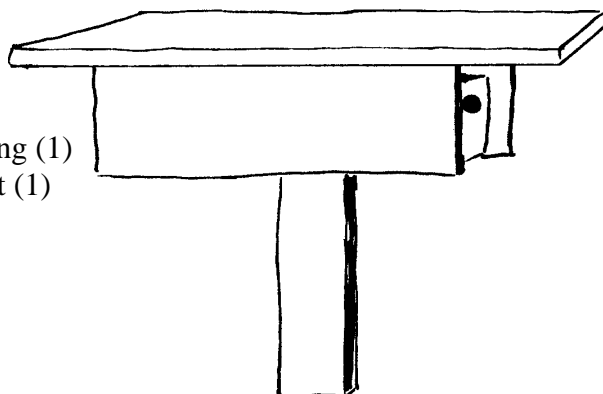


## Build Your Own Bluebird Nesting Box Chippewa Nature Center

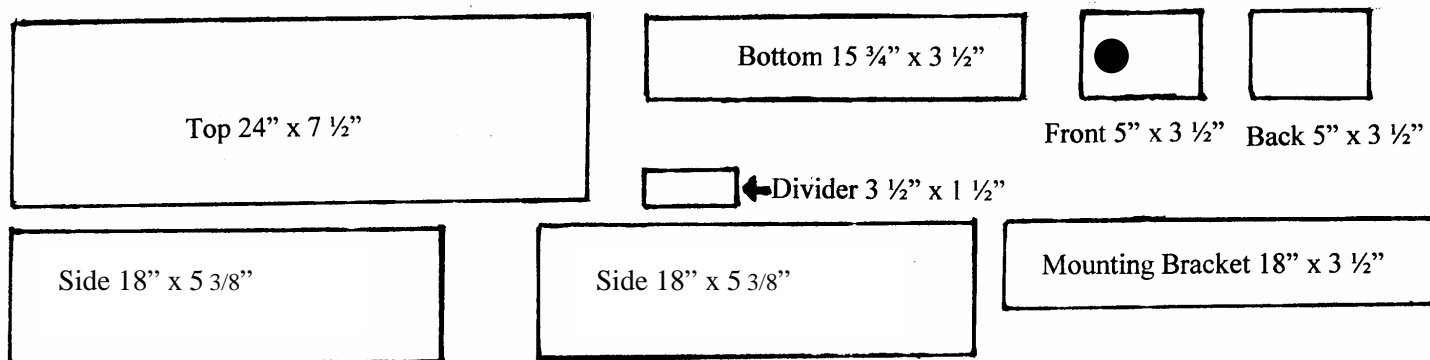
This bluebird box design is the creation of Frank Zuern of Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He generously shared the plans for this box with us.

**Building Materials:**  
 1" x 8" 8 feet long board (1)  
 1 1/2" Hinges (2)  
 1 1/2" 4d nails (~35)

**Mounting Materials**  
 Option 1: 2" Conduit Clamps (2)  
 2" Metal Pipe 8 feet long (1)  
 Option 2: 4" x 4" 8 feet long post (1)



Cut out all 8 pieces (below) for the bluebird box. All the pieces can be cut from the one piece of lumber. Cedar, spruce, pine or fir are the best building materials.



### Assembly:

1. Drill 1 1/2-inch entrance hole 3/4 inch from top of front piece (centered) (figure #1)
2. Nail front and back to bottom. (figure #2)
3. Nail divider 5 inches from back. (figure #2)
4. Position one side and nail in place.
5. Position top allowing a 3-inch overhang at front and a 3/4-inch overhang of installed side. (figures #3 and #4)
6. Attach hinges approximately 4 inches from ends on bottom of birdhouse.
7. Position remaining side piece and attach hinges to bottom edge.
8. Drill a 5/32-inch hole 1-1/2 inches deep through top of birdhouse into top edge of hinged side. The hole should be placed near the front of the birdhouse. Place a 2-inch nail through the hole. This serves as a latch to keep the door closed, yet allowing access for annual cleaning.
9. Center mounting bracket flush to side overhang and vertically along the unhinged side. Nail in place.
10. **IMPORTANT:** Drill 20 1/2" ventilation holes in bottom and sides of house. (figures #5 and #6) Do not paint or stain your birdhouse. Your birdhouse should now resemble the illustration above.



