

## A TYPICAL TIME TABLE FOR BLUEBIRDS

<b>March 15</b>	Males have returned and have located a nesting site
<b>March 16-30</b>	Female accepts nesting site and male as mate
<b>March 31-April 13</b>	Female builds nest and male stays close by.
<b>April 14-18</b>	Pair remains close to the nest
<b>April 19-23</b>	Female lays eggs (one each day, 5 total)
<b>April 23-May 7</b>	Incubation– Female incubates eggs while male stays close by
<b>May 7</b>	Young hatch
<b>May 8-23</b>	Male and female feed and care for the young from dawn until dusk
<b>May 24</b>	The young bluebirds leave the nest (clean out all of the nesting material that they have left)
<b>May 24-30</b>	Male and female feed and protect the young.
<b>May 31-June 4</b>	Male and female feed and protect the young until they are independent. The female begins to build a new nest. The nesting process is then repeated.

## MOUNTING YOUR BLUEBIRD BOX

Where you choose to place the box is really as important as how the box is designed. Bluebirds are birds of open areas. They rarely nest in wooded areas, but will nest in clearings and along woodland edges. Open areas with scattered trees are best. Open fields are suitable if there are post or wires for perching. Look for any area where vegetation is kept short by mowing, or grazing such as parks, campgrounds, pastures, large lawns, cemeteries, golf courses and abandoned orchards. This does not necessarily have to be in rural areas, although if it is in a more developed site, it may take longer for the birds to find the boxes. The boxes should be mounted 3 to 5 feet from the ground.

