

Horned Lark

- The only true lark native to North America
- Horned Larks eat mostly seeds of grasses, weeds, and waste grain but feed insects to their young.
- On open fields in winter, flocks of Horned Larks walk and run on the ground. Do not “hop”
- The "horns" of the Horned Lark are little tufts of feathers, visible only at close range.
- Horned Larks are monogamous for one season. The male establishes his territory in January-February. He attracts the female by perching on fence posts and bushes to sing his mating call.
- In display, the male takes off into the air, rising to about 300-**800 feet; he circles and sings his high-pitched tinkling song.**
- **After his song is finished, he closes his wings, and dives head first towards the ground.**
- **Just before reaching the ground, he opens his wings and pulls out of the dive! Such a show-off!**
- The Horned Lark is the only member of the lark family that is native to the new world.
- These birds return to their birthplace after every migration (a characteristic known as philopatric).
- Because of this, local populations have adapted to the color of their habitat resulting in 15 distinct subspecies in the West