

# Yellow-rumped Warblers

One of the delightful winter visitors to Travis county is the Yellow-rumped Warbler. Fondly called “Butter-butts,” these delightful little birds sport a yellow spot on their rumps and their armpits.



Yellow-rumped  
(Myrtle) Warbler  
“Butter-butt”

There are actually two main populations: Audubon’s with a yellow throat and Myrtle with a white throat. The one we see in Austin is a Myrtle Warbler.

Butter-butts enjoy eating insects, caterpillars, larvae, as well as berries.

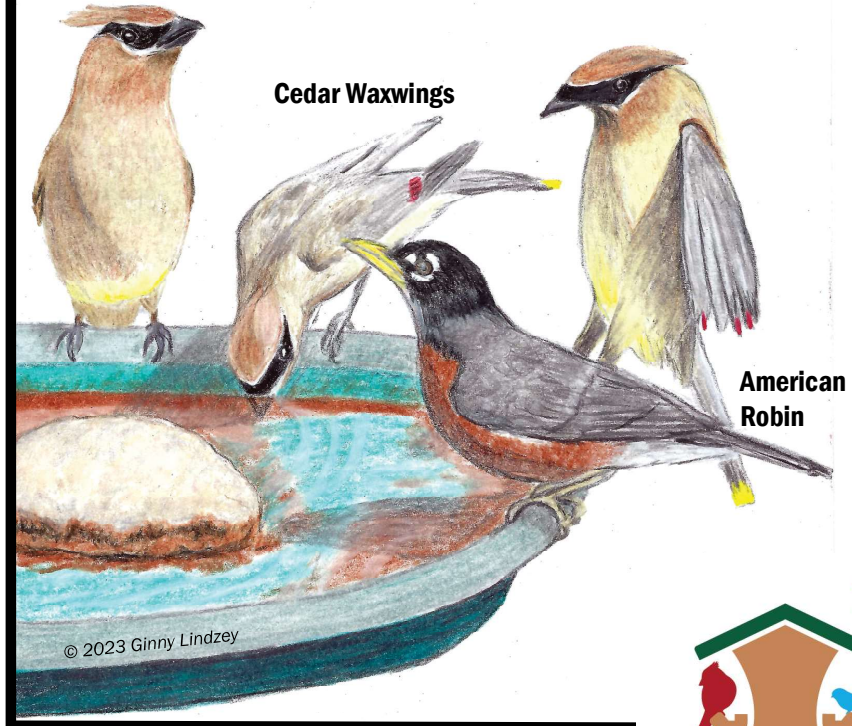
If you want to see them in your backyard, they love Jim’s Birdacious® Bark Butter® and Jim’s Birdacious® Bark Butter® Bits. Ask for a free Jim’s Birdacious® Bark Butter®

QuickBites® sample next time you are in the store!



November 2023

## November Nomads



Cedar Waxwings

American Robin

## Feasting with Feathered Friends

Join our entertaining and informative hosts, John Schaust and Brian Cunningham, as they discuss how you can show your thanks for birds this season in your yard and your coffee cup.



*Nature Centered* is a podcast from **Wild Birds Unlimited** about feeding the birds and enjoying nature right in your own backyard. Relax, enjoy the birds, and stay Nature Centered.

[austinsouth.wbu.com/nature-centered-onewbu](http://austinsouth.wbu.com/nature-centered-onewbu)



## In this issue of Little Flyers:

- 3 Cedar Waxwings Descend
- 4-5 Color Me: Feasting in the Fall
- 6 Make Your Own Pumpkin Feeder
- 7 Where's Robin?
- back Yellow-rumped Warblers
- back Nature Centered Podcast: Feasting with Feathered Friends

## Little Flyers & the Little Flyers Passport

This is our 8th issue of *Little Flyers*, a zine designed for kids and their families. We provide fun information and activities on a monthly basis tailored to our seasonal focus.

