



Thank you!

By installing this habitat structure, you are providing an essential nesting area for wildlife in need. Landowners like you play a vital role in providing habitat for wildlife in the Credit River watershed.

Habitat

Eastern screech owls are found in deciduous woodlands with nearby open fields and wetlands.

When to Expect Them

Mid-March to mid-June

Call

Sounds like: “HoooOOOooo” a mournful, tremulous wail descending in pitch

Habitat Structure Placement

Location	Forest edge, open woodlot
Height off Ground (m)	3 – 9
Entrance Hole Facing	Any direction
Spacing	30 m apart
Attach to	Tree, pole
Installation Time	September to February

Care of the Habitat Structure

Clean out old nest material before the breeding season begins in March. To access the box, turn the latch near the bottom of the box and rotate the moveable panel upward. Add 5 to 10 cm of coarse wood shavings to the bottom of the box.

Important Notes

Nesting females should not be disturbed during or shortly after egg-laying or they may abandon the nest. Screech owls can be aggressive nest defenders during the evening when they are active. Be sure to give them plenty of space to avoid being viewed as a predator.

What Else Can You Do to Help?

Take action to provide natural nesting sites for owls on your property, reducing the need for nest boxes. Leave dead standing trees that do not pose a hazard to people to provide shelter and breeding space. Make brush piles throughout your forest to attract rodents and small mammals that provide food for owls.

Photo Credit: Greg Hume