



# Songbird Sanctuary Spring Maintenance Checklist

Below are the supplies/tools needed to complete each maintenance task along with an estimated cost, an estimated amount of time needed to accomplish each task, and the frequency each task should be done.

Task Description	Supplies/Tools Needed	Estimated Cost	Est. Time Needed	Frequency of Task
<b>WEEKLY SPRING MAINTENANCE TIPS</b>				
Water plants after they emerge from dormancy or after planting.	Garden hose	n/a	20-30 minutes	Twice
Pull weeds and clean out garden. Scan the QR Codes on the plant ID signs to learn what the plant species look like.	Gloves	n/a	15-30 minutes	Once
Fill and clean hummingbird feeders. (roughly March-November) <i>*If you feed in spring, you must do so in summer &amp; fall.</i>	1:4 Sugar water <i>*No red dye*</i>	\$5	10 minutes	Once
Clean and fill the bird feeders. <a href="http://www.wbu.com/bird-feeder-care-cleaning/">www.wbu.com/bird-feeder-care-cleaning/</a>	Bird Food & Cleaning Supplies	\$5 per month	10 - 15 minutes	Once
Clean and fill bird baths.	Scrub Brush	n/a	5 minutes	Once
<b>JANUARY</b>				
Clean up from the winter. Remove dead plants. Prune damaged branches & limbs. Contact your Extension office for advice. <a href="http://www.aces.edu/counties/">www.aces.edu/counties/</a>	Gloves & Pruners	n/a	30 minutes	Once
Remove old nesting material from bird house(s) and clean them. <a href="http://www.wildaboutbirds.com/read/how-tos/how-to-clean-a-bird-house-in-10-easy-steps">www.wildaboutbirds.com/read/how-tos/how-to-clean-a-bird-house-in-10-easy-steps</a>	Antibacterial liquid, water, bleach & brush	n/a	1 hour	Once
Review AWF's Funding & Support webpage for funding opportunities for improving the habitat, add educational signage or create activity kits.	<a href="http://www.alabamawildlife.org/habitat-lab-funding-support/">www.alabamawildlife.org/habitat-lab-funding-support/</a>	n/a	3-4 hours	Once
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
Prune woody shrubs/bushes if necessary. Do not prune spring blooming plants that may have buds (e.g. camelias).	Gloves and Pruners	n/a	1 hour	Once
If replanting seeds from last fall or starting new ones, now is the time to plant in trays inside.	Seeds, Soil & Containers	\$10	1 hour	Once
<b>MARCH</b>				
Apply Preen Weed Preventer Plus Plant Food.	Fertilizer	\$15	15 minutes	Once
Add 2" of mulch as a weed barrier if needed.	Mulch	\$5 per bag	1 hour	Once
Put hummingbird feeders back up in garden for the season. Report sightings on Journey North's website. <a href="http://www.journeynorth.org/hummingbirds">www.journeynorth.org/hummingbirds</a>	1:4 Sugar water <i>*No red dye*</i>	\$5	30 minutes	Once
<b>APRIL</b>				
Plant new annuals and/or replace dead perennials. Divide and share any overgrown perennials.	Hand Spade and Plants	Plant Costs Vary	30 minutes - 1 hour	Once
Prune the spring flowering bushes immediately after bloom ends.	Handheld Pruners	n/a	1 hour	Once
<b>MAY</b>				
Update your Garden Plant ID Map if needed. Contact your HLL Specialist or Master Gardeners for ID assistance.	Your Garden Plant ID Map	n/a	Up to 1 hour	Once
Work with the planning committee to create a summer watering schedule for the garden.	n/a	n/a	30 minutes	Once

