What’s Happening in the Urban Bird Habitat?

*Birds* behave in different ways depending on the time of year. You can help birds find sanctuary in your home garden by planting and pruning with their needs in mind.

**Spring**
- Birds are building their nests to raise their young.
  - Leaving small piles of plant stems, twigs, and vines from winter and early spring pruning provides birds with plenty of construction material.

**Summer**
- Birds are seeking relief from summer heat and pests.
  - Filling shallow depressions in rocks with water gives birds something to drink to cool down. Leaving patches of bare ground provides a place for birds to take "dust baths" to get rid of pesky parasites.

**Autumn**
- Birds are eating high-fat seeds and fruits to build up reserves for migration and winter survival.
  - Leaving seed heads on plants will provide the food that will fatten up the birds for the winter.

**Winter**
- Birds are searching for shelter from the cold.
  - Planting evergreen trees and shrubs in the garden will give birds protection from the harsh winter weather.