

Bird of the Month - June

Black-billed Magpie



Black-billed Magpie



Magpie Nest



Black-billed Magpie

IDENTIFICATION

- Males and females look alike
- Black and White with iridescent blue and green
- Long tail

FOOD

- Omnivorous varied diet including plants, carrion and insects

PREDATORS

- Not many predators are smart enough to outwit a magpie

BEHAVIORS AND FUN FACTS

- Live in a wide variety of habitats
- One of North America's smartest birds
- Round nest bigger than a basketball
- Nest in small trees, shrubs or abandoned buildings
- Communicate by vocalizing and displaying
- When a magpie dies, others gather around in a magpie "funeral"
- Tolerant of human presence, they sometimes raid dog and cat food, garbage cans and picnic tables
- Cousin to the Yellow-billed Magpie of California