

Sticky Pinecone Bird Feeder

An easy-to-make pinecone bird feeder is a simple project that even young children can help create.

Supplementing the food supply of our feathery friends is very important during harsh winter conditions to help guarantee their survival.

Materials you will need for each pinecone feeder:

- A large, open pinecone
- Vegetable shortening, lard or suet
- Oatmeal or corn meal
- Birdseed
- A few feet of string, fishing line or twine
- Mixing bowl
- Butter knife
- Spoon
- Scissors
- Pie tin, paper plate or cookie sheet
- ½ cup measuring cup

Optional: High-energy bird foods such as dried fruit (cut in small pieces), chopped nuts, sunflower seeds or millet.

Making a pinecone bird feeder:

STEP 1: Assemble your materials.



STEP 2: Tie a string around the wider, stem end of the pinecone.



STEP 3: Mix ½ cup vegetable shortening (or alternative) with ½ cup oatmeal or

corn meal in a mixing bowl until well blended. (This amount will cover one large pinecone or two or three smaller ones.)



STEP 4: Thoroughly spread the mixture over the pinecone with a butter knife or back side of a spoon.



STEP 5: Pour the birdseed into a pie tin or on a paper plate or cookie sheet. If you choose, you can add any of the optional high-energy foods to the birdseed. Then roll the pinecone in the birdseed until well covered.



STEP 6: Suspend the feeder from a tree branch outside.

