

## Your Beautiful Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary

It's easy and satisfying to transform your backyard into a nature-friendly wildlife sanctuary. Learn to attract birds, bees, butterflies, bunnies, and more.

This how-to guide provides tips and resources to help you turn your backyard into a safe nesting home for migrant or year-round wildlife.

### Basic Requirements to Create a Safe Wildlife Sanctuary

Getting started requires only a few introductory provisions to attract and protect the wildlife that comes to nest in your backyard.

They'll need nesting places, access to drinking water, and food. Plants and live insects in your backyard provide most of their food.

You'll also need nesting boxes and feeders for the birds you want to attract. You can buy these ready-made or have extra fun building and painting them yourself. And you can find recipes to make food for the feeders.

You can even make your yard a [Certified Wildlife Habitat](#). How cool is that?

You'll find several tips and resources to attract each of a variety of wild creatures in the sections below.

### Attract Birds to Your Backyard Sanctuary

It's easy to attract native and migratory birds to your backyard. Follow these simple tips to create a safe habitat for those that flock home year after year.

- Install a simple birdbath and fill it with fresh, clean water(Be sure to change the water every 3-4 days).
- Situate it in an area dense with shrubs or other protective vegetation.
- Install native plants to offer year-round food.

- Place nest [boxes and birdhouses](#) designed for the specific species you want to attract.
- Provide [feeders and food](#) for the type of birds you want to attract.

You're all set to welcome new and returning nesters.

## Attract Bees, Butterflies, & Hummingbirds

Get ready for the pollinator bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds with beautiful butterfly gardens to attract them.

- Choose bright, colorful nectar and pollen-rich varieties of plants. Succession planting of shrubs and flowers will help supply food throughout the season.
- Provide shelter to help pollinators hide from predators.
- Go Organic–Avoid using harmful pesticides that may be toxic to pollinators.
- Provide food and water.

This [source](#) provides additional information about attracting bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. You'll also find bold, beautiful photos of butterflies and other pollinators.

## Attract Bunnies to Your Backyard Habitat

Attracting rabbits to your backyard brings benefits such as natural weed control and natural fertilizer, along with pure pleasure (and not just for the kids.) It's fabulous fun and entertainment to watch the bunnies hopping around in your backyard. And delightful to discover a nest of bunnies hidden in the brush piles.

You can provide a safe home for them with plants, bushes, and evergreens along the edge of the yard. They'll also need brush piles for nesting and water to drink.

But fair warning; those rascals can be pesky. Be sure to protect your vegetable gardens, or they'll root up your plants and eat your vegetables. But be sure to supply the bunnies with food of their own.

Here's a good source of additional information about [attracting rabbits](#) to your backyard sanctuary.

## Native Plants for Your Wildlife

Native plants are beneficial to the ecosystem (an interconnected system or environment). To thrive, they require much less watering, fertilizer, and pesticides.

Their deeper root systems increase soil capacity to store water and can reduce flooding or runoff.

They're more attractive and beneficial to the native wildlife you want to attract. It also provides pollen, seeds, and food for native wildlife.

Find your native plants by state with this [guide](#), along with a list of related websites and resources.

## Beneficial Predators to Protect Your Habitat Home

There are many reasons to make room for these beneficial predators, such as flies, wasps, carrion beetles, and assassin bugs, in your backyard sanctuary. They prey on insects that harm garden plants and ruin good gardens.

In fact, these nurseries and mail-order supply stores sell these natural pest control predators. [Here's](#) a good source of information about these natural predators.

## The Benefits of Building a Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary

Building a backyard sanctuary brings many incredible benefits.

- Beauty and enjoyment-The pure joy and satisfaction of a backyard wildlife sanctuary bring a calm, soothing effect.
- It brings people and nature together while nurturing the environment
- Healthy and abundant wildlife
- Educational and recreational-Families can discover the wonders of nature together while nurturing the environment.
- Make places more private and enticing, and relaxing

To learn more about nature's ecological and economic benefits, go [here](#).

## Build It, And They Will Come—To Your Beautiful Backyard Wildlife Sanctuary

How peaceful it feels to relax with the wonders of nature right in your own backyard. You can spend hours in delightful community with the creatures that come there to nest.

Inhale the sweet scent of blossoms from colorful butterfly gardens and watch the birds flutter about preparing their nests or feeding young hatchlings, Or find amusement in seeing the bunnies hopping about in the tall grass.

How satisfying it is to know that you're contributing to the delicate balance of man and nature.

Enjoy!