KH1







New Jersey Audubon Presents: Garden for Wildlife

Slide 1

KH1 Kristin Hock, 3/26/2021

Habitat Outreach Coordinator



- Kristin Hock
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- garden@njaudubon.org
- www.njaudubon.org/garden

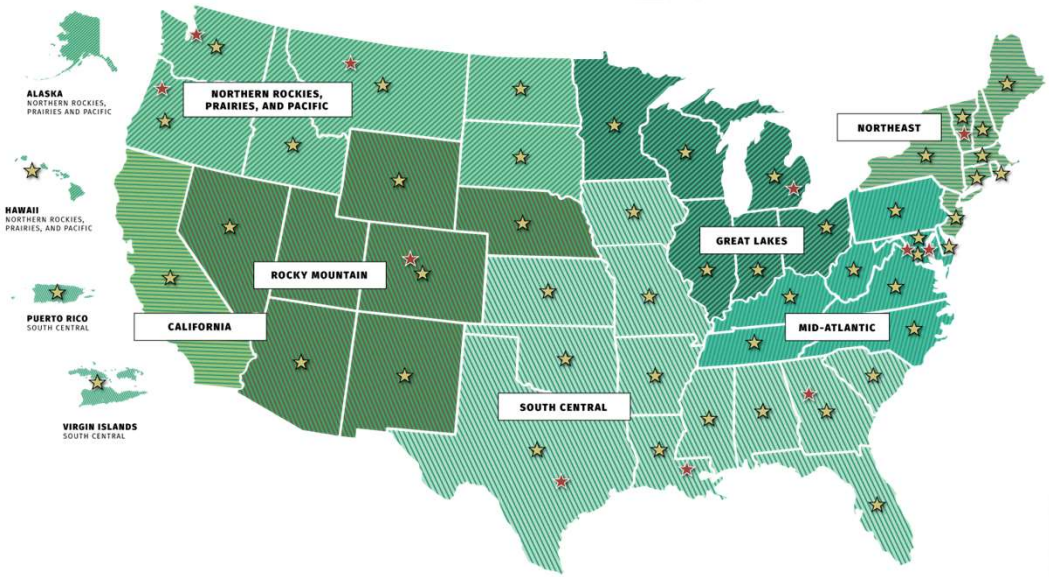
- Wildlife Biology
- Environmental Education
- Organic Vegetable Farming
- Wildlife Gardening

Who Is New Jersey Audubon?

- Serving New Jersey since 1897
- Environmental Non-Profit, *NOT a chapter of National Audubon*
- 3 Nature Centers, 20+ unstaffed sanctuaries in the state
- Made up of six departments
- …And *YOU*!



Working Together for Wildlife



- 2012 NJA →NWF state affiliate
- 9,761 Certified Wildlife Habitats in NJ
  - Nationwide: almost 300,000!
- 6 Certified & 27 Registered Communities
  - Nationwide: 158 certified & 173 registered

(as of Jan 2024)

In This Webinar

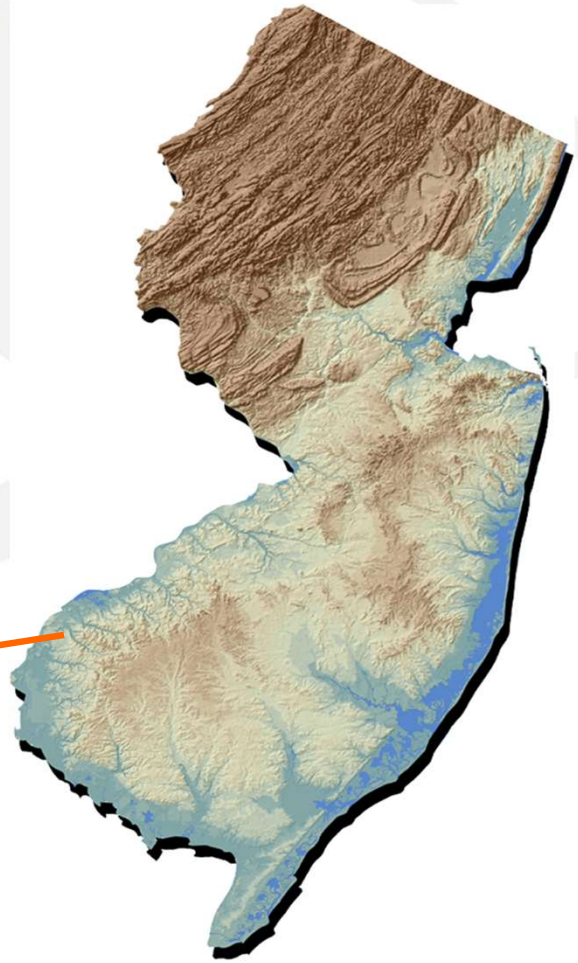
- How changing landscape impacts wildlife
- Certifying your habitat and/or community
- Benefits to both wildlife and humans

Location, Location, Location

NJ exists between a rock and the coast.

