

Attracting **Wildlife**

Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Wildlife is a fun way to enjoy nature right in your own yard or garden. Imagine your garden teeming with singing birds, colorful butterflies and beautiful plants and water features that attract wildlife.

It's easier than you might think.
National Wildlife Federation can help!



Rick Lewis



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Components of Habitat

There are five basic elements of a Certified Wildlife Habitat™:

Water

All animals need water to survive and some need it for bathing or breeding as well.

Food

Native plants provide wildlife with nectar, seeds and berries used by an exciting variety of wildlife. Feeders can supplement natural food sources.

Cover

Wildlife need places to find shelter from bad weather and predators.

Places to Raise Young

Wildlife need special habitat for bearing and raising young.

Sustainable Gardening

How you manage your garden can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water and habitat for native wildlife as well as the human community.

5 Simple Tips to Get Started

1. Plant a shrub that flowers for pollinators and produces berries for birds and other animals.
2. Put out a birdbath. Even small water features will be used by wildlife.
3. Provide cover with dense shrubs, wildflower gardens, rock walls and evergreens.
4. Hang a birdhouse, plant host plants for butterfly caterpillars or install a frog pond to provide places to raise young.
5. Put away the chemicals. Natural gardens are better for you and your family as well as wildlife.

Visit www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife for more great tips on attracting wildlife!



Resources You Can Use: Creating and Enjoying Your Wildlife Habitat

Tip Sheets for Creating and Maintaining a Certified Wildlife Habitat



Find this free downloadable information at www.nwf.org/backyard/tipsheets.cfm

The Gardener's Guide to Global Warming

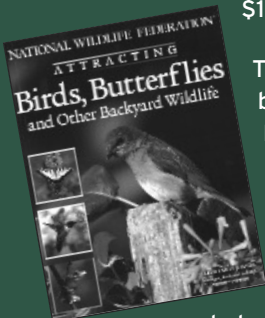
This free downloadable NWF report describes how global warming is affecting growing seasons and plants today, and offers ways gardeners can help confront the problem – right in the garden. www.nwf.org/gardenersguide



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Attracting Birds, Butterflies and Other Backyard Wildlife

by David Mizejewski, NWF Naturalist and Media Spokesman \$12.95



This 127-page book is full of habitat tips, illustrated projects and over 170 full-color photos that can

help you and your family create the kind of thriving natural wildlife habitat you've always wanted. Available for purchase through NWF at www.nwf.org/wildlifebook, or through your local bookstore.

Get Certified!

National Wildlife Federation® has been helping people nurture wildlife for over 30 years. Once you provide the basic elements of habitat, you can submit your garden for official certification!

Who Can Certify?

Any site can be recognized as a certified habitat, regardless of size. Whether it's your backyard, a community garden, a schoolyard, a rooftop garden or a business, National Wildlife Federation® wants to recognize all efforts to restore habitats for wildlife.

Certifying a site is as simple as providing the four habitat components – food, water, cover, places to raise young – and practicing sustainable gardening techniques such as eliminating pesticides, conserving water and planting native species.



H. Cheek



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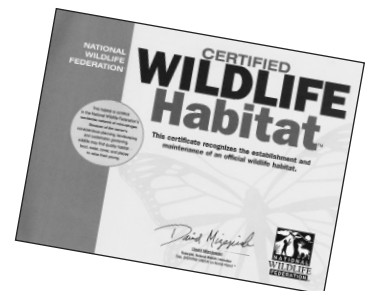
Why Certify?

Aside from offering wildlife a wonderful place to thrive, you'll be eligible for the following benefits, including:

- A certificate for your wildlife habitat
- A free one-year membership to NWF and subscription to **National Wildlife**® magazine
- A subscription to the Habitats e-newsletter
- An optional press release for your local newspaper announcing your certification
- Inclusion in NWF's National Registry of Habitats
- Eligibility to order and post an attractive yard sign to display your commitment to wildlife conservation and the environment.

Ready to Certify Your Habitat?

Visit www.nwf.org/certify where you can certify your wildlife habitat directly online. Before you know it, your yard or garden space will be a thriving habitat, enjoyed by you, your family and wildlife!



