

Nale, M. (2021, March 24). Nature's ways: One of everyone's favorites - The eastern bluebird. StateCollege.com.  
<https://www.statecollege.com/articles/community/natures-ways-one-of-everyones-favorites-the-eastern-bluebird/>  
Photo by: Darla Shank



# MONITORING EASTERN BLUEBIRDS



# CREATION OF BLUEBIRD TRAILS

- Eastern bluebird populations decreased 90% between the 1920's and 1990's
- Introduced, invasive house sparrows outcompete Bluebirds
- Use of pesticide DDT was outright killing eastern bluebirds

## Solution?

- Blue bird trails were created, and successfully restored bluebird populations



Kaufman, K. and K. (2023, March 15). How to keep sparrows out of bluebird houses. Birds and Blooms. <https://www.birdsandblooms.com/birding/attracting-birds/bird-nesting/keeping-house-sparrows-bluebird-boxes/>  
Photo by: Ralph Kiertianis

# BLUE BIRD NESTING

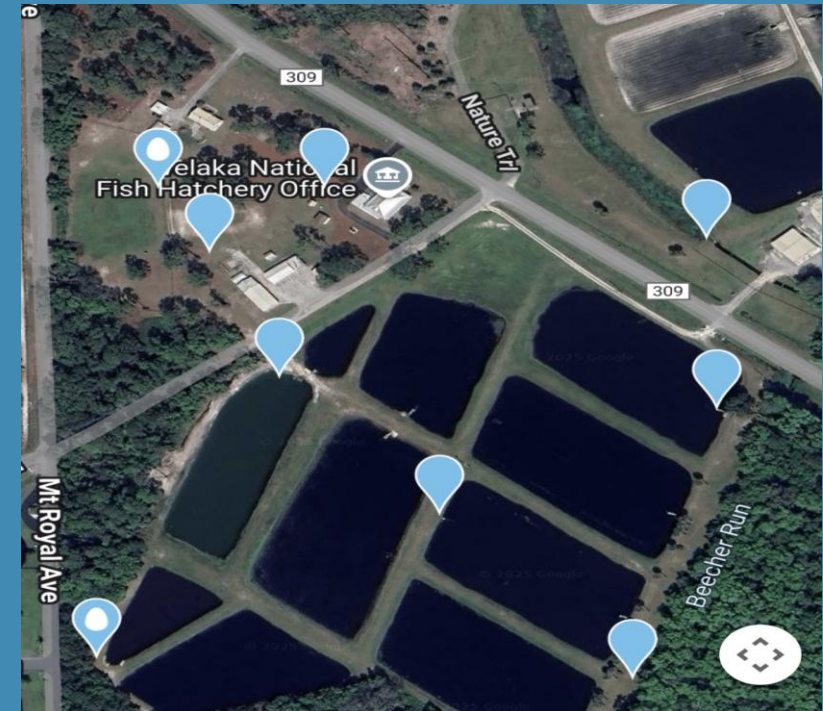
- Nest building starts in February
- Females build a majority of the nests
- One week after nest building is complete, the female lays eggs
- One clutch contains on average 5 eggs
- 13-16 days after the female lays eggs, they hatch
- Chicks fledge after about 17-21 days after hatching





# WELAKA NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY

## 20 Nest boxes













## REPORT

- 48 eggs laid
- 45 hatched
- 45 fledged







## REFERENCE

- History. Florida Bluebird Society. (n.d.). <https://floridabluebirdsociety.org/history/>
- Ask IFAS - Powered by EDIS. (n.d.). WEC442/UW487:Wildlife of florida fact sheet: Eastern bluebird. <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/UW487>