



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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NEST BOXES WILL MAKE GOLF  
COURSE IDEAL BIRD REFUGE

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Golfers, who are no doubt broadly interested in the out-of-doors, should be glad to cooperate in the preservation, encouragement, and increase of useful birds, for a golf course makes in many respects an ideal community bird refuge. The broad expanses of short grass on the fairways furnish excellent feeding grounds for robins, meadowlarks, starlings, flickers, and killdeers. In rougher spots there is an abundant insect population as food for the birds. Most golf courses have water hazards at which birds can drink and bathe, and many are protected to a large extent from trespass and are relatively free from natural enemies to birds.

Protection, food, and water are thus afforded. Nesting sites, however, the Biological Survey of the United States Department of Agriculture points out, may be lacking, and must be supplied by artificial nest boxes, or trees and shrubbery along the sides of the course. Such beautiful and useful birds as the purple martin, bluebird, housewren, tree swallow, flicker, white-breasted nuthatch, and chickadee, will occupy nest boxes if they are put up, and at least twice as many kinds of smaller birds are known to occupy artificial homes. Information as to the best types of nest-boxes, and bulletins treating all phases of bird attraction methods, will be supplied by the department.

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