



# Five Principles for Bird-Friendly Forestry

## 1. Promote vertical structure

Practice uneven-aged silviculture to protect and enhance vertical structure. Small canopy gaps will promote the structural complexity that many nesting bird species need.



## 2. Enhance vegetation diversity

Promote a mixed-species stand to support forest biodiversity. A wider variety of trees, shrubs, and ground vegetation provide nesting and foraging places for a wider array of bird species.

Above: Canada warbler  
Photo: David McCorquodale



Olive-sided  
flycatcher

Photo:  
Dr. Cindy Stalter



### 3. Retain snags and coarse woody material

Leave snags standing and allow for abundant dead wood in different stages of decay to remain intact, especially large diameter pieces. Birds use these features for nesting, drumming, perching, roosting, or foraging.

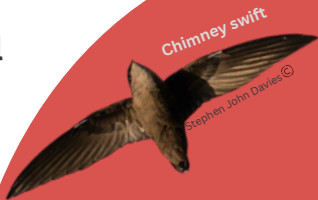
### 4. Maintain large diameter residual trees

Promote retention of large diameter live trees within harvest areas. These trees will help to develop the stand conditions birds favor through the next rotation.

### 5. Buffer wetlands

Retain live and dead trees around open, shrub and forested wetlands. These habitats are important to conserve because they support more bird species and individuals than do upland forest stands.

When can you expect migratory birds to start nesting in your area? Explore the Birds Canada Nesting Calendar Query Tool to find out!



Chimney swift

Stephen John Davies ©

Contact MTRI to learn more about how you can support migratory breeding birds



Blackburnian warbler

Photo: diomedea\_eulinea\_jl ©

