

# Living With Wildlife: SPARROWS



## ISSUE - NESTING IN SIDING, ROOFING, OR VENTS

**Note:** Preventative actions should occur in fall or winter *before* nesting season begins in the spring.

### Suggestions:

- Seal holes in structures that are larger than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in diameter using wood, hardware cloth, aluminum flashing, or other suitable materials.
- Install vent guards on exhaust or dryer vents.
- If a nest is active, leave the nest until the young fly off (~2-3 weeks) then remove all nesting material and seal the hole.



## ISSUE - COMPETING WITH OTHER SONGBIRDS

### Suggestions:

- Use nest boxes designed for your preferred species. Place them in locations where that species likes to nest and where there is plenty of their favorite food.
- Place nest boxes away (about 300 feet) from human activity and buildings. House sparrows prefer to nest near buildings, so placing nest boxes farther may help keep them away from other birds' nesting sites.
- Delay installing nest boxes until migrant species arrive to prevent sparrows from claiming them early, as house sparrows do not migrate.