

Bring Butterflies to your Backyard!

Choose the flowers that the butterflies prefer. Butterflies favor yellow, orange, pink or purple blossoms, with flat-topped or short-tube flowers.

Provide clusters of small flowers to feed adults. Dense "clusters" of small flowers such as zinnias, marigolds, tithonia, milkweeds, verbenas, and many mint family plants generally works well.

Plant good nectar sources in full sun. Adult butterflies usually feed in the sun, so your butterfly nectar source plants should receive full sun from mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

Avoid the use of insecticides. Insecticides are as lethal to butterflies as they are to the pest insects they're used against.

Feed the caterpillars, too! Choose plants that feed and host caterpillars. For more specific information on the individual species and their preference please visit us on the web at <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/How-to-Attract-Butterflies-to-Your-Garden.aspx>

And don't forget wildflowers for your winged friends...

When you plan your garden, consider planting wildflowers to attract bird visitors. Hummingbirds prefer tubular, red flowers. Among these are salvia, trumpet creeper and cardinal flowers. Songbirds, such as cardinals and finches, are attracted to sunflowers, coneflowers, asters, wild strawberry and many other native wildflowers. Many of these varieties will also attract butterflies! To learn more about creating a wildlife friendly garden, please visit us on the web at <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife/Create-a-Habitat.aspx>.

Create a Garden Spot for Hummingbirds!

Know how to fill and where to place your feeder. Fill your feeder with a "nectar" solution of one part table sugar to four parts water, brought to a boil and then cooled and stored in the refrigerator for future use. Hang the feeder in a shady spot.

Keep it clean. Your feeder should be cleaned and refilled every three days under normal circumstances. Once the "nectar" spoils, hummingbirds won't want it.

Spread food sources around. Your feeders and your flowers should be spaced throughout your backyard garden, as this will discourage dominance by one bird.

Plant the right types of flowers. Hummingbirds favor red tubular flowers. Trumpet honeysuckle, bee-balm and trumpet creeper are a few of the many native plants that attract hummingbirds. To learn more about creating a wildlife friendly garden, please visit us on the web at <http://www.nwf.org/Get-Outside/Outdoor-Activities/Garden-for-Wildlife/Gardening-Tips/How-to-Attract-Hummingbirds-to-Your-Garden.aspx>



Making Wildlife Habitat at Home!

Just follow these four simple steps and open your backyard...

- ✚ **Grow native plants** found in your area, including trees, shrubs and other plants that offer food such as pollen, nectar, nuts, cones, berries and other seeds.
- ✚ **Provide water** for wildlife with a small pond, birdbath or shallow dish.
- ✚ **Create protective cover** for wildlife by growing a meadow, a prairie, densely branched shrubs and, when appropriate, evergreens.
- ✚ **Build birdhouses**, attach to metal poles and monitor their use. Grow host plants for butterfly and moth caterpillars to eat and provides dense planting to create safe areas for nesting wildlife.

Winterizing Wildlife!

As fall becomes winter and temperatures drop, make your backyard more inviting to wildlife...

- ✚ Provide songbirds with suet and other high-calorie foods such as peanut butter and chopped nuts.
- ✚ Make sure local wildlife has a reliable source of water. Birds need water, not just to drink, but also to bathe, in order to keep their insulating feathers clean.
- ✚ Cover is particularly important in winter, as wildlife needs shelter from both predators and cold weather. Collect fallen branches, twigs and leaves to add to your brush pile, to increase cover for small animals.

Do you have "The Right Stuff" in Your Birdfeeder?

Your favorite seed-eating songbirds have their own favorite food preferences. Here are some tips for attracting particular birds to your backyard garden, patio, porch or window box.

- American Goldfinch** – hulled sunflower, nyjer and oil (black) sunflower
- Blue Jay** – peanut kernels and sunflower seeds of all types
- Cardinal** – sunflower seeds of all types
- Chickadees** – oil (black) and black-striped sunflower
- Common Grackle** – black-striped and hulled sunflower; cracked corn
- House Finch** – oil (black), black-striped and hulled sunflower, nyjer
- Mourning Dove** – oil (black) sunflower; white and red proso, German (golden) millet
- Native Sparrow and Juncos** – white and red proso millets; oil and hulled sunflower; peanut kernels
- Nuthatches** – black-striped and oil (black) sunflower
- Purple Finch** – sunflower seeds of all types
- Red-winged Blackbird** – white and red proso, German (golden) millet
- Scrub jays** – peanut kernels and black striped sunflower
- Titmice** – peanut kernels; black-striped and oil (black) sunflower



The National Wildlife Federation works with its members, supporters and caring people everywhere to protect and recover the wild places that sustain wildlife as well as the human spirit. To learn more about our educational programs call 1-900-822-9919 or visit our website at www.nwf.org.

