Red-bellied Woodpecker

GARDEN EARTH NATURALIST
ECO-SERVICE CARDS
**RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER**
*Melanerpes carolinus*

**IDENTIFICATION CLUES**
- 10 inches long (the size of a robin)
- the wings have a black-and-white barred pattern
- the head and neck have a patch of red and the name, Red-bellied Woodpecker, comes from the paler patch of red on the belly of this woodpecker

**Where to Look**
Red-bellied Woodpeckers can be found in woodlands and in your backyard. They often visit birdfeeders.

**What It Eats.**
The Red-bellied Woodpecker consumes many beetles, grasshoppers, and other insect pests. They also eat acorns and nuts and they will readily come to feeders.

**Nesting**
Red-bellied Woodpeckers build their nests in cavities in trees. They lay 4-5 white eggs.

**Call or Song**
The call of the Red-bellied Woodpecker is a raspy “kwirr” or shor “cha” sounds.

**Migration?**
The Red-bellied Woodpecker is a year round resident of Georgia.

**Did You Know**
The Red-bellied Woodpecker is our most common woodpecker. It stores food in the cracks of trees and fence posts.