



# Painted Bunting

- Painted buntings live primarily in the south central and southeast United States. Western populations winter in Mexico and Central America. Eastern populations fly south to Florida and the northern Caribbean.
- Males frequently sing from the tops of trees. They can become fairly approachable when they become accustomed to a feeder.
- Males display brilliant colors – as seen in the photograph. Females and young painted buntings are bright yellow-green. A male's bright plumage only comes in the second year of life.
- These birds breed in scattered shrubs and trees. They eat a diet of seeds and insects. Look on woodland edges, roadsides and gardens.
- Only the males sing and that's to advertise their territory. Listen for a bright warbling song coming from high up in the trees. Males may fight other males in disputes over territory.
- They build low nests in dense bushes, vines or low trees. The female builds a nest that resembles an open cup made of grass, weeds and leaves and lined with fine grass or animal hair.
- Females lay three to four eggs, up to three times a year.
- The Painted Bunting Observer Team is a group of citizen scientists helping ornithologists learn more about the eastern population in the Carolinas and Florida. Volunteers observe and record sightings and activities of painted buntings. [www.paintedbuntings.org](http://www.paintedbuntings.org)



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