



NEWS ARTICLE

Backyard Wildlife

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Backyard Wildlife Habitat is one way to protect and restore wildlife to your community. No matter where you might want to help wildlife, there are four basic elements that all wildlife species need. They are Food, Water, Shelter and a Place to raise young.

Native plants are one of the best food sources. They provide nectar, seeds and berries that will attract a variety of wildlife including butterflies. Feeders can also provide a supplement to natural foods and attract certain of your favorite species.

Water is needed by everything that grows to survive and some wildlife species need water for bathing or breeding. Large volumes are not required. Bird baths and small backyard ponds will attract many species throughout the year.

Shelter is critical for many species to escape bad weather and predators. Shelter is most commonly provided by native trees and shrubs. Many species of wildlife have special habitat needs for raising young. Nesting structures such as bird houses can be provided when not provided by natural means. Visit the Indiana Wildlife Federation website at www.indianawildlife.org or your local County Soil and Water Conservation District for more information. Information about the District's sale of native container grown trees is also on their website.

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