

RESOURCE GUIDE

Wildlife Gardening



What is Wildlife Gardening?

Your local green space or own back garden can provide a wonderful opportunity to connect with nature on a regular basis. Wildlife can be found in almost any patch of ground and there are plenty of things you can do to give nature (biodiversity) a helping hand:

- Find out what plants and animals are already in your green space
- Plant nectar rich flowers, native trees and shrubs to support wildlife (especially bees and butterflies)
- Create habitats for wildlife (e.g. wildflower meadows, wetland areas, bat and bird boxes, nooks and crannies for insects to shelter and breed)
- Create a feeding and drinking station for birds
- Use a peat-free alternatives in your garden and start your own compost heap
- Cut out harmful chemicals and manage pests by encouraging natural predators
- Explore environmental issues such as growing your own food and supporting local produce

Useful Websites

This is by no means an exhaustive list - just a starting point.

The Wildlife Trust & Royal Horticultural Society www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk – This joint project shares advice and knowledge, so everyone can create their own wildlife havens.

Learning through Landscapes www.ltl.org.uk – Practical inspiration for creating outdoor learning and play experiences which can also benefit wildlife.

RSPB www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/ – Ways to attract wildlife and ‘give nature a home’ near you.

Woodland Trust www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities/ – Free trees for schools and community groups throughout the UK, and lots of handy learning resources.

NatureScot www.nature.scot – [Make Space for nature campaign](#), with seasonal tips to help nature thrive.

Wales Biodiversity Partnership www.biodiversitywales.org.uk – Make a pledge for nature and other useful links.

Royal Horticultural Society www.rhs.org.uk – Helpful information on plants and gardening, including resources for [schools](#).

Eco-Schools www.ecoschools.global/ (Eco-Schools Scotland www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org) – Help and advice on Eco-schools topics including biodiversity and school grounds.

Freecycle Network www.freecycle.org – Search for free gardening tools and equipment in your area.

Guerilla Gardening - www.guerrillagardening.org – Fun tips, ideas and inspiration on how to ‘garden without boundaries’, improving neglected public spaces for wildlife and people.

National Allotment Association - www.nsalg.org.uk – Handy hints and monthly advice for new gardeners, and information on easy to grow vegetables.

Soil Association www.soilassociation.org – Information on organic farming and Food for Life Partnership.

Freshwater Habitats Trust freshwaterhabitats.org.uk – Information and advice on wildlife found in freshwater. Find out how to make you own wildlife pond with the Pond Creation Toolkit.

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust www.bumblebeeconservation.org – Help bees and their habitats.

Bat Conservation Trust bats.org.uk **Butterfly Conservation** butterfly-conservation.org - General information on bats and butterflies and how to protect them and attract them to your garden.

Thrive UK www.thrive.org.uk – Practical solutions so that anyone with a disability can take part in, benefit from and enjoy gardening.