

*The Weekly Wing*  
**By Brandon Jackson (The Birding Expert)**  
**and his go-to contributor Alex Hebeisen (The Typist)**

Guten Tag Subscribers! This issue of The Weekly Wing is focused on nesting material and when to put out a feeder for a hummingbird.

As we all know, in the spring, birds make homes or nests. They have twigs, mud, and sometimes other materials in the structure of the nest. But sometimes the birds need some help from us to gather resources. That's when nesting material comes in to the mix. Nesting material is made out of fibers, cloth, some strings, and other materials useful to the birds. It is usually white and sold in bird stores. In the same bird stores, they sell cages and containers for the nesting material, so you can hang it anywhere. These stores also have hummingbird-nesting material, which is different than the regular material.

That leads us to our next topic, when to put out hummingbird feeders and how to repel bees and ants. We recommend that you put them out at the beginning of May, because you don't want to replace the nectar when no hummingbirds are even there yet. Some hummingbird and oriole feeders have built-in bee and ant guards, but these may not work very well so you might want to buy an ant moat for ants. Also, some feeders have special places to put bee guards, and if yours does, buy those bee guards because these insects can fly in the nectar but can't come out and that is not a fun cleanup job.

Thanks again for subscribing!

Brandon the Brains and Alex the Typist