

## Trail Monitoring Supplies

- **Bucket, toolbox or backpack** – used to carry/store the supplies.
- **Monitoring Notebook** – kept in/with the bucket or toolbox for monitors to use week to week. Include in the notebook the following: map of the trail with the boxes numbered, monitoring schedule with each team member identified and contact information, a data sheet for each nestbox, a calendar to help with estimating age. You may also want to include photos of different types of nests.
- **Pens, Pencils** – used to write in the notebook. Keep a few in your bucket...in case one gets lost in the grass.
- **Permanent Marker** – to write the numbers on the boxes and rewrite them when they fade.
- **Small Mirror** – to check inside the nest box.
- **Gloves** – so that the oils on your hands are not left behind on the box as an odor to attract predators.
- **Phillips head screwdriver** - to open nest boxes that use a screw to keep them shut.
- **Hammer, nails, wrench, pliers** – to make minor repairs to the box.
- **Medium size plastic bags with ties** – to carry away used nests. Be sure not to drop nesting materials on the ground near the box, as this will attract predators.
- **Paint brush, toothbrush, grout cleaning brush** – used when cleaning out the box after babies have fledged or at the end of the season. Great for getting into tough spots.
- **Small bar of mild soap** (e.g. Ivory) – used to rub on the inside roof of the box to discourage paper wasps from building nests.
- **Flashlight** – used to see into the nest box.
- **Putty knife** – used to scrape wasp nests or waste from the roof/sides of the inside of the box.
- **Handiwipes, paper towels** – just in case.
- **Dry Grass** – collect from the surrounding area - used to replace nest material in severe cases of infestation or severe cases where the nest is soaked by rain.
- **Spatula** – used to help remove old nests.