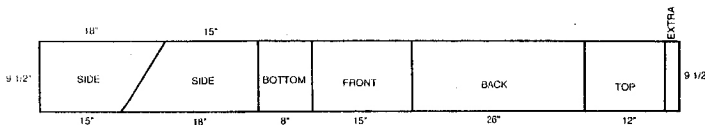
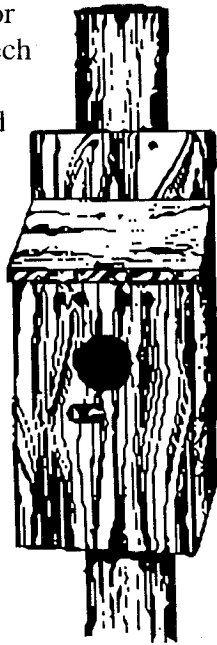
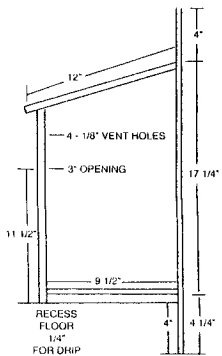


# BUILD AN AMERICAN KESTREL OR SCREECH OWL BOX

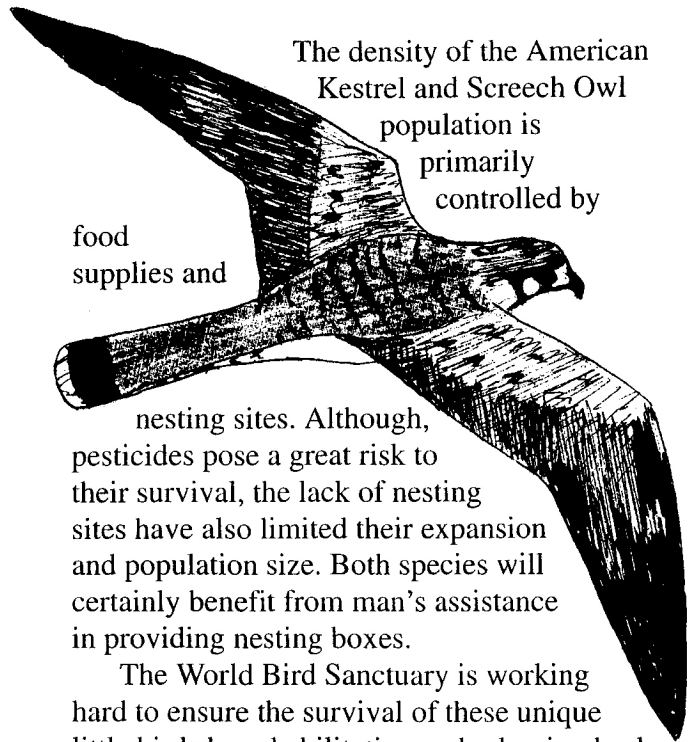
Please study the diagram for the proper construction. This nest box is simulating a cavity which is their normal nesting site. When purchasing materials you need only one 1"x10"x8' board. For best results use a wood that weathers well or paint or stain the outside of the box. **DO NOT PAINT THE INSIDE OF THE BOX.**

Since Kestrels and Screech Owls only nest in previously existing cavities they do not add nesting materials. In this box you should add pea gravel of just a few inches in depth. If you see grass, sticks, or feathers being added to the box, remove these materials to prevent exotic species such as starlings from nesting in the box. When installing the box, place it 15 to 30 feet high on a pole, the side of a barn, or other old building, or in a dead tree. For the Kestrel it should be in a field or meadow. For the Screech Owl the box should be placed along woodland edges or in yards with large live trees.



The density of the American Kestrel and Screech Owl population is primarily controlled by

food supplies and



nesting sites. Although, pesticides pose a great risk to their survival, the lack of nesting sites have also limited their expansion and population size. Both species will certainly benefit from man's assistance in providing nesting boxes.

The World Bird Sanctuary is working hard to ensure the survival of these unique little birds by rehabilitating and releasing back to the wild, injured or orphaned birds. WBS is also involved in placing nest boxes on the back of highway signs throughout the St. Louis area providing nesting sites for future generations.

All birds of prey are protected by state and federal laws. If you have any questions concerning birds of prey contact us at the following address:



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