

# WOODWORKING FOR WILDLIFE

## Eastern Bluebird

Eastern bluebirds are one of the most popular songbirds in Mississippi. Their brilliant blue colors, delightful calls, clean habits and family devotion have long provided happiness and inspiration to people.

The seven parts of the bluebird house are assembled in this order. First the inner roof is toe-nailed to the top of the back. Second, the floor is toe-nailed to the back, 10.5 inches below the top. Third, one side is nailed to the resulting frame, and then the other side is nailed to the frame. Next, the swing-down front is fastened by nailing one nail to



each side of the base. A third nail is pounded part way into the side, the same level as the entrance hole. This is pulled out each time the house is checked. Finally, the outer roof is nailed on top. The top primarily serves as a cat guard.

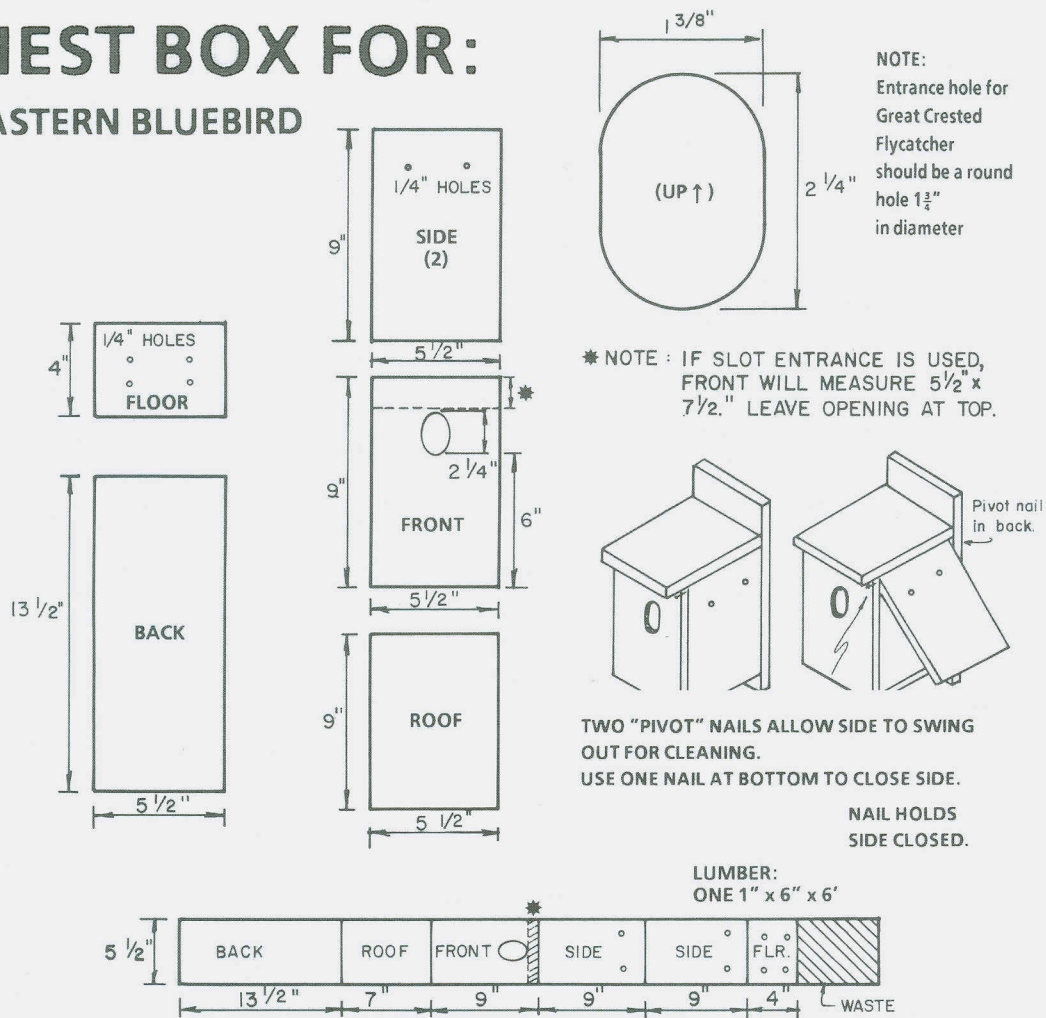
The bluebird house should be placed 4 to 6 feet above the ground and if more than one is built, spaced about 100 yards apart. The entrance hole should face north, east or northeast to prevent sunlight from shining into the hole and overheating the box interior.

The house should be ready by early February.

The Eastern bluebird

PHOTO BY WILD EXPOSURES - MICHAEL KELLY

### NEST BOX FOR: EASTERN BLUEBIRD



THIS PLAN PROVIDED BY THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES