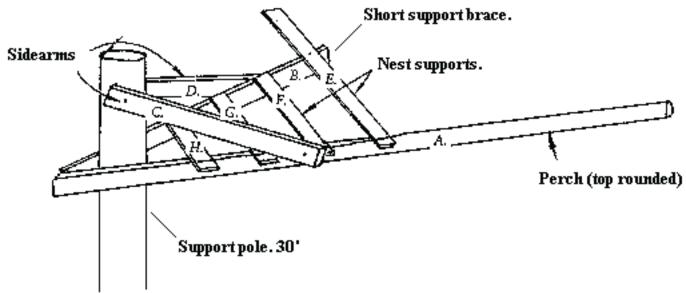
Great Blue Heron Nest Platform

The great blue heron is an elegant water bird found throughout the United States. It is most commonly found nesting near rivers, lakes, or other water bodies that contain live matrure or deat trees. Here herons construct a nest of sticks at least 20 feet high. They nest in colonies, meaining there are many heron nests within one small area. Nest platforms should be used in the vicinity of a present colony or to enhance an existing one where trees are deteriorating.

Support poles should be 30 feet high and 6–8 inches in diameter. Three nest platforms can be placed on each pole. The first is at the top and the other two staggered at 180° and 4 feet intervals.





Lag screws should be used to attach platform to pole.

Lumber:

A. 2"x 2"x 7".

B. 2" x 2" x 30".

C. 1"x 2"x 26 1/2".

D. 1" x 2" x 26 1/2".

E. 1"x 2"x 39".

F. 1"x 2"x 19 1/2".

G. 1" x 2" x 19 1/4".

H. 1" x 2" x 17 7/8".

Position sidearms on support pole so nest is inclined upward at approximately 7 degree angle.

Wire armful of sticks on lath nest supports to stimulate use.

One 30' cedar support pole/three platforms.

Published with permission from Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center. www.npwrc.usgs.gov



Report your nesting birds to NestWatch.org