Mounting:

1. The box should be mounted atop a 2-inch diameter metal post using 2 conduit clamps. The birdhouse can also be mounted to a 4" x 4" post and screwed in place.
2. When mounted the entrance hole should be approximately 5 feet above the ground. It should be placed in an open area of at least ½ acre, ideally within 100 feet of a tree.
3. The birdhouse should be in place by the second week of March and cleaned out every autumn.

**FIGURES**

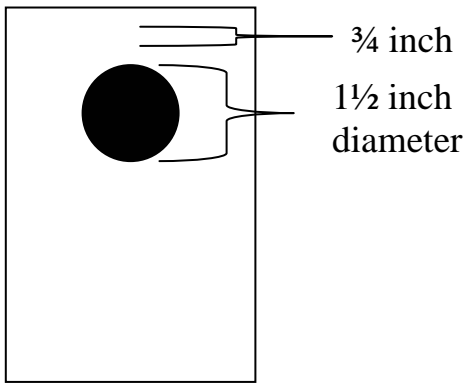


Figure #1

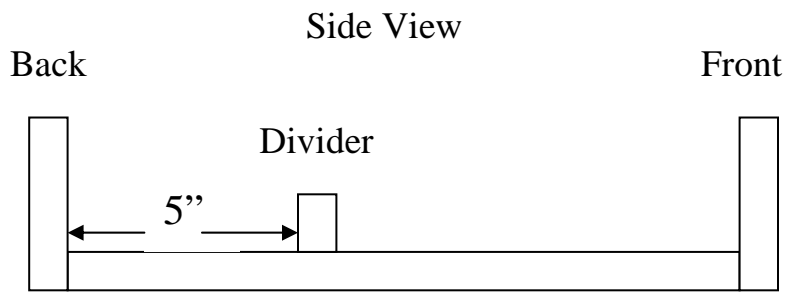


Figure #2

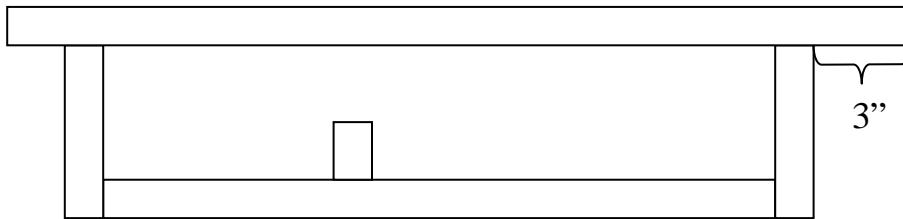


Figure #3

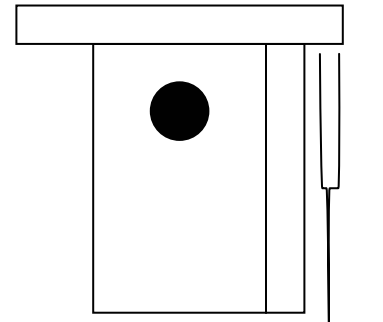


Figure #4 3/4"

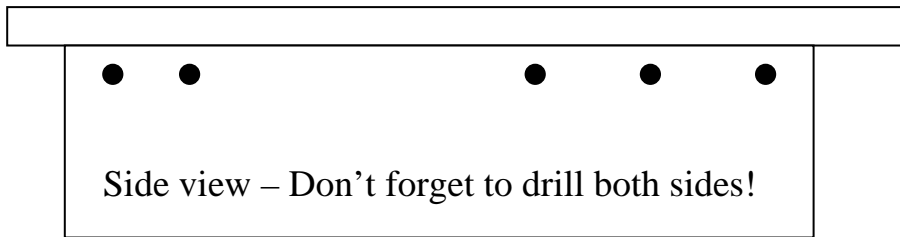


Figure #5

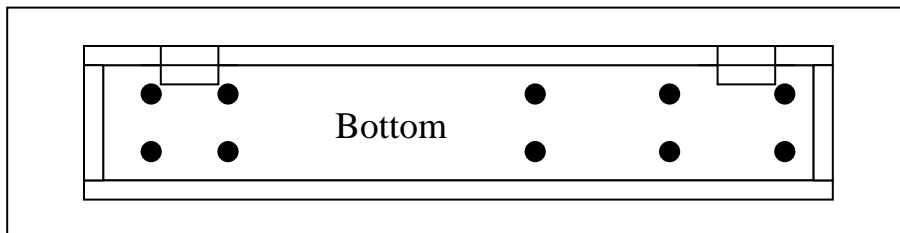


Figure #6