

SLATE
COLORED
JUNCO



We see the gray juncos most often in winter. Sometimes a small flock will come and work its way along hedges and across the lawn, looking for seeds. Two white tail-feathers flash as the birds take flight. Juncos also come to feed at window boxes.

The Slate-colored juncos spend the spring and summer nesting in the northern forests. Nests are built near the ground, on a fallen tree or its upturned roots. The nest is a deep cup of grasses, moss, and rootlets, lined with fine grass. The female lays four to five eggs, bluishwhite, with brown spots.

In the fall juncos come south to spend the winter in states where most other birds have already left. They flock together with Sparrows in open woods and in the suburbs, where shrubbery gives them cover.