

## **EARTH DAY BIRD WATCH CHALLENGE**

**April 22**

Our neighbourhoods are changing, and local wildlife is feeling the impact. This Earth Day, take a moment to connect with the birds and green spaces around you.

### **Start in Your Own Backyard**

The best time to watch and listen is early morning—just before sunrise and up to three hours after. Birds are most active then, and their songs can tell you who's living nearby.

### **Need Help Identifying Birds?**

Try the *Merlin Bird ID* app—it can listen and identify bird calls instantly using your phone.

### **How to Take Part**

- Find a quiet spot and sit still
- Listen and watch carefully
- Bring a notebook to track what you see
- Look for signs like birds carrying sticks or food (a clue there may be a nest nearby)

### **If You Find a Nest**

Give it space. Avoid disturbing the area—sometimes the best thing you can do is pause yard work and let nature be.

### **Why It Matters**

Active nests of native birds are protected by law. Your observations can help protect wildlife, especially in areas facing development.

If you believe wildlife is at risk, contact:

**BC Conservation Officer Service**

☎ 1-877-952-7277 or #7277 (mobile)

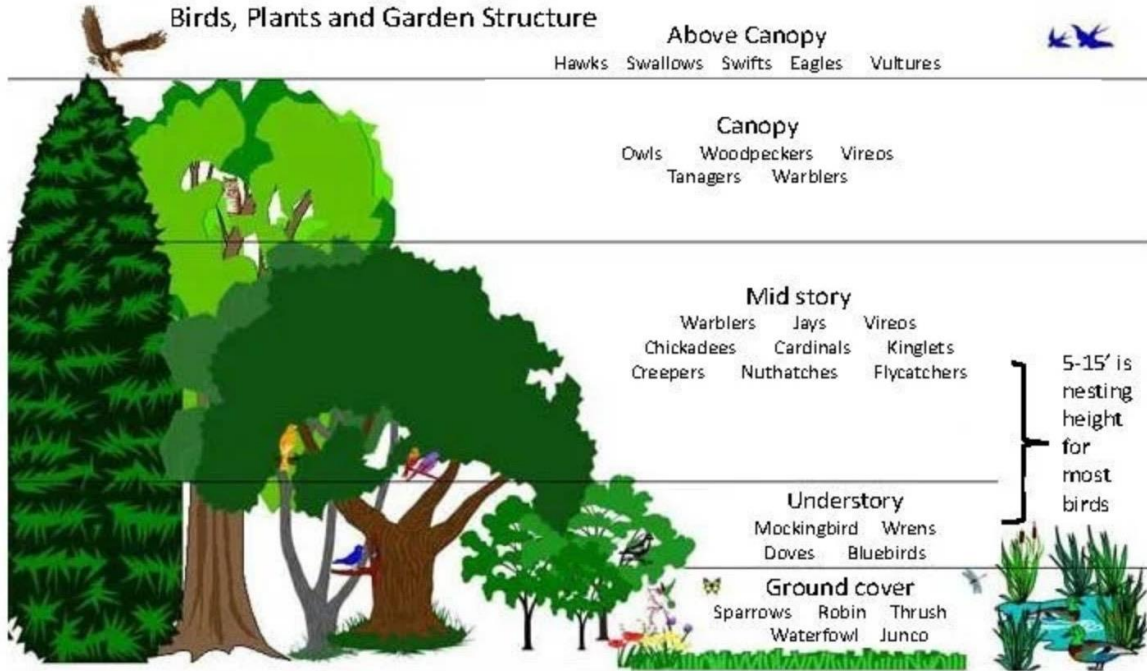
### **Every Action Counts**

Whether you're spotting birds, protecting a nest, or simply taking a quiet moment—your actions make a difference.

**Join your neighbours this Earth Day.**

*Brought to you by your Comox neighbours  
(or: Comox Coalition of Neighbourhoods)*

# Birds, Plants and Garden Structure



## Canopy

Oak  
Hickory  
Pine  
Sycamore  
Elm

## Mid-story

Maple Hackberry  
Sweetgum Juniper  
Am. Holly Maple  
Black Gum Cherry  
Persimmon Ash

## Understory

Tall shrubs Low Shrubs  
Dogwood Sweetspire  
Hawthorn Blueberry  
Viburnum Chokeberry  
Rhododendron Hollies

## Vines

VA Creeper  
Greenbriar  
Trumpetcreeper  
Honeysuckle  
Am. Wisteria

## Ground covers

Meadow Wetland  
Goldenrods Sedges  
Milkweeds Rushes  
Asters Arrowhead  
Grasses Lizards Tail