



Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy - Audubon at Home

Getting Started with Wildlife Habitat

The Case for Action – create habitat to support nature

- See the headlines at: <https://homegrownnationalpark.org/get-started>, Hear Doug Tallamy speak at: <http://bit.ly/2SWJh0P>
- Book: *Nature's Best Hope – A New Approach to Conservation that Starts in Your Yard* Douglas W. Tallamy, 2019
- Bringing Nature Home: Best Bets: <http://bit.ly/2MgErJu>

Some success stories for inspiration!

- Gardening and Landscaping for Nature: www.dgif.virginia.gov/wp-content/uploads/habitat-at-home.pdf
- AAH Success Stories from Habitat Herald: <http://bit.ly/35tS4wV>

Really good sources of information on Northern Virginia Native Plants

- Native Plants for Northern Virginia, booklet available from LWC on-line shop, \$6.50 <http://bit.ly/361Vav1>
 - Plant NoVa Natives Plant Finder app www.plantnovanatives.org/plant-finder-app
- Planting for Wildlife in Northern Virginia, booklet available from LWC on-line shop, \$8.00 <http://bit.ly/39We6MG>
 - Planting for Wildlife in Northern Virginia, on-line www.novawildlifegarden.net/

Plant lists & Where to buy for Loudoun County

- “Super Nine” Nectar and Host Plants for a Pollinator Garden: <http://bit.ly/2Manhgv>
- Native Plants for Native Bees: <http://bit.ly/NATIVEBEES>
- Native Plants for Butterflies: <http://bit.ly/BFLIES>
- Shade Loving Plants that support Bees, Birds, Butterflies and Moths: <https://bit.ly/2QUYWPa>
- Native Trees and Shrubs for Birds: <http://bit.ly/NOVABIRDS>
- Where to buy native plants in NOVA www.plantnovanatives.org/native-only-sellers

Invasive plants – how to recognize them and what to do about them

- Terrestrial Invasive Plants of the Potomac River Watershed: <http://bit.ly/2QQ9Jr7>
- Plant invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas: <https://www.invasive.org/eastern/midatlantic/>
- Mistaken Identity – Invasive Plants and their Native Look-alikes: <http://bit.ly/2DKiUVn>

Habitat is more than just plants

- Habitat Best Structure: <http://bit.ly/2Fqe7M8>
- Think Habitat: <http://bit.ly/2TeSEwp>

Thoughts on basic garden design

- Native Plants for the Small Yard, K Brandes http://lgnc.org/pdfdocs/brandes_book.pdf
- Watermark Woods Sample Landscape Plans and Plant Lists <http://bit.ly/2SB6bia>

ID help and more

- iNaturalist Download free app at: <https://www.inaturalist.org/>
- Merlin Bird ID Download free app at: <https://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/>
- Facebook Group: Search for “Capital Naturalist” (Alonso Abugattas)
- Audubon at Home Additional resource materials: <http://bit.ly/2UYHMmE>

Join Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy and stay in touch..... *and if you are already a member, thank you!*

Join here: <https://loudounwildlife.org/donate/>

Stay in touch: **Facebook or Instagram**, follow 'Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy'



Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy - Audubon at Home

Think "Habitat"

For all life-cycle stages and through all seasons, wildlife needs:

- Food
- Water
- Shelter, to avoid predators and to raise young

Habitat Features: *A diverse native plant community supplies many requirements, but other features can add value:*

Water

<https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Water>

- Bird bath – keep clean
- Water Garden / Frog Pond / Rain Garden / Pond in a Barrel
- Natural stream / Seep / Wetland

Nesting and over-wintering habitat for insects (and other critters)

<https://www.xerces.org/publications/fact-sheets/nesting-overwintering-habitat>

Brush Pile / Rock Pile

- Nooks and crannies provide shelter from predators and protection in summer and winter
- Critters find food, over-winter, lay eggs, raise young

Snags and fallen logs

- Nesting places for cavity-nesting birds, native bees and other critters
- Valuable source of insects for birds

Bare Soil

- Dust bathing for birds
- 70% of Native Bee species nest underground

Leave the fallen Leaves

- Natural soil fertilizer; birds forage for food
- Overwintering habitat for insects, eg butterflies, fireflies

Bee Boxes

www.xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/13-054_02_XercesSoc_Tunnel-Nests-for-Native-Bees_web.pdf

Bird Nest Boxes

<https://loudounwildlife.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Bluebird-Box-Information.pdf>

- Provide nesting places for cavity nesters, replacing lost natural locations

Minimize man-made hazards

<https://loudounwildlife.org/2020/08/minimize-man-made-hazards-to-wildlife/>

- Keep cats indoors, window collisions, avoid poison or glue rodent traps, turn off outdoor lighting