

2011 Peterson Bluebird Houses for sale \$18

The bluebird houses for sale by the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN) are based on the Peterson oval bluebird box design. Studies show this design has a lower mortality rate than other designs. The truncated conical shape of the nesting cavity reduces the requirement for nesting material, hence less energy is expended by the nester. The thick



wooden back and roof act as a thermal barrier to shield the young from temperature extremes. The oblong entrance hole is the correct dimension for bluebirds and the angled front discourages predators. The front opens for cleaning. The house should be located in the open, away from shrubs and trees 5-6 feet from the ground and with the entrance facing away from prevailing winds.

Thank you to all the MVFN volunteers in these photos who helped assemble the houses in March. The project was led by MVFN's Mike McPhail.

Proceeds from sales will fund the Cliff Bennett Nature Bursary Award and future MVFN Habitat Creation projects. Special thanks are owed to **Al Potvin** and **Pip Winters** for expertise and massive effort in cutting and drilling pieces pre-assembly and to **Jesse Lance** and **Gord Pike** for generous donation of wood for the houses.



TO PURCHASE A BLUEBRID HOUSE PLEASE CONTACT MIKE MCPHAIL AT mcpmail@hotmail.com OR (613) 256-7211.

There are many keys to long-term success with these boxes, especially location, location, location! Please refer to the Ontario Eastern Bluebird Society website at www.oeps.ca for more detailed advice.



VOLUNTEERS ASSEMBLE HOUSES IN MORNING SHIFT

Top: L-R: Sue McPhail, Betty Parent, Howard Robinson, Mike Macpherson.
Middle L-R: Sylvie Frenette, Dave Hurd, Cliff Bennett, Mary Robinson.
Bottom: L-R: Pip Winters, Betty Parent, Howard Robinson, Al Potvin.



VOLUNTEERS ASSEMBLE HOUSES IN AFTERNOON SHIFT: 1: Peggy McPhail; **2:** Mike McPhail (top and bottom photo -top one from last year); **3:** Parthy Chandrasekaran (L) and John Willis (R); **4: L-R:** Carol Walsworth, Rob Walsworth, John Willis, Craig Athrens, and Joel Byrne ; **5:** Joel Byrne (L) and Susan Athrens.

Photos Mike McPhail & Pauline Donaldson