Habitat & Nesting Requirements of Selected Local Cavity Nesting Birds

Species	Nesting Habitat	Box Height	Hole Size
American Kestrel	pastures, fields, meadows, or orchards with mowed or grazed vegetation; place boxes on lone trees in fields, on trees along edges of woodlots, and on farm buildings.	10-30 feet	3" diameter
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	coniferous forests, mixed deciduous-coniferous forests, forest edges, woodlands, thickets, burned areas, often near streams; hole should face away from prevailing wind; 1" wood shavings can be placed in box	5-15 feet	1 1/8" round
House Wren	variety of habitats, farmland, openings, open forests, forest edges, shrub lands, suburban gardens, parks, backyards; near trees or tall shrubs	5-10 feet	1 1/4" round
Violet-Green Swallow	open or broken deciduous or mixed deciduous- coniferous forests, wooded canyons, edges of dense forest.	9-15 feet	1 3/8" round
Western Bluebird	open field or lawn; orchards; open rural country with scattered trees and low or sparse ground cover; Mountain and Western Bluebirds will also use deciduous and coniferous forest edges; entrance hole should face open field, preferring east, north, south and then west facing directions.	3-6 feet	1 1 /2" diameter
Western Screech Owl	lower elevations, forests, parks, woodland clearings, forest edges, deserts, wooded stream edges, deserts, wooded stream edges, under a tree limb. Add 2" to 3" of wood shavings.	10-30 feet	3" round; north facing
White-breasted Nuthatch	deciduous woodlands, mature forests, woodlots, near open areas, forest edges, orchards, often near water; hole should face away from prevailing wind; 1" of wood shavings can be place in box.	5-20 feet	1 3/8" round
Wood Duck	forested wetlands or near marshes, swamps, and beaver ponds; place boxes in deciduous trees, 30- 100 feet from the nearest water, spaced 600 feet apart	6-30 feet	4" wide, 3" high