

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

**Certified WILDLIFE Habitat™**

# 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



Photodisc

## 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](http://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](http://www.nwf.org/backyard/tipsheets.cfm)

## The Gardener's Guide to Global Warming

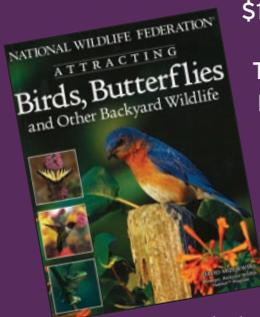
This free downloadable NWF report describes how global warming is affecting growing seasons and plants today, and offers ways gardeners can help confront the problem – right in the garden. [www.nwf.org/gardenersguide](http://www.nwf.org/gardenersguide)



Photodisc

## 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](http://www.nwf.org/wildlifebook), or through your local bookstore.

## Get Certified!

National Wildlife Federation® has been certifying habitats for 35 years. Once you provide the basic elements of habitat, you can submit your garden for official certification with NWF!



H. Cheek

## 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 place of worship, 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.



Photodisc

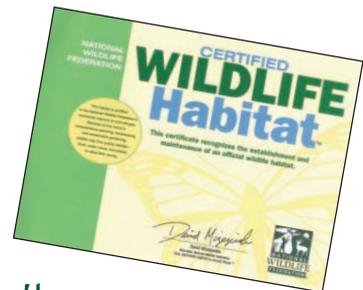
## Why Certify?

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.

## Take the Next Step

Visit [www.nwf.org/certify](http://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](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife)

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

Printed on paper that contains 30% post-consumer waste fiber, FSC and Environmental Choice certified, processed chlorine free (PCF), and manufactured using biogas energy.