

How to Use the NestWatch App on Phone or iPad

First thing to do

To be sure you have the latest version of NestWatch on your phone or ipad. To do this, **DELETE** the app and **reinstall it**.

Second thing to do - login

As stated in my previous email, I had to change the password.

Username the same: **bbmonitor**

New Password: **4easternbluebirds**

Third thing to do

Note that when you open the phone, it knows where you are. There should be a map showing blue teardrops (dots) representing your nestboxes. (you don't have to scroll thru 300 names anymore)

Click on a blue dot. If it isn't the right one, hit the BACK button. Then move the map around, enlarge it, and click on another dot until you it displays the right name.

Fourth thing to do

Decide what you want to do when you arrive on the main page with your box name.

At your first visit this year, the top should say "Closed attempt"

At bottom are 2 choices:

End Attempt – don't ever click until a nesting attempt is over – ie. Egg laid, and then eggs or babies have left or disappeared from nest.

Add Visit – **this is the one to click** – unless eggs or babies gone.

Fifth thing to do

Cycle thru all the screens and answer the questions. They now have pictures of the options. Once you get the hang of it, it should go quickly. On the Observation page, they've added a button at the top that says, "Nest box is completely empty." Click on this and all the questions get filled out automatically – until the Management Activity page. On last screen, great if you can add a note of anything of interest.

Critical Sixth thing to do

You must click thru the remaining pages until you come to the page that says either "End Attempt" or "Is this your final visit." If nesting cycle still active, click "Continue Observations." Your data will not be entered if you don't reach this page and enter a choice.

Last thing to do

If nesting cycle not finished, click "Continue Observations." This should take you back to the page with the map at the top. Click on a different blue dot to enter data for another nestbox.

If nesting is cycle complete (eggs or babies -- abandoned, missing, dead or fledged), then hit the "End Attempt" and answer the questions. You must answer the Nest Fate question. Leave blank any other questions you can't answer. I will go thru all nesting attempts and fill the answers in, based on the data you have provided in all your nest visits.

Warning – when app works, it's great. But I've had a lot of trouble using it in the field. Takes too long, and sometimes freezes. When that happens. I have to turn phone off and back on. Might be easiest to just enter in the computer when you get home. If so, take good notes in the field, and add info about adult activity.