*Little Flyers* is a unique program at the **Wild Birds Unlimited** South Austin located at 3535 Bee Caves Road in Westlake Hills. Come visit us in person or online at [austinsouth.wbu.com](http://austinsouth.wbu.com) for upcoming events, birding news, feeders, bird seed, nesting boxes, and more.

The *Little Flyers* zine is created and edited by Ginny Lindzey. If you are enjoying *Little Flyers*, let us know! You can contact us at [wbuastinsouth@gmail.com](mailto:wbuastinsouth@gmail.com).

## Holiday Preview Open House & Author Event

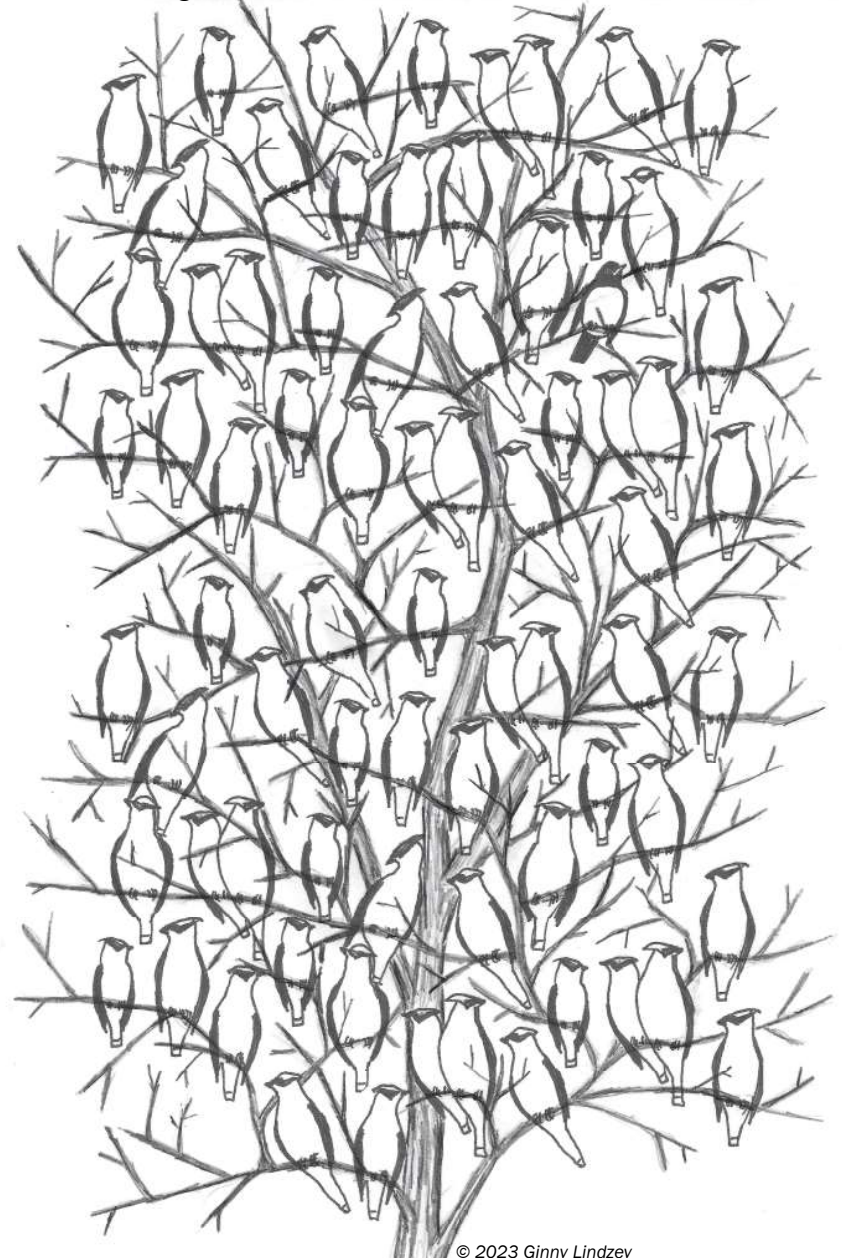
Join us all day on **Saturday, November 18th** when **Wild Birds Unlimited** will be hosting a **Holiday Preview Open House**.