Bird of Prey

- The **barn owl** is a nocturnal species that has excellent night vision, allowing it to easily locate prey in the dark by sight.
- The **great gray owl** is the tallest American owl with the largest wingspan, it lives in boreal forests and western mountains and preys on small mammals, especially rodents.
- The **great horned owl** has the largest range of all the North American owls. It lives in every state except Hawaii.
- The stately **bald eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), is the symbol of the United States and a source of pride for much of the nation. Range throughout much of the entire North American continent above Mexico.

America's Forest and Grasslands

- A large animal of the cold Northwood's kingdom, the **moose** (*Alces alces*) stands up to 6 feet tall and weighs about a thousand pounds. Its broad flat antlers are tipped with up to 20 long spikes or "fingers" and its large, rounded muzzle sports a thick shaggy beard.
- **Red foxes** are found throughout the United States from Alaska to Florida. They prefer open areas in woodlands, rural and suburban neighborhoods, wetlands and brushy fields, and have adapted well to suburban and rural communities.
- The **Canada Lynx** – one of the most striking denizens of the boreal forest, the world's northernmost woodlands – has seen its habitat shrinking as climate change sets in, causing the forest to retreat northward.
- **White-tailed deer** range from southern Canada to South America. They can survive in forests, grasslands, farmlands, swamps, even desert environments.
- The **American black bear's** (*Ursus americanus*) range covers most of the Northern American continent. Its habitat, many of which are now threatened by development, usually include hardwood forests.
- **Elk** (*Cervus canadensis*), **also called wapiti**, are members of the deer family, second in size only to the moose. Elk are found in the woods and grasslands of the western U.S. and Canada.
- Although a full-grown male **grizzly bear** (*Ursus arctos*) can stand as high as 10 feet tall and weigh over a thousand pounds, grizzly cubs weight less than one pound at birth. A hibernating bear, the grizzly makes its den high in the mountains, usually at altitudes of over 6,500 feet.

America's Waters

- Among the oldest creatures on Earth, **sea turtles** have remained essentially unchanged for 110 million years. After decades of drastic decline, sea turtles that nest along the shores of the continental United States are bouncing back today.
- **Mallards** are the most abundant and widespread duck species in North America. They prefer calm, shallow waters and during the spring and summer breeding seasons, male mallards are easily distinguished by their

iridescent bright green head and neck that help them attract females.

- The **Atlantic Puffin** is also known as a "sea parrot". These birds swim more than they fly, spending most of their lives at sea diving for fish and resting on waves.
- The **white shark** is the largest known predatory fish in the sea. They are found primarily in temperate coastal waters throughout the world and have many ways to detect prey, including a very good sense of smell.
- **Humpback whales** are known for their haunting songs. These complex sounds can travel great distances underwater and can continue for hours.
- An Arctic denizen, the **walrus** is the largest pinniped ("finned foot") in the world. It migrates in spring and fall following the availability of oceanic food sources.
- **River otters** are beautifully adapted to life in the water.

Everglades

The Florida Everglades is known around the world for its extraordinary wildlife – from Florida panthers and alligators to manatees and a host of birds. Known for its extraordinary wildlife, the Everglades is home to more than 350 bird species alone. Both **alligators and crocodiles** live in the Everglades and are sometimes mistaken for each other. The most endangered animal in the Everglades is the **Florida panther**. Other everglades mammals include the **West Indian manatee** and **bottlenose dolphin**.

- The **cougar** (*Felis concolor*), also known as puma, mountain lion, mountain cat, catamount or panther, has an enormous range across the Americas. They are the most endangered cat and remains vulnerable to collisions with cars and other problems.
- **American alligators** (*Alligator mississippiensis*) can be found in the coastal swamps and marshes of the southeastern United States.
- **Bottlenose dolphins** have a highly developed sense of hearing and make a wide variety of sounds to communicate, including clicks, squeaks and whistles.
- **Brown pelicans** are large birds with long, thick bills. At the base of their bills are their expandable pouches these birds use to hold fish.

Arctic

- Throughout their Arctic range, **polar bears** are in danger of extinction from global warming. They depend mainly on sea ice as habitat for hunting and denning. Rising temperatures can cause sea ice to melt, especially during summer when the animals are most active.
- Named for the harp-shaped marking on its back, the **harp seal** spends most of its time in Arctic waters searching for fish and crustaceans.
- While many other species try to survive the winter by going into hibernations, the **Arctic fox** stays above ground hunting for prey year-round. The small predators minimize the loss of heat by having very short muzzles, legs and ears and very dense fur.