



Eastern Bluebird Rescue Group

NEWELL FARMS BLUEBIRD HOUSES are constructed by craftsmen at **EASTERN BLUEBIRD RESCUE GROUP**, near Warrenton, N.C. Through many years of constant field research we have developed what we believe to be the world's best bluebird house. We have studied many types of bird houses and have combined the best qualities into two basic models. They are constructed mostly from western cedar or heart pine. They will last for many years. These homes feature predator door guard, hinged door, and grooves to help the chicks emerge when the time comes.

- ❖ We make them available to groups or individuals at our cost to build them. Some non-profit organizations resell them at a small mark-up to raise funds.
- ❖ We at **NEWELL FARMS** care deeply about bluebirds. We think they are once again in danger. They are losing habitat to logging and development, and are threatened by pesticides and herbicides. They cannot make the hollows or cavities required for their nests. The bluebirds must rely on woodpeckers or natural decay to provide their nesting sites. These sites are becoming increasingly scarce.
- ❖ In addition to providing us with much beauty, the bluebirds are valuable insect eaters. They are so appreciative of what we do for them. After a bluebird house is erected, if there are any bluebirds in the area, anywhere from a few hours to a few days, they will be seen swarming around, checking it out, going in and out of the house. In severe weather, nest boxes are sometimes filled with bluebirds taking shelter. There is no "best time" to put up a bluebird house because the bluebirds depend on them for shelter in cold or severe weather.
- ❖ Some people purchase several **NEWELL FARMS BLUEBIRD HOUSES** and mount them in a line around their property. One nest box provides life for six to eighteen new bluebirds each year, as they raise up to three times a year. The boxes should be placed in an open area about five feet off the ground and roughly 100 feet apart. They should face a tree or bush not more than 50 feet away. This is where the fledglings will live for several days after leaving the birdhouse. A pair of bluebirds will take up permanent residence in the vicinity of each bird house and it will be home to many generations. We recommend that you increase the number of bluebird houses on your property by ten percent each year. This will provide homes for the offspring and will result in a healthy, growing bluebird population in your area. We also recommend a coat of exterior house paint or clear water seal to prolong the life of your bluebird house.

- ❖ Some people number the boxes and keep records. They empty the nest boxes after each brood has emerged, though this isn't necessary, unless the nest is dirty.

- ❖ Feel free to call or write to us any time if you have questions.

- ❖ **EASTERN BLUEBIRD RESCUE GROUP, 126 NEWELL FARMS ROAD, WARRENTON, NC 27589** Phone: (252) 257-4427.

- ❖ **Bluebird Timetable:** Nest building – 1 to 6 days; Egg laying – 5 to 7 days; Incubation – 12 to 15 days; Brooding – 6 days; Fledgling – 16 to 23 days.

- ❖ **Bluebird Feed Mixture Recipe:** 4 cups yellow corn meal, 1 cup all-purpose flour, 1 cup lard, 1 teaspoon corn oil, sunflower hearts, peanut hearts, chopped raisins, dogwood berries. Melt lard and stir in other ingredients. Spike with sunflower hearts, peanut hearts, raisins, dogwood berries, as desired. Let set. Cut into chunks. Feed as suet.