



TREE SWALLOW BOX – THE GOLONDRINAS

The Golondrinas Box is made from ½” thick exterior-grade plywood. Thinner plywood is weaker and hard to nail into, and interior-grade doesn’t withstand the elements well. These boxes are open at the top for ventilation and have openings on the floor for drainage. Make the top wider and longer for increased protection against bad weather and be ready to block the ventilation openings on the upper sides during windy and rainy spells.

Tree Swallow boxes should have:

- Sturdy wood construction using 1” rough-cut boards or plywood (exterior-grade only) at least ½” thick.
 - 1-3/8” to 1-1/2” entrance holes to keep larger birds out.
 - Entrance holes centered about 7” above floor.
 - Floors not smaller than 5” x 5”.
 - Roofs that slope down and overlap sides and fronts, reducing exposure to rain and making it harder for predators to reach inside.
 - Sides that swing open for easy checking of box contents and cleaning.
 - Floors recessed to minimize interior wetness.
 - Unpainted interiors.
 - Roughened, kerfed, or cleated front interiors to provide nestling footholds.
- There can also be some kerfs on the exterior below the entrance hole to provide footholds.

- No outside perches at the entrance holes that could aid predators.
- The following web pages provide valuable information on building, installation, maintenance, etc. for Tree Swallow Boxes.
- <http://www.treeswallowprojects.com/buildbox.html>
- <http://www.treeswallowprojects.com/boxplace.html>
- <http://www.treeswallowprojects.com/boxmount.html>
- <http://www.treeswallowprojects.com/grids.html>
- <http://www.treeswallowprojects.com/predator.html>
- Consider baffles as shown on this website <https://www.todayshomeowner.com/how-to-make-a-squirrel-and-raccoon-bird-feeder-baffle/>