NJ is midway between the equator and the Arctic.





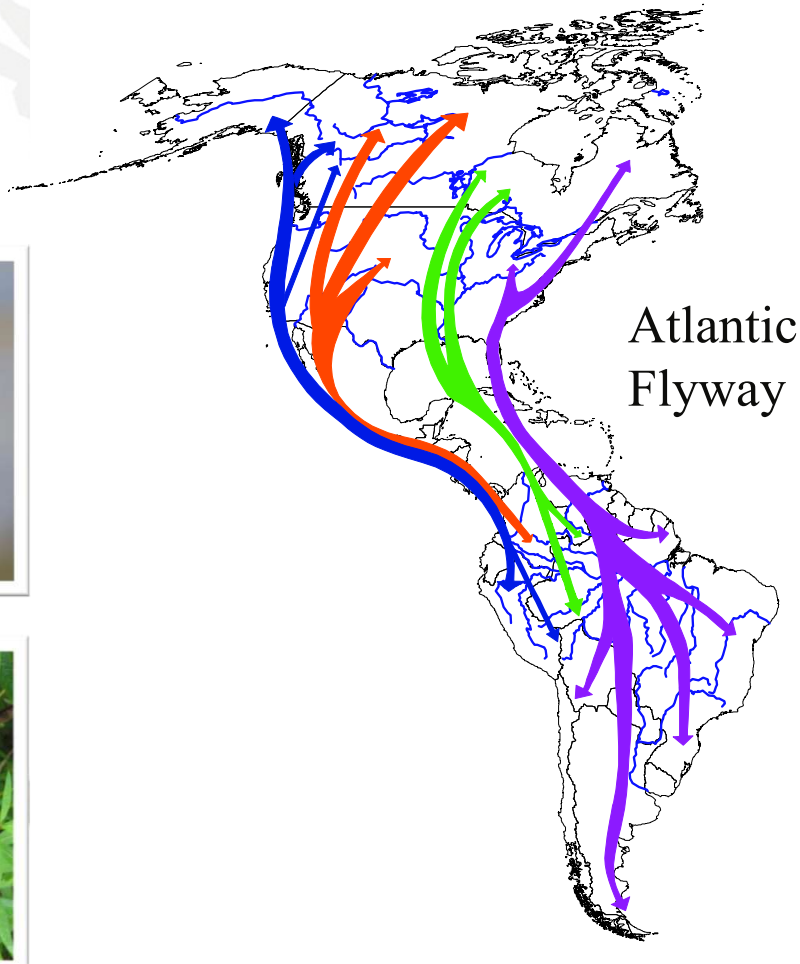
New Jersey
at the Crossroads of Migration