“ My yard is proof that you don't have to be an expert to create habitat. Just following the basic guidelines has made my yard come alive. ”

- Janet Allen, Syracuse, NY

www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife

Need a paper application? Call 1-800-822-9919.

Habitat Certification Application

Use this form to certify a wildlife friendly space in your yard, school, or anywhere in your community. Do your best to answer the questions and we'll make suggestions if something is missing. If your habitat meets the requirements, you'll receive a personalized certificate suitable for framing and become a member of the National Wildlife Federation (a \$15 value), receiving our award-winning National Wildlife magazine. For questions call 1-800-822-9919 or certify online at www.nwf.org/certify.



Have you ever certified before? Yes No If yes, what is your habitat # _____?

If yes, have you moved or is this for a second property ?

If you are filling out this application for someone else, please write their name in the space provided below:

Name _____ Organization (if applicable) _____

Name(s) to Appear on Certificate (if different from above) _____

Maximum 30 characters, spaces included.

Address of Habitat _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Mailing Address (if different from above) _____

In what type of area is your property?

Urban Suburban Rural

What is the size of your property?

< 1/8 acre 1/8 - 1/4 acre
 1/4 - 1 acre 1 - 5 acres
 5 - 10 acres > 10 acres

Check the option that best describes your habitat.

Home Apartment/Balcony
 Workplace Park/Community Garden
 Farm Place of Worship
 School/Educational Setting

FOOD SOURCES: Plants provide the basic foods for wildlife. Feeders can be used as a supplemental source of food. Remember that some creatures will become food for others in a balanced habitat. Encourage a natural diversity of wildlife in your yard to ensure a healthy ecosystem. How do you provide food for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 3)

Plant Foods: Seeds Nuts Pollen
 Berries Fruits Foliage/
Twigs
 Nectar Sap

Supplemental Feeders: Seed Suet
 Squirrel Butterfly
 Hummingbird

WATER SOURCES: Wildlife need a clean water source for drinking and bathing. How do you provide water for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 1)

Birdbath Water Garden/Pond
 Lake River
 Stream Butterfly Puddling Area
 Seasonal Pool Rain Garden
 Ocean Spring

PLACES FOR COVER: Wildlife need places to find shelter from the weather and from predators. How do you provide cover for wildlife?

(Minimum requirement: 2)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wooded Area | <input type="checkbox"/> Dense Shrubs/Thicket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bramble Patch | <input type="checkbox"/> Evergreens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Cover | <input type="checkbox"/> Brush/Log Pile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pile/Wall | <input type="checkbox"/> Burrow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cave | <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow/Prairie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Roosting Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Garden/Pond |

PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG: In order to provide complete habitat, you must provide places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior and to mate, and then to bear and raise their young. How do you provide places to raise young for wildlife?

(Minimum requirement: 2)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mature Trees | <input type="checkbox"/> Dead Trees/Snags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow/Prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Dense Shrubs/Thicket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nesting Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Garden/Pond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland | <input type="checkbox"/> Burrow |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Host Plants for Caterpillars | <input type="checkbox"/> Cave |

SUSTAINABLE GARDENING PRACTICES: How you manage your garden or landscape can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water and habitat for native wildlife as well as the human community. What sustainable gardening techniques do you employ to help conserve resources? (Minimum requirement: 2)

Soil and Water Conservation:

- Riparian Buffer
- Capture Rain Water from Roof
- Xeriscape (water-wise landscaping)
- Drip or Soaker Hose for Irrigation
- Limit Water Use
- Reduce Erosion (i.e. ground cover, terraces)
- Use Mulch
- Rain Garden

Controlling Exotic Species:

- Practice Integrated Pest Management
- Remove Non-native Plants & Animals
- Use Native Plants
- Reduce Lawn Areas

Organic Practices:

- Eliminate Chemical Pesticides
- Eliminate Chemical Fertilizers
- Compost

To apply, please send:

- Completed application - REQUIRED
- \$15 non-refundable application fee - REQUIRED

TO: NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION ♦ P.O. Box 1583 ♦ Merrifield, VA 22116-1583
Allow 4-6 weeks for processing. Please keep a copy of this application for your records.

