

BACKYARD HOLIDAY HABITATS FOR WILDLIFE

December is a great time to celebrate birds and other wildlife with a tree decorated just for them. Decorate an evergreen in your yard:

1. Choose a tree or shrub to turn into a backyard holiday habitat for wildlife. Pick one that can be seen from a window for best wildlife viewing.
2. String popcorn, cranberries and peanuts together to make pretty garlands around the tree.



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3. Make peanut butter and birdseed treats:
 - Collect pine cones and/or cut bread with cookie cutters.
 - Cover pine cones/bread slices with peanut butter.
 - Sprinkle birdseed on top.
 - Hang your ornaments.
4. Slice apples and oranges into thin discs. Insert a string through individual slices and tie a loop. Hang them all over the tree as ornaments.
5. Hang corncobs and sunflower heads from branch ends. They look like colorful lights!
6. Add bundles of grass with seed heads for extra delights.

Find more recipes in Irene E. Cosgrove's books "My Recipes Are for the Birds" and "More of My Recipes Are for the Birds."

MOCKINGBIRD MUFFINS

- 1 cup cornmeal
- 1 cup flour
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 3/4 cup raisins
- 1/4 teaspoon sand
- 1/2 cup bacon drippings
- 1 cup water

Combine first six ingredients in a mixing bowl. Mix in bacon drippings and water. Spoon batter into lined muffin tins. **Bake at 350° F for 15 minutes.** Allow muffins to cool and attach to tree branches.



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Use your imagination, keep things organic & natural and enjoy the festivities.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM
EVERYONE AT THE BIOPARK!**