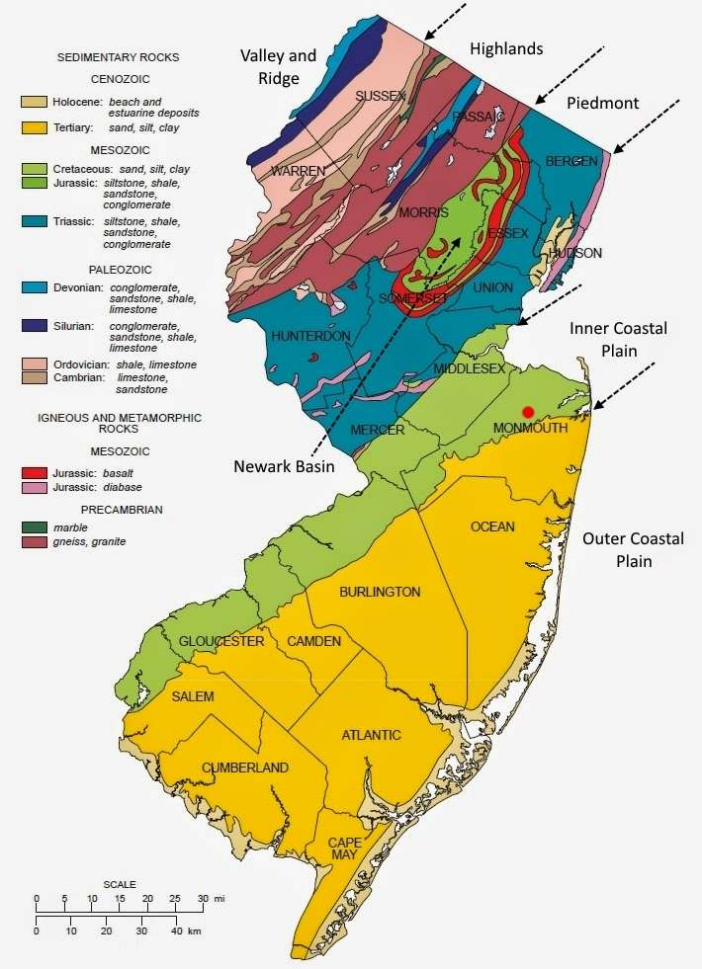






NEW JERSEY AUDUBON

Rocks and Soil



Soil and Plants





New Jersey Has Very Diverse Habitat

Mountains and Forests of Northern New Jersey



Meadowlands



Grasslands and/Other Agricultural Lands



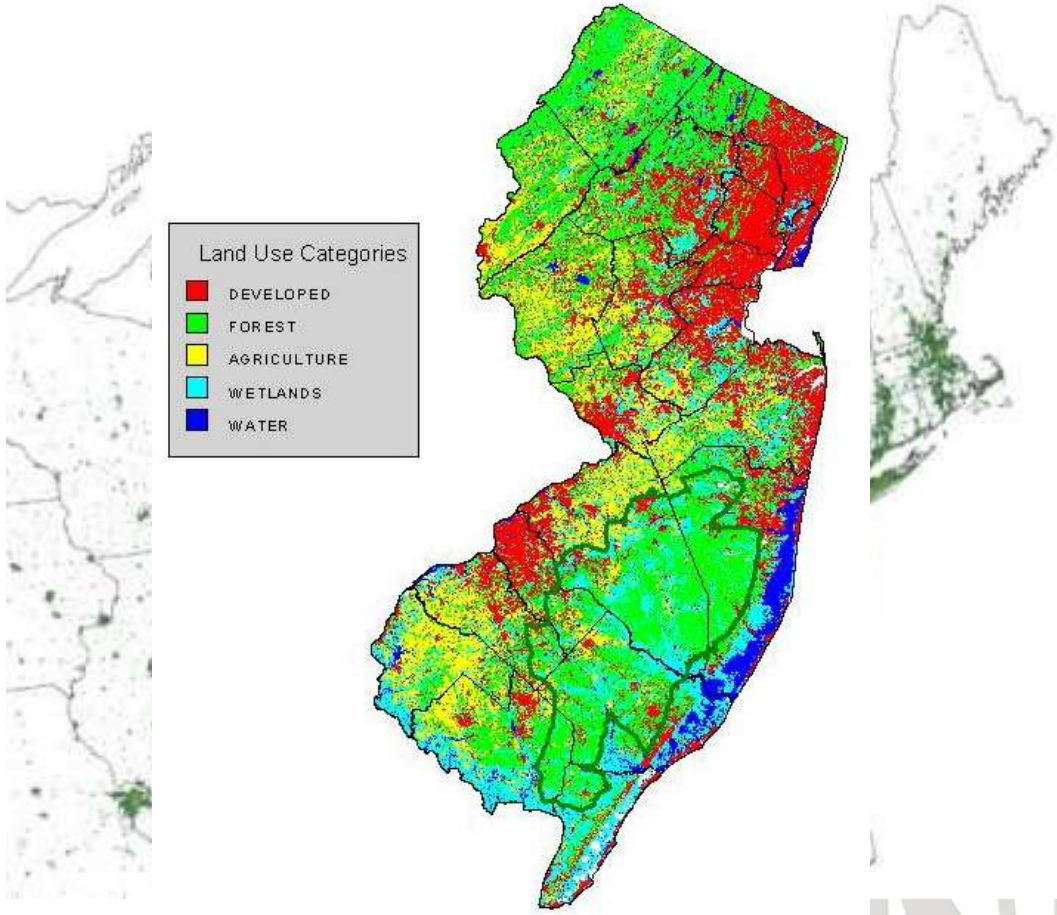


NJ Pinelands



Coastal Wetlands, Dunes, & Beaches

A Continually Changing Landscape



- 50,000 square miles of lawn in the U.S. (6x the area of NJ!)
- 85% of US residents live in an urban or suburban environment
- 30% of NJ's five million acres of land is considered urban.



