **Ventilation System** clinging

birds love

this feeder.

Transparent seed tubes are like greenhouses, they trap solar energy. Traditional seed tube cover designs block the escape of heated air.

The patented Seed Tube Ventilation System in Squirrel Buster Mini, permits humidity and hot air to escape through vents at the top of the feeder. The escaping hot air is replaced with fresh air enterina the seed ports and openings on the bottom of the seed tube. The seed remains fresher and attracts more birds.



# **Detachable Component System**

Squirrel Buster Mini has been designed to dismantle easily for filling and cleaning.



Insert hooked end

of hanger.







Lift off the metal

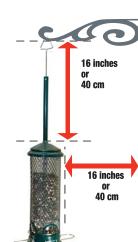












# Negative Grip Tube<sup>11</sup>

The need for clearance

Remember it's the squirrel's

weight that triggers the closing

mechanism. If a squirrel can

reach over from a nearby

foothold and avoid placing

weight on the feeder, it will be able to access the seed.

Allow for 16 inches or 40 cm

This will force the squirrel to

climb onto the feeder and

of clearance around the feeder.

trigger the closing mechanism.

The negative grip tube is part of our patented technology. It prevents squirrels from grabbing the wire hanger with their hind legs, hanging down alongside the feeder and defeating the closing mechanism.



# Wild Bird Safety

The care and safety of wild birds are paramount. Brome Bird Care Inc. was founded on this principal and has vays promoted wild bird care. All our products are based on award winning designs developed to nhance wild bird safety while providing enjoyment o birding enthusiasts. To promote the concepts of wild bird care, in conjunction with the Wild Bird Feeding ndustry, we invite you to review the 6 Step Program for creating your very own Wild Bird Sanctuary.

#### 6 Steps to turn your yard into a Sanctuary For Birds

a large clinging area. Because of the

Birds need your help! Populations of many kinds of birds are declining. Habitat loss and degradation, disease, collisions with man-made structures and a host of other factors contribute to these declines. You can help by turning your yard into a sanctuary for birds.

#### Here are six steps you can take to make the future brighter for birds: 1. Put out the welcome mat!

combined perching and clinging surfaces, you will find an

enhanced level of bird activity with the Squirrel Buster Mini.

Habitat loss is the biggest challenge facing birds. You can help by making your neighborhood more attractive to birds by landscaping with native plants that provide natural food sources, shelter from the elements and predators, and nesting sites. Providing feeders, nest boxes and water also benefits birds. To learn how, stop by your local wild bird shop or garden retailer.

#### 2. Prepare a proper menu.

Providing the appropriate foods year round will attract more birds to your yard and help ensure that they have a safe and nutritious diet. Refill feeders regularly with food desired by birds in your area. To pick the best menu, stop by your local wild bird shop.

#### 3. Keep feed and feeding areas clean.

To help reduce the possibility of disease transmission in birds, clean feeders and feeding areas at least once a month. Plastic and metal feeders can go in the dishwasher, or rinse these and other styles with a 10% solution of bleach and warm water. Scrub birdbaths with a brush and replace water every three to five days to discourage mosquito reproduction. Rake up and dispose of seed hulls under feeders. Moving feeders periodically helps prevent the buildup of waste on the ground. Keep seed and foods dry; discard food that smells musty, is wet or looks moldy. Hummingbird feeders should be cleaned every three to five days, or every other day in warm weather. It's good hygiene to wash your hands after filling or cleaning feeders. 4. Birds and chemicals don't mix.

#### Many pesticides, herbicides and fungicides are toxic to birds; avoid using these near areas where birds feed, bathe or rest. Always follow directions provided by chemical manufacturers. For additional information visit

#### 5. Keep cats away from birds.

Scientists estimate that cats probably kill hundreds of millions of birds each year in the U.S. This is a big problem, but it's easy to fix. Many people who enjoy feeding birds also love cats. The best solution is to keep cats indoors. They will lead longer, healthier lives, and your yard will be safer for birds. Install feeders in areas not readily accessible to cats or install fences or other barriers to help keep stray cats from feeder areas. Collar bells, de-clawing and keeping cats well fed will not solve the problem.

#### 6. Reduce window collisions

Collisions with glass windows kill millions of wild birds every year. Depending on their size and location, some windows reflect the sky or vegetation, and birds are fooled into thinking they can fly through them. To eliminate this problem identify windows that cause collisions (typically larger, reflective windows, those near the ground, or those that "look through" the house). Attaching decorative decals or other decorations to the outside surface of the glass can reduce reflections. Feeder birds fleeing predators are vulnerable to window collisions. If this is happening at your house, consider moving feeders within three feet of the windows so that birds cannot accelerate to injury level speeds while flying away. Problem windows can be covered with a screen so that birds bounce off, rather than hit the glass.

Slide Negative Grip

Tube over hanger hook.

The information contained here is designed to assist birding enthusiasts in their efforts to attract a variety of birds to their property, as well as to serve as a guide to providing a healthy environment. WBFI and its member companies hope you find this information helpful in creating your own wild bird sanctuary, and wish you many years of happy viewing!

You can help change the world and make it a better place for birds. The most important step you can take is to get started! Following the six steps presented here is a great start. Be sure to learn more about birds and how you can help by getting involved with the organizations listed below, and with others committed to conserving bird and wildlife habitats.

Representatives from Cleveland MetroParks, Aurora University, and Muhlenberg College, as well as the following organizations contributed to the development of this brochure.

American Bird Conservancy - www.abcbirds.org American Birding Association - www.americanbirding.org Bird Conservation Alliance -www.birdconservationalliance.org Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology - www.birds.cornell.edu Massachusetts Audubon Society -www.massaudubon.org

National Audubon Society - www.audubon.org National Fish and Wildlife Foundation - www.nfwf.org National Wildlife Federation - www.nwf.org The Wildlife Society - www.wildlife.org U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - www.fws.gov The Wild Bird Feeding Industry and its member companies - www.wbfi.org

For more information on backyard birding, visit www.backyardbirdcare.org or one of organizations' websites listed herein.

The Wild Bird Feeding Industry (WBFI) sponsored development of this brochure. WBFI is an association dedicated to the progressive expansion of the wild bi feeding industry. ©2004 Wild Bird Feeding Industry