Come put your name in a raffle and check out the samples and giveaways as the holiday season begins. We have gifts for all ages from kids to grandparents.

At **2 p.m.** author **Jennifer L. Bristol** will be talking about her most recent book, *Cemetery Birding*. Cemeteries, as some of the earliest public parks in the country, are attractive to birds and wildlife and thus a great place to go birding. Come learn more!

## Where's Robin?

Can you find the American Robin who is hanging out with his Cedar Waxwing friends?

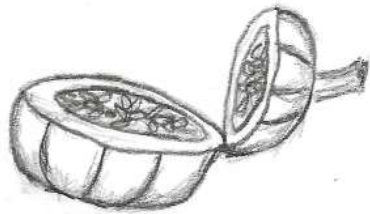


© 2023 Ginny Lindzey



# Make Your Own Pumpkin Feeders

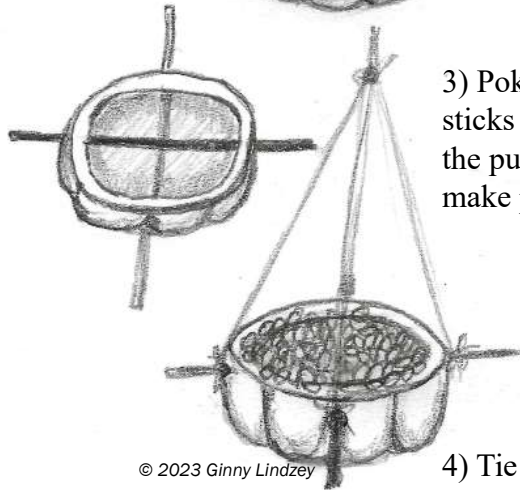
If you have a small decorative pumpkin left over from your Halloween festivities, consider making a feeder for the birds. Just follow these easy steps. You may need an adult to help you.



1) Cut the small pumpkin in half.



2) Scoop out all the seeds. Clean and dry the inside.



3) Poke two chopsticks (or other sticks from your yard) through the pumpkin in a cross fashion to make perches.

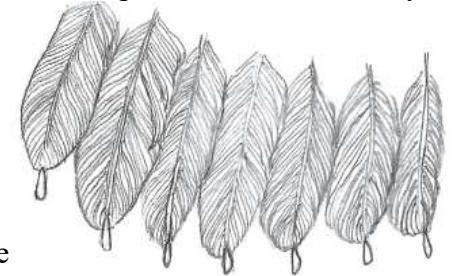
© 2023 Ginny Lindzey

4) Tie twine to each perch and then together at the top to hang the feeder. Fill with one of our WBU seed blends!

# Cedar Waxwings Descend!

Be on the lookout for the coolest, noisiest flock of birds to descend on your neighborhood: Cedar Waxwings! These strikingly sleek birds have black “bandit” masks with thin white borders, vivid yellow tips to their tail feathers, and—yes—red waxy tips on some of their wing feathers.

In the winter, when they are usually seen in our area, they are known to eat cedar berries, as well as juniper, mistletoe, and other berries and fruit. In fact, if they eat overripe fermented fruit, they can become intoxicated and crash into buildings or cars!



