

The Northern Cardinal is a beautiful bird. They get their name from the red pigment people used in the 1400s and 1500s. They live in open woodlands in southeastern Canada west through the Eastern and Central United States. The male Northern Cardinals are a bright red with orange-red and the female Cardinals are a light brown with some light red parts. The cardinal is mostly insect and seed-eater, grains, and fruits. They have big strong beaks that are specialized to crack open seeds. They will also sometimes eat some insects and find their chicks only exclusively insects. The red color of their coat comes from their food. The red color helps the male cardinal attract female cardinal to mate with them. There is also yellow cardinal which is caused by a genetic mutation. They usually breed between March and September. Female cardinal are pretty vocal animals and it is often to tell their male partners when to bring food and when to come home because the male's bright color could tell predators where their nest is and that is not good. Making long calls out of the woods usually of the year. The only time that the male cardinal do not sing is in the longest winter. They are songbirds that can make twenty five sounds. The cardinal usually have a lifespan of about three years but a lot of cardinal live past three years. Some cardinal have been known to live past three years which is a long time for cardinal. During the springtime, they are very protective of their territory against other cardinal and will attack them if they come into their territory. They can get so protective to the point where they often think that their reflection is a female. Cardinal usually mate and live a few miles away from where they were born and do not breed