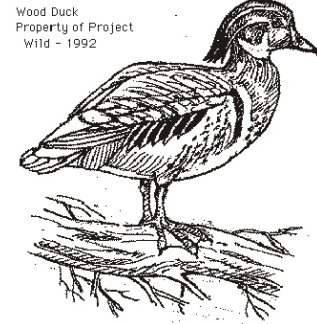


Wood Duck Nesting Box Information

COMPLIMENTS OF
DUTCHESS COUNTY SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2715 RT 44 SUITE 3, MILLBROOK, NY 12545
845-677-8011 EXT 3
www.dutchessswcd.org



Wood Duck
Property of Project
Wild - 1992

Location and Mounting

- The box can be located over water or in secluded timber 30 to 150 feet from the shoreline. Do not locate the box within 30 feet of the shoreline. Ducks do not appear to like to nest this in this area because it seems to be more frequently visited by predators.
- If a nesting box is located over water it should be at least four feet above the water and the entrance should face towards open water instead of the shoreline.
- Nest boxes in timber can be located anywhere from ground level to 6 feet, though 3 feet seems to be preferred by most wood ducks.
- Because the hen must lead her ducklings to the water the route from the box to the water should be clear of disturbances or other obstacles such as roads or fences.
- Boxes should have a metal predator guard installed on the pole 6 to 12 inches below the bottom of the box.
- Wood ducks are very secretive in selecting their nests to minimize the impacts from predators or other ducks. Therefore, their nesting boxes should be located in secluded areas of timber stands where cavities similar to those nesting boxes might exist.
- If multiple nesting boxes are desired they should be placed at least 600 feet apart and not in sight of each other in order to reduce the competition between ducks.
- Most people find boxes mounted over water are easier to observe than ones located in timber stands.
- The area inside the box below the entrance should be roughened in order to ease the ducklings' climb out of the box.
- The bottom of the box should be filled with three inches of coarse sawdust to prevent the eggs from rolling around. This sawdust needs to be changed every year.
- For more info check out <http://www.woodducksociety.com/>

