Certified Wildlife Habitat® Application

Use this form to certify your wildlife-friendly habitat garden in your yard, school grounds, place of worship, or anywhere in your community. If the habitat meets the basic requirements, you'll join the growing movement of Wildlife Gardeners and receive a personalized certificate suitable for framing, a National Wildlife Federation membership, a subscription to the award-winning National Wildlife® magazine, a 10% discount on National Wildlife Federation catalog products, and opportunity to display a yard sign.
You can also submit this application online at **nwf.org/garden**.

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. (Personalized certificates are final, all future change requests will result in a $5 change order fee. Please apply online to preview your personalized certificate)

Address of Habitat _____

City _____ **State/Province** _____ **Zip Code** _____

Telephone _____ **Email Address** _____

Mailing Address (if different from above) _____

_____

Check the option that best describes your habitat.

- ☐ **Home**
- ☐ **Pre-K-12 School**
- ☐ **Organization / Institute** (Choose type below)
  - ☐ Business / Corporation
  - ☐ College / University
  - ☐ Farm
  - ☐ Roadside / Right-of-Way
  - ☐ Community Garden
  - ☐ Government Building / Property
  - ☐ Place of Worship
  - ☐ Museum
  - ☐ Nature Center / Educational Setting
  - ☐ Park / Forest / Refuge
  - ☐ Other

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
- ☐ Shallow Dish
- ☐ Lake
- ☐ Stream/River
- ☐ Seasonal Pool
- ☐ Water Garden/Pond
- ☐ Butterfly Puddling Area
- ☐ Rain Garden
- ☐ Spring
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Bramble Patch
- ☐ Ground Cover
- ☐ Rock Pile/Wall
- ☐ Cave
- ☐ Roosting Box
- ☐ Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- ☐ Evergreens
- ☐ Brush/Log Pile
- ☐ Burrow
- ☐ Meadow/Prairie
- ☐ 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
- ☐ Meadow/Prairie
- ☐ Nesting Box
- ☐ Wetland
- ☐ Host Plants for Caterpillars
- ☐ Dead Trees/Snags
- ☐ Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- ☐ Water Garden/Pond
- ☐ Burrow
- ☐ 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 wildlife—as well as for the people. Some practices are more environmentally-friendly and sustainable. How do you garden sustainably?

(You need to employ practices from at least two of the three categories below to help manage your habitat in a sustainable way—to better help wildlife, we advocate employing one or more practices from each category.)

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION

- ☐ Limit Water Use
- ☐ Collect Rain Water
- ☐ Rain Garden
- ☐ Plant Buffer Around Bodies of Water
- ☐ Xeriscape (water-wise landscaping)
- ☐ Drip or Soaker Hose for Irrigation
- ☐ Use Mulch or Ground Cover to Retain Soil Moisture and Limit Erosion
- ☐ Reduce or Eliminate Lawn

CONTROLLING EXOTIC SPECIES

- ☐ Practice Integrated Pest Management
- ☐ Remove Invasive Exotic Species
- ☐ Keep Cats Indoors
- ☐ Use Native Plants

ORGANIC PRACTICES

- ☐ Eliminate Chemical Pesticides
- ☐ Eliminate Chemical Fertilizers
- ☐ Create Compost Pile

To apply, please send:

- ☐ This Completed Application - REQUIRED
- ☐ $25 Application Fee* (non-refundable) - REQUIRED

*Applications Fee Waived for Pre-K-12 School Habitats

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Allow 4-6 weeks for processing. Please keep a copy of this application for your records.