Lawn = Biological Wasteland

East of the Mississippi:

- Most of our nation's biodiversity is found (while most protected areas are found out west)
- 86% of land is privately owned
- 90% of landscape is lawn
- 80% of plants in yards are non-native

NJ's DIVERSE HABITATS SUPPORT A DIVERSITY OF WILDLIFE

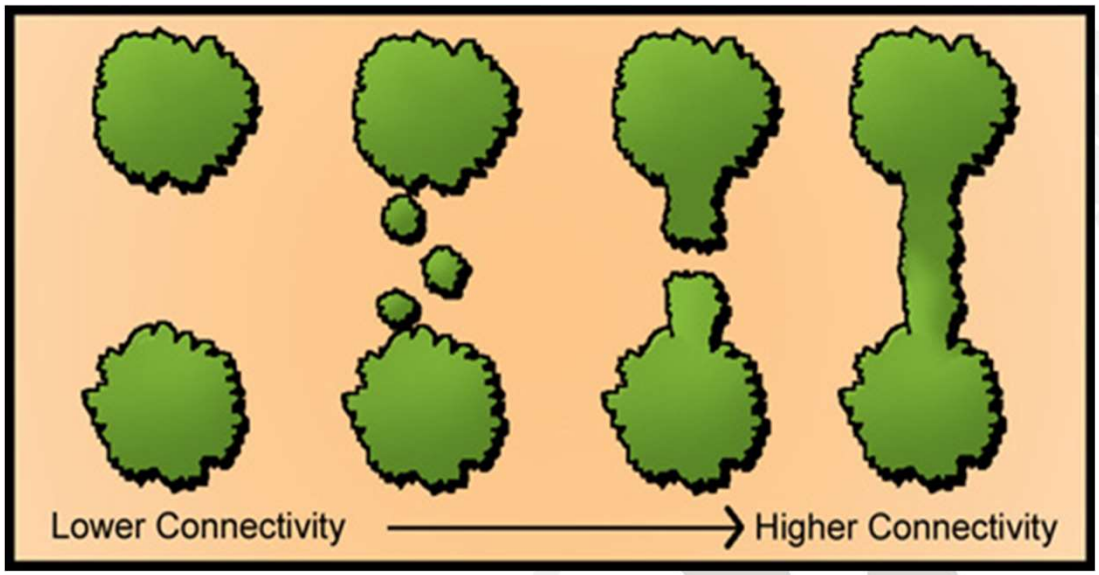
THAT'S A LOT OF SPECIES!!!!

	New Jersey	Alaska
Mammals	90	102
Reptiles & Amphibians	79	10
Fish	400	150
Birds	480+	534
Nesting Birds	250	250
Butterflies	100+	78
Native Bees	400+	100



