

Caring for your Habitat Structure

WHITE BREASTED NUTHATCH



CREDIT VALLEY
CONSERVATION



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

White-breasted nuthatches are found in mature woodlands and woodland edges and are associated with stands of hickory, basswood and oak. They may also be found in mixed or coniferous forests.

When to Expect Them

End of April to July

Call

Sounds like: “*Yank, yank, yank*”

Habitat Structure Placement

Location	Interior forest or open forest
Height off Ground (m)	2 – 6
Entrance Hole Facing	South
Spacing	320 m apart
Attach to	Live tree, pole
Installation Time	September to March

Care of the Habitat Structure

Clean out old nest material before the breeding season begins in April. To access the box, turn the latch near the bottom of the box and rotate the moveable panel upward. Nuthatches prefer to excavate their own cavities. Add about 5 cm of wood shavings every year before the breeding season.

Interesting Fact

Nuthatches are agile birds. You will often see them foraging on tree trunks and vertical surfaces sideways and upside down.

What Else Can You Do to Help?

You can take action to provide natural nesting sites for nuthatches 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. Plant native species such as silver maple, northern red oak and yellow birch to help provide food and shelter.

Photo Credit: Kelly Colgan Azar