



# BACKYARD SOLUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

#Gardening #ActOnClimate #Garden4Climate

The impacts of climate change are obvious to gardeners. Carbon pollution represents a growing threat by causing more invasive species, pests, diseases, and unpredictable growing seasons. As guardians and stewards of the environment, you can stop climate change and protect wildlife and habitat in your garden and community.

## BACKYARD ACTIONS



### IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

Replace light bulbs with high-efficiency LED bulbs, install automatic light timers, and purchase solar-powered garden products to minimize your contribution to carbon pollution.



### REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION.

Mulching, installing rain barrels, adjusting your watering schedule, and using drip irrigation saves water and provides nutrients to the soil.



### PLANT LOTS OF TREES.

Trees absorb and store carbon pollution from the atmosphere. Shade trees planted near your home can reduce energy used for cooling in the summer.



### REDUCE THE USE OF GASOLINE-POWERED YARD TOOLS.

Use human-powered tools such as push mowers, hand clippers, and rakes; or reduce the amount of lawn area that needs maintenance.



### INCORPORATE NATIVE SPECIES.

Native plants help maintain important pollinator connections and provide food sources for wildlife; nonnative plants can outcompete these important native species for habitat and food.



### CREATE A CERTIFIED WILDLIFE HABITAT™.

Turning your garden into a Certified Wildlife Habitat® helps neighborhood wildlife like bees, butterflies, birds, and amphibians better cope with the impacts of climate change.

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



### COMPOST KITCHEN AND GARDEN WASTE.

Composting reduces carbon and methane pollution, and provides nutrients for your garden.



### TELL CONGRESS

to protect gardens, communities, and wildlife by supporting America's "Clean Power Plan" to reduce industrial carbon pollution.

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