

Feeding Birds in Miramichi Area Gardens During the Winter



Deana and Peter Gadd, Garden Club, Oct. 08, 2015

Who might our visitors be?



Black-capped Chickadee



Black-capped Chickadee



Black-capped
Chickadee



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Blue Jay





Blue Jay





Blue Jay





Gray Jay

Northern Cardinal





Northern
Cardinal

Northern Cardinal







Hairy
Woodpecker



**Downy
Woodpecker**



Mourning Dove





Red-breasted
Nuthatch





White-breasted Nuthatch

White- breasted Nuthatch





White-breasted Nuthatch



Brown Creeper



Dark-eyed
Junco

White-throated Sparrow





White-throated
Sparrow





Chipping Sparrow

American Tree Sparrow





Fox Sparrow



Song Sparrow (early return)



Common Redpoll



Common Redpoll



Common Redpoll





Hoary Redpoll



Pine Siskin





Pine Siskin



Pine Siskin

Pine Siskin





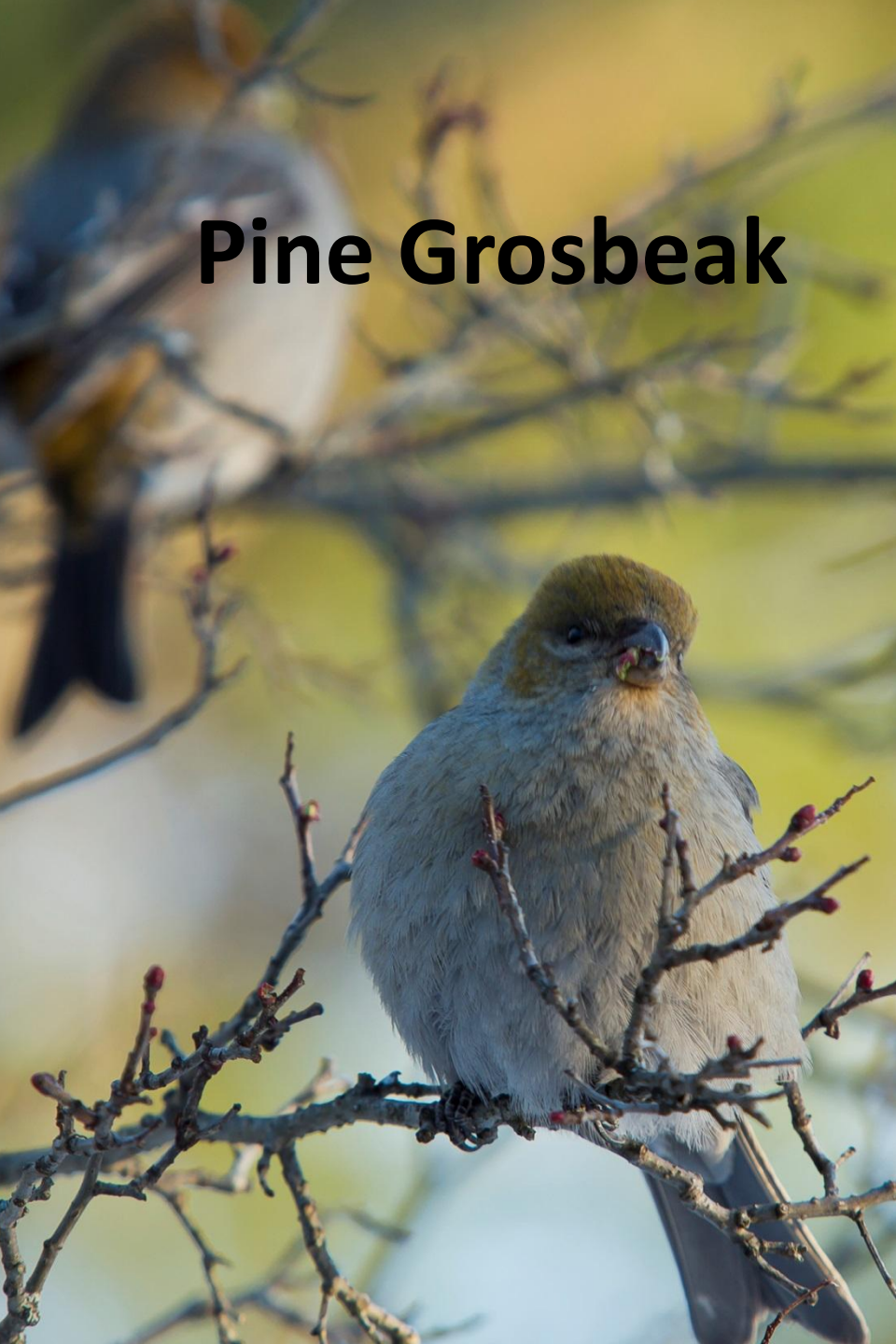
Evening Grosbeak



Evening
Grosbeak



Pine Grosbeak





Snow Bunting



Purple Finch



Purple Finch



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House Finch



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American Goldfinch



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American
Goldfinch



Pine Warbler



Methods of Providing Feed

- Save plants/debris/leaf litter/brush piles in your garden to provide seeds and shelter – clean-up in the spring
- Provide perches near feeders
- Provide a variety of feeders-types/foods:
- Scatter food on ground/snow
- Be consistent but birds get much of their food in the wild
- Try to keep feeders somewhat clean – keep an eye on them!



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Squirrel Resistant Feeders



Squirrel Inviting Feeders!



Window Feeders



Carefully placed will keep squirrels away

This works
if not
placed
under a tree



What to offer as food

- Black oil sunflower seeds
- Mixed seeds
- Suet
- Nyjer seed
- Unsalted peanuts
- Peanuts in the shell
- Peanut butter (a squirrel favorite though)
- Fruit
- Water



Heated water bowl

Heated water bowl – not quite keeping up





Bohemian Waxwing

Some birds will take advantage of fruit still on boughs



Bohemian Waxwing

Pine Grosbeak





Cedar Waxwing

European Starling





Bohemian Waxwing



Mountain Ash berries

Robins passing
through late in the
fall will take
advantage of
these.

