CRESTED CUTIES: NORTHERN CARDINAL, PYRRHULOXIA, PHAINOPEPLA

YOUR YARD IS A GOOD PLACE FOR CARDINALS, PYRRHULOXIAS, AND PHAINOPEPLAS!

- **LOCALS:** All three species love habitat with native plants
- **CLASSICS:** Iconic birds of the desert southwest
- **TONGUE TWISTER:** Pronounced “Pyro-locks-ee-ah” and “Fain-oh-pep-la”

MISTLETOE IS FOR THE BIRDS!

- Not so bad: It’s a native plant and a natural part of the ecosystem.
- Only partially parasitic, mistletoe takes very little from the tree.
- Mistletoe provides food and nesting opportunities for Phainopepla.
- Phainopeplas rely on mistletoe berries, and it is an important food source for many birds when other native fruit is scarce.
- Mistletoe provides night-time protection for quail and other birds.
- It cannot be bought at nurseries. You’re lucky to have it!
INGREDIENTS

• **SHELTER**: Dense cover is key for Cardinals and Pyrrhuloxia, mistletoe critical for Phainopepla

• **HABITAT**: Tall trees rich with seeds and berry-producing plants

• **FOOD**: Berry-producing shrubs and trees. Tube or platform feeders. They prefer safflower and black oil sunflower seeds

• **SAFETY**: Place feeders either closer than three feet or further than 30 feet from windows to help prevent collisions

PLANTS

Desert mistletoe  Wolfberry  Velvet mesquite

Desert hackberry  Blue palo verde  Netleaf hackberry

DIRECTIONS

• Keep cats indoors. It’s safer for cats and protects wildlife.

• Grow dense shrubs. Cover is key for these birds!

• Create brush piles. Place more than 30 feet from your house.

• Allow mistletoe to remain in your trees as a critical source of fruit for many birds.

• Provide water in fountain or drip into dish.

• Prevent window strikes by putting decals or lines on windows. Visit TUCSONAUDUBON.ORG/WINDOW-STRIKES for more info.

TUCSONAUDUBON.ORG/HABITAT