Habitat,
Habitat,
Habitat

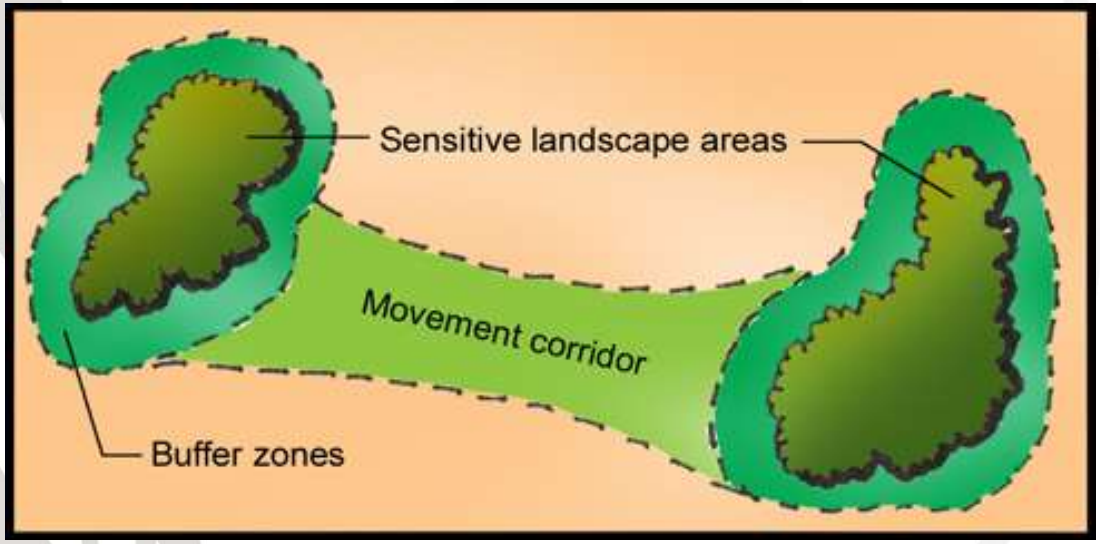




NEW JERSEY AUDUBON

Habitats Get More Fragmented

GOAL: Increase Habitat Connectivity in the Community




LAND USE CHANGES
200,000,000+
Hundreds of millions of acres of INDUSTRIAL FARMS have replaced small, family farms.
URBAN SPRAWL and energy development fragmenting large areas fo wildlife habitat.
Nearly 4 MILLION miles of HIGHWAYS
ALTERATION OF RIVERS AND WATERWAYS
75%
of America's rivers and streams have been altered in ways detrimental to wildlife habitat.
ONE-THIRD of the nation's rivers and streams do not meet basic water-quality standards
WHY WILDLIFE ARE DECLINING:
LARGE-SCALE AND RAPID CHANGE
POPULATION GROWTH
1936
128 MILLION
150 %
2016
322 MILLION
CLIMATE CHANGE
POSES DIRECT THREATS, amplifies and accelerates other factors
APPROXIMATELY
1.5ft. SEA LEVEL RISE BY 2050
2.5ft. SEA LEVEL RISE BY 2100
Storm intensity increase, drought, and seawater acidifying
INVASIVE SPECIES
HARMFUL INVADERS are degrading natural habitats across the country.
WILDLIFE DISEASES
NEW AND EMERGING DISEASES are an increasing problem for many species.
now in 22 STATES
CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE ravaging deer/cervids brains.
Chytrid Fungus (Bd) decimating amphibian populations worldwide.





Wildlife Are Declining

- According to World Wildlife Federation, wildlife populations have plummeted by 69% since 1970
- Plants also in decline with 941 species listed as federally endangered or threatened compared to 736 wildlife species listed

- WHY?
  - Habitat destruction
  - Climate change
  - Invasive species
  - Industrialization
  - Urban Sprawl

