

# **Bird Feeder /Project FeederWatch Volunteer Description**

**Purpose:** To maintain and care for bird feeders and assist in collect scientific data to be used by scientists with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada to track movements of winter bird populations as well as trends in distribution and abundance.

**Key Responsibilities:**

- Inventory bird feeder supplies and overall condition. Inform the volunteer coordinator of anything that needs to be restocked or replaced.
- Fill bird feeders.
- Clean and maintain bird feeders and the ground below them.
- Educate visitors about project feeder watch and help them identify native SD bird species.
- Identify, count and record bird species seen at TOC-West from November-April.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications:** Dependable, knowledgeable about SD bird species, enjoy working outdoors, able to work independently or in a small group, able to lift up to 25 pounds and reach above your head, capable of raking and disposing of bird seed on the ground

**Training:** All of our volunteers are required to go through a basic orientation to The Outdoor Campus-West. 'FeederWatchers' are also required to go through a Project FeederWatch orientation with the volunteer coordinator or another staff member to learn where to locate supplies and how to complete the bird counts.

**Time Commitment:** Project FeederWatch begins in November and runs through early April and requires data submissions for two consecutive days every week. We ask that volunteers who want to participate in this program commit to a minimum of two days per month during this time. From mid-April through October, feeders need to be cared for, cleaned and refilled at least once per month.

**Age Requirement:** None