

## Enter the Funky Nests Challenge!

Dear Birding Friend,

You find them in hanging flower baskets...an old boot...a garage shelf...or under a bridge...birds build nests in the strangest places! That's the theme for the newest environmental challenge from our [Celebrate Urban Birds](#) project: **Funky Nests in Funky Places!** As you may know, Celebrate Urban Birds is a free, year-round citizen-science project from the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#), focused on birds in neighborhood settings.



For the Funky Nests in Funky Places challenge, we want you to take photos, do a painting, write a story, or shoot a video showing a bird's nest built in some out-of-the-way or out-of-this-world place. When observing nests please be sure to avoid touching them or disturbing the birds.

This one's going to be fun, I think. We usually receive hundreds of entries for each of our challenges, and I can't wait to see what you sent us this time and where birds have chosen to build their funky nests! I'm also attaching a [PDF flier](#) about the challenge you can print for yourself or pass along to others who might want to participate.

**We have some great prizes**, including a Leica C-LUX 3 compact camera, bird feeders, shrubs for planting, and more. The first 50 entrants will receive a copy of the "Doves and Pigeons" poster by Julie Zickefoose and we'll post selected images and videos on the Celebrate Urban Birds website.

### Here's how to enter:

1. Email your entry to [urbanbirds@cornell.edu](mailto:urbanbirds@cornell.edu). Links are acceptable for videos.
2. Write "Funky Nests" in the subject line.
3. Include your name and mailing address.
4. Explain **why** you submitted your entry--what's the story behind it?
5. One entry per person, please.

**Deadline for entries is July 31, 2009**

Visit the [Celebrate Urban Birds](#) website for more information and to read the terms of agreement regarding all entries.

Thanks for taking the challenge!