3BillionBirds.org





Non-Native Predator

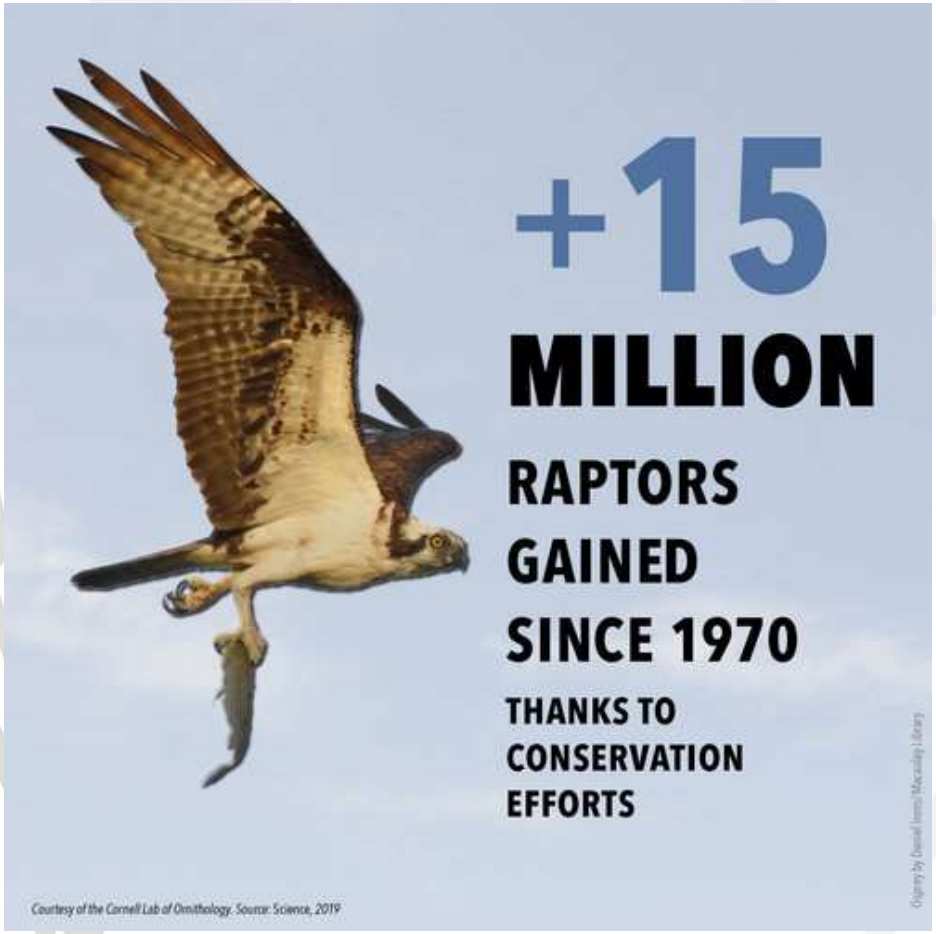


- Contributed to the extinction of 63 species of birds, mammals, and reptiles
- Kill 1.3-4.0 billion birds and 6.3-22.3 billion mammals every year
- When cats are near nests, adult birds will fly to safety and leave their nests open to predation and bring less food which can lead to starvation for nestlings
- Diseases through feces and top domestic carrier of rabies
- Easy Fix: Keep cats indoors

#BringBirdsBack

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1982: 1 Nest
2021: 200+ Nests


NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
GARDEN
FOR WILDLIFE
The National Wildlife Federation has been inspiring people to garden for wildlife since 1973
NWF.ORG/GARDEN


Plants are the foundation of the food web in any ecosystem. Without healthy, diverse plant communities, wildlife can not survive.



- **Native Plants:**
  - **Adapted to local soils**
  - **Adapted to regional precipitation**
  - **Resilient and hardy once established**
  - **Support wildlife**



Oak

557 species of caterpillars

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Ginkgo

0 species of caterpillars

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Insects are the next critical level of the food web

90% of the insects that rely on plants can only survive on plants with which they evolved

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Garden for Wildlife™
Certified Wildlife Habitat ®



- Provide resources for survival of wildlife
- Food (3)
- Water (1)
- Cover (2)
- Places to Raise Young (2)
- Use Sustainable Practices

Food

- Native Plants
  - Leaves
  - Seeds
  - Berries
  - Nuts
  - Fruits
  - Nectar
  - Sap









Non-Native vs Native Plants





Native wildlife co-evolved with native plants which provide the proper nutrients that are required.

96% of backyard birds rely on invertebrates to feed their young





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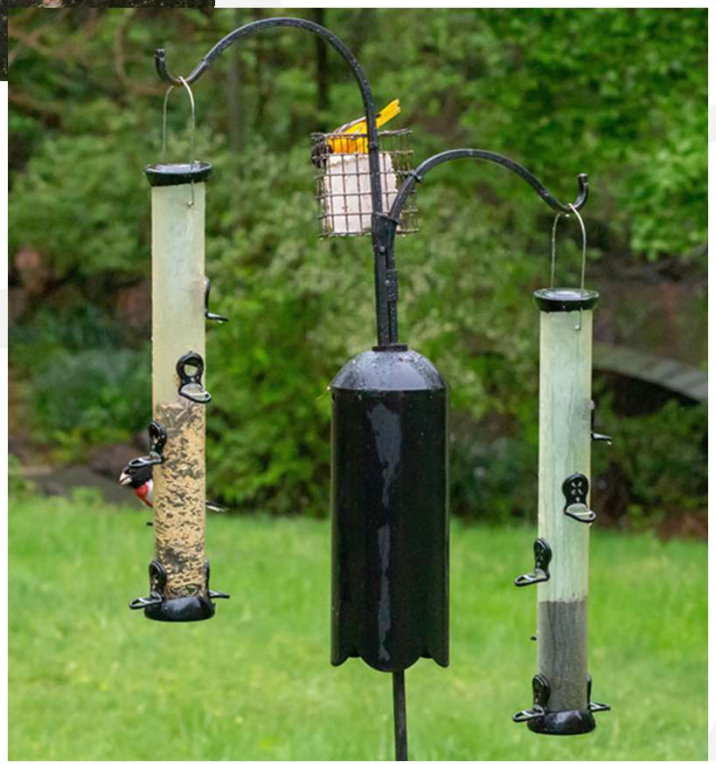
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Food, cont.

