

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION®

**Certified WILDLIFE Habitat™**

# Attracting **Wildlife**



Rick Lewis



Photodisc

National Wildlife Federation can help you make your garden a haven for wildlife with its Certified Wildlife Habitat™ program. Just provide the things that animals need most. It's that simple!

## **Components of Habitat**

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

### **Food**

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

### **Water**

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

### **Cover**

Wildlife need shelter from bad weather and hiding places—for both predators and prey.

### **Places to Raise Young**

Wildlife need special habitat for bearing and raising young.

“ 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

Visit [www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife) for more great tips on attracting wildlife!



## Campaign Connects Children and Families with Nature

NWF's Be Out There inspires caregivers to spend daily time outside with the children in their lives. Studies show more time in nature may be the best kind of nurture. Find outdoor activities and events online at [www.beoutthere.org](http://www.beoutthere.org)



## Already Certified?

Neighbors, friends and wildlife will easily recognize your yard as animal-friendly with these handsome signs. The \$30 classic sign is weather-proof and made from recycled aluminum.



Durable and environmentally-friendly, the decorative plaque is made from rust-free recycled aluminum and is available in green with gold lettering in your choice of wall mount \$89 or lawn mount \$99. To learn more or to place an order, please visit [www.nwf.org/certifiedsign](http://www.nwf.org/certifiedsign)



## Get Certified!

National Wildlife Federation® has been helping people nurture wildlife for nearly 40 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, local park, schoolyard, rooftop garden or corporate landscape, 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.



## Why Certify?

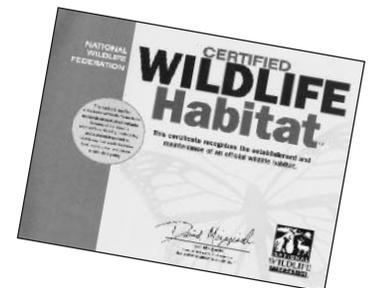
Aside from offering wildlife a wonderful place to thrive, you'll be eligible for the following benefits, including:

- A certificate for your wildlife habitat
- A free one-year membership to NWF which includes a subscription to **National Wildlife**® magazine and a 10% discount on all NWF catalog merchandise
- A subscription to *Wildlife Online* – Habitats edition e-newsletter
- An optional press release for your local newspaper announcing your certification
- Inclusion in NWF's National Registry of Habitats
- Eligibility to purchase 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/gardenforwildlife](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife) 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!



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

# 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 National Wildlife Federation, receiving our award-winning National Wildlife® magazine and a 10% discount on all NWF catalog merchandise. For questions call 1-800-822-9919 or certify online at [www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife)



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 ?

Property owner or organization \_\_\_\_\_

*If you are filling out this application for someone else, please write their name in the space provided above.*

If organization, contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to Appear on Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

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  
 Business/ Corporation  
 Park/Community Garden  
 Farm  
 Place of Worship  
 School/ University/ College  
 Nature Center/ 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/  
 \_\_\_ Nectar \_\_\_ Sap Twigs

**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  
 \_\_\_ Shallow Dish \_\_\_ Butterfly Puddling Area  
 \_\_\_ Lake \_\_\_ Rain Garden  
 \_\_\_ Stream/River \_\_\_ Spring  
 \_\_\_ Seasonal Pool \_\_\_ Ocean

**PLACES FOR COVER:** Wildlife need shelter from bad weather and hiding places—for both predators and prey. How do you provide cover for wildlife?

**(Minimum requirement: 2)**

\_\_\_ Wooded Area \_\_\_ Dense Shrubs/Thicket  
 \_\_\_ Bramble Patch \_\_\_ Evergreens  
 \_\_\_ Ground Cover \_\_\_ Brush/Log Pile  
 \_\_\_ Rock Pile/Wall \_\_\_ Burrow  
 \_\_\_ Cave \_\_\_ Meadow/Prairie  
 \_\_\_ Roosting Box \_\_\_ 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)**

\_\_\_ Mature Trees \_\_\_ Dead Trees/Snags  
 \_\_\_ Meadow/Prairie \_\_\_ Dense Shrubs/Thicket  
 \_\_\_ Nesting Box \_\_\_ Water Garden/Pond  
 \_\_\_ Wetland \_\_\_ Burrow  
 \_\_\_ Host Plants for Caterpillars \_\_\_ Cave

**To apply, please send:**  Completed application - REQUIRED  
 \$20 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.

 Printed on paper that contains 30% post-consumer waste fiber

Rev0810