Mixed flock of “black” birds



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Common Grackles, Starlings, Red-winged Blackbirds, Cowbirds

Brown-headed Cowbird



Common Grackle





Common Grackle



European Starling



Red-winged
Blackbird (early
return)

American Crow



Common Raven

Predatory Birds

that will visit feeders

Merlin (a falcon)





Sharp-shinned Hawk



Northern Shrike



Northern Shrike - strike

Unwanted Guests

Squirrels, pigeons, raccoons, mice, cats ?

partial solutions:

- Specifically designed feeders
- Designated areas
- Type of feed
- Bring feeders in at night in the spring, summer and fall
- Place feeders where there is little ground cover for predators

Red Squirrel



Gray Squirrel



Raccoon





Mixed flock of black birds – early spring



Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)



Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon)





Who Else Might be Around?

Birds you might see but tend favour wooded uninhabited areas:

Red Crossbill

White-winged Crossbill

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Boreal Chickadee

Gray Jay – attracted to humans though, it seems









Barred Owl

Great Horned Owl

Snowy Owl

Northern Hawk Owl

Barred Owl

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Northern Saw-whet Owl



Ring-necked Pheasant (male)



Ring-necked Pheasant (female)



Ruffed Grouse

**Spruce Grouse
(female)**



Ruffed Grouse





Mallard and Pintail Duck



Canada Goose – early return!

Unusual visitors to the Miramichi area in recent years

- Crested Caracara
- White Pelican
- Purple Gallinule
- Fork-tailed Flycatcher
- Great Egret
- Glossy Ibis
- Snow Goose
- Barnacle Goose



Great Egret (Newcastle)

Glossy Ibis (Newcastle)



The End

Birding Links

- Bird Studies Canada - <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/>
- Cornell University – All About Birds: <http://www.allaboutbirds.org>
- Maritime Breeding Bird Atlas - <http://www.mba-aom.ca/english/>
- Miramichi Naturalist Club - <http://miramichinaturalistclub.wordpress.com>

- Birding New Brunswick - <http://birdingnewbrunswick.ca/>
- Christmas Bird Count - <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>
- Project Feeder Watch - <http://feederwatch.org>
- Great backyard Bird Count - <http://gbbc.birdcount.org>
- Ebird - <http://ebird.org/content/canada>