- Supplemental Feeders:
  - Bird Feeders
  - Squirrel Feeders
  - Hummingbird Feeder
  - Butterfly Feeder







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Food for Wildlife

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Water

- Birdbath
- Pond/Lake
- Stream/River
- Seasonal Pool
- Water Garden/Pond
- Butterfly Puddling Area
- Rain Garden
- Spring

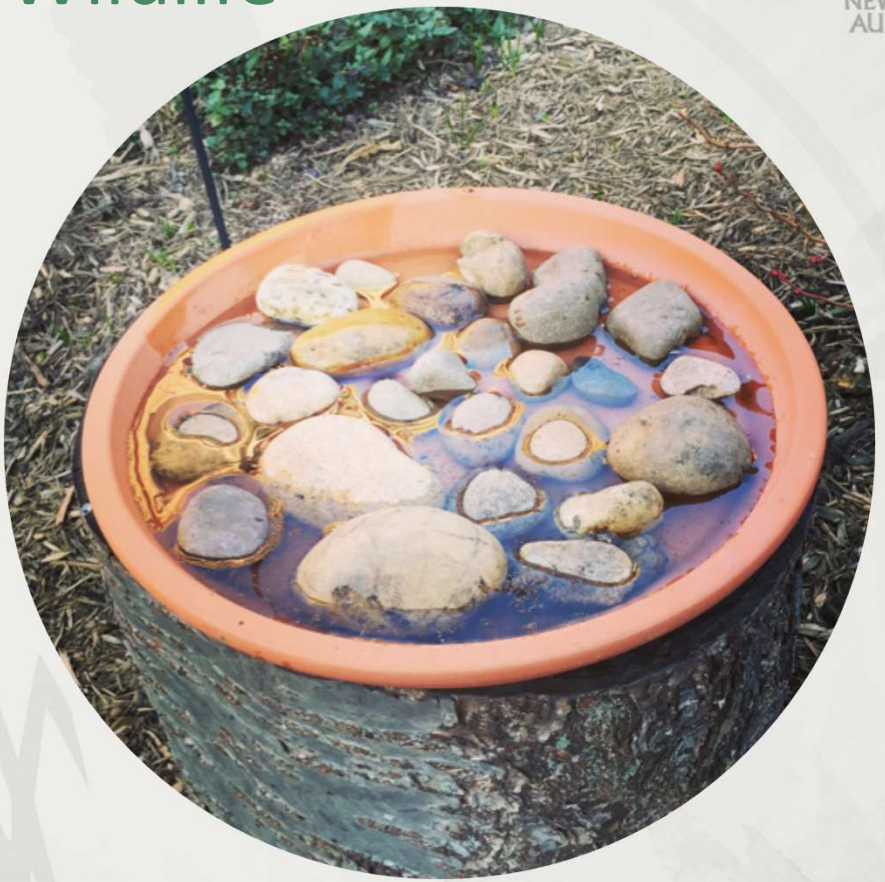




Any shallow dish will work.
Water depth should be
between 1-3 inches.