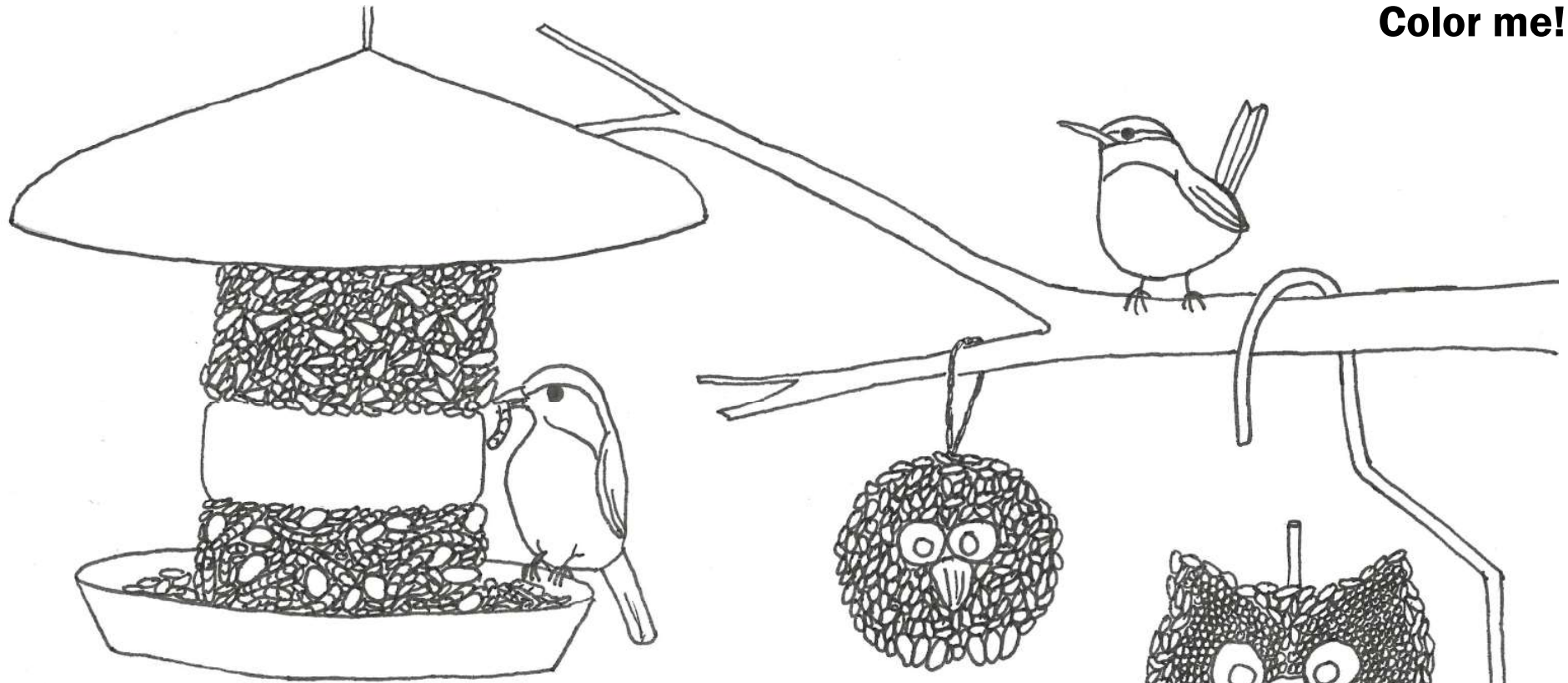
The red waxy teardrop-shaped tips are actually the widened, flattened ends of the feather shafts. The color comes from the berries they eat. While scientists are unsure of the purpose of these red tips, some believe they signal age: the older the Cedar Waxwing, the more red tips they are likely to have.



© 2023 Ginny Lindzey

When attracting a mate in the spring, Cedar Waxwings often pair up with a bird which has a similar number of red tips. Their courtship involves the male offering the female an insect or berry which they pass back and forth until the female eats it, thus accepting the male as a mate.

If you see a flock of Cedar Waxwings (which is called an “ear-full” or a “museum”), look around for an American Robin. They are often seen hanging around together in the winter.



## Feasting in the Fall

The new Flyin' Bistro is a fabulous feeder for providing a feast for your feathered friends, from stackables to loose seed and mealworms. Provide festive seed characters as well to add some variety to your offerings this season!



© 2023 Ginny Lindzey