



2003 Focus on Feeders Report

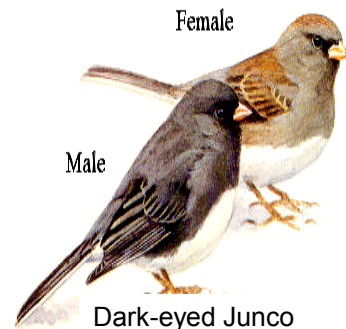
Thank you... Thank you... Thank you!

We would like to thank all who participated in Massachusetts Audubon's 7th **Annual Focus on Feeders** Weekend. Almost 1,000 backyard bird feeding enthusiasts took part! We would also like to thank everyone who submitted photographs.

And the winner is...

We are pleased to report that the most commonly observed bird species during the **Focus on Feeders** weekend was the **Dark-eyed Junco**, with **3,827 sightings!** Other bird species recorded in high numbers by participants include the Mourning Dove, European Starling, Goldfinch and Black-capped Chickadee. Other species observed in good numbers were the House Sparrow and Blue Jay.

Also of interest is that most participants feed the birds an average of 11 months a year. Sunflower seeds continue to be the most popular bird food purchased, although some respondents noted that feeding suet seemed to enhance the diversity of species seen at their feeders.



Did You Participate?

Thirteen out of fourteen counties were represented this year with the largest turnout from Middlesex County.

<u>County</u>	<u># of Participants</u>	<u>County</u>	<u># Of Participants</u>
Middlesex	382	Franklin	26
Norfolk	92	Bristol	32
Worcester	69	Hampden	26
Plymouth	82	Suffolk	9
Hampshire	50	Dukes	2
Essex	48	Berkshires	28
Barnstable	57	Out of State	5

Take a look at the winning photos!



Winning Photograph:
Black-capped Chickadee, submitted by
Christine Galisa



Most Humorous Wildlife:
Black Bear at feeder, submitted by Sue Purdy



Most Unusual Wildlife / Interesting Behavior:
Two Pileated Woodpeckers at suet feeder,
submitted by Jocelyn Simpson



Most Unusual Bird:
Turkey Vulture on birdhouse, submitted
by Deborah Prato