



## Defy the Doldrums with Goldfinches

Dear Friend of Nature,

Many outdoor activities may fall prey to the “summer doldrums” during these warm and steamy months...but backyard bird feeding is not one of them.

If you don't feed the birds in the summer, you will miss out on a growing cast of birds that are displaying their most dazzling plumage and interesting behaviors. High on the list for entertainment value is one of our most luminous backyard birds — the goldfinch.

During July, long after most birds have started their families, the American Goldfinch is just beginning its nesting process for the first and only time of the year. You do not want to miss this exciting time of vibrant song and fascinating courtship behavior.

Lesser Goldfinch populations also nest in mid- to late-summer. However, coastal populations of Lesser Goldfinches nest in the spring to early summer. Goldfinch nesting coincides with the availability of plant down for nest construction and the abundant supply of their preferred food to feed their young.

Young goldfinches are dependent on their parents for at least three weeks after fledging. Their energetic begging, chasing and harassment of their parents for food at your feeders are truly some of the biggest payoffs of participating in the bird feeding hobby.

Goldfinches love to eat fresh, dry Nyjer<sup>®</sup> (thistle), and they also enjoy sunflower chips. Make sure you have plenty on hand to take advantage of one of the most exciting times of year to feed birds...it's a sure cure for the summer doldrums!

## How To Attract Goldfinches



### Habitat

Goldfinches are found in most habitats across North America, including backyards. To attract goldfinches to your yard, we recommend offering the right food and designated finch feeders or a designated finch-feeding station.



### Recommended Food

We recommend offering fresh Nyjer<sup>®</sup> (thistle) because it is goldfinches' favorite feeder food. Nyjer has a high oil content and is an excellent energy source for these active birds.

### Recommended Items

1. WBU Quick-Clean™ finch Feeders accommodate goldfinches' small bills and allow them to easily dine on Nyjer. These feeders' removable bases make cleaning a breeze. They are easy to fill and hang, deter squirrels and come with a lifetime guarantee.
2. Simply add our Weather Guard dome to your finch feeder to help keep seed dry and protect birds from inclement weather.
3. Because they locate food by sight, provide goldfinches with their own feeding station in an open, easy-to-find area.

Create a goldfinch feeding station with our exclusive Advanced Pole System<sup>®</sup> (APS) Basic Setup Hanging Hardware. It's easy to construct and maintain. Just plant it into the ground, add the extension poles and arms, and top it with the decorative finial. Then fill and hang your feeders.

Keep your Nyjer fresh and mold-free with Feeder Fresh™. Mix it with the seed in your feeders and the absorbent granules will “drink up” excess moisture. Feeder Fresh is completely safe for you and your birds.