Water for Wildlife

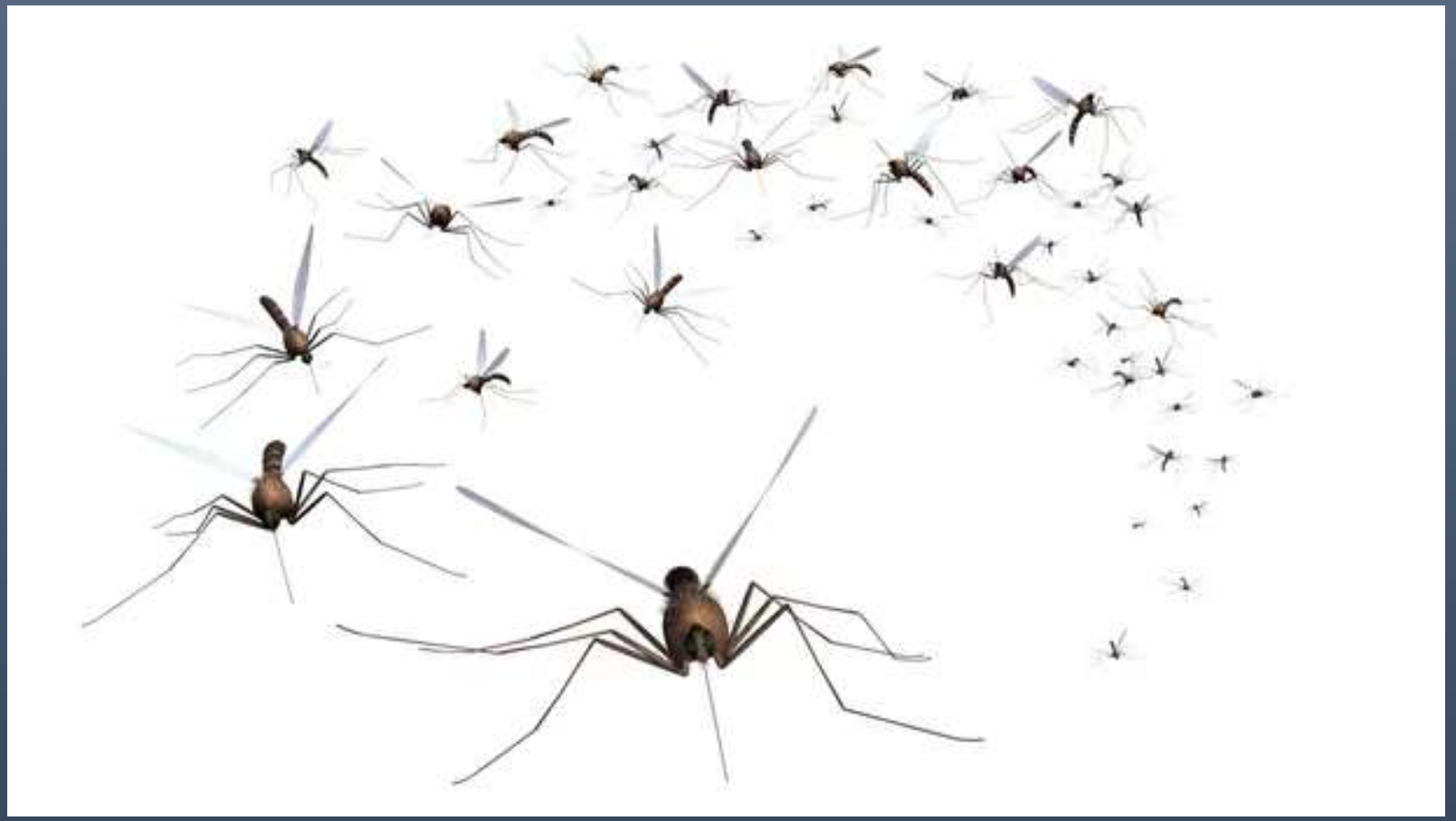




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Cover

- Wooded Area
- Ground Cover
- Rock Pile or Wall
- Roosting Box
- Dense Shrubs or Thicket
- Evergreens
- Brush or Log Pile



Plants Provide Places to Hide & Protect Young







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Roosting Boxes

Places to Raise Young



- Mature trees
- Nesting Box
- Host Plants for Caterpillars
- Dead Trees or Snags
- Dense Shrubs or a Thicket
- Water Garden
- Burrow

Plants Provide Places to Raise Young







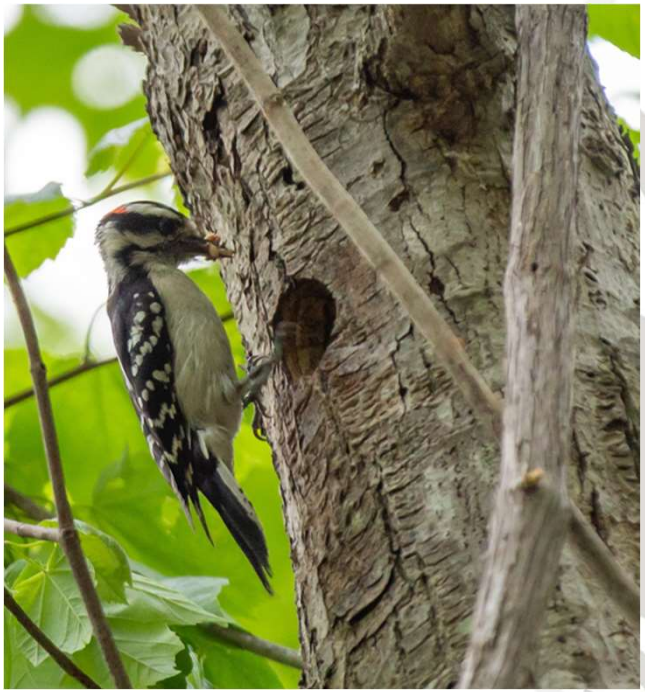
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Places for All Life Stages

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Dead Snags



Caterpillar Host Plants



Water Gardens



Use Sustainable Practices









Certified Wildlife Habitat®



Why certify?

A 2012 study revealed that CWH's provide more abundant and higher quality habitat for wildlife compared to non-certified yards.

Certify Your Property

$20 per Property



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

BW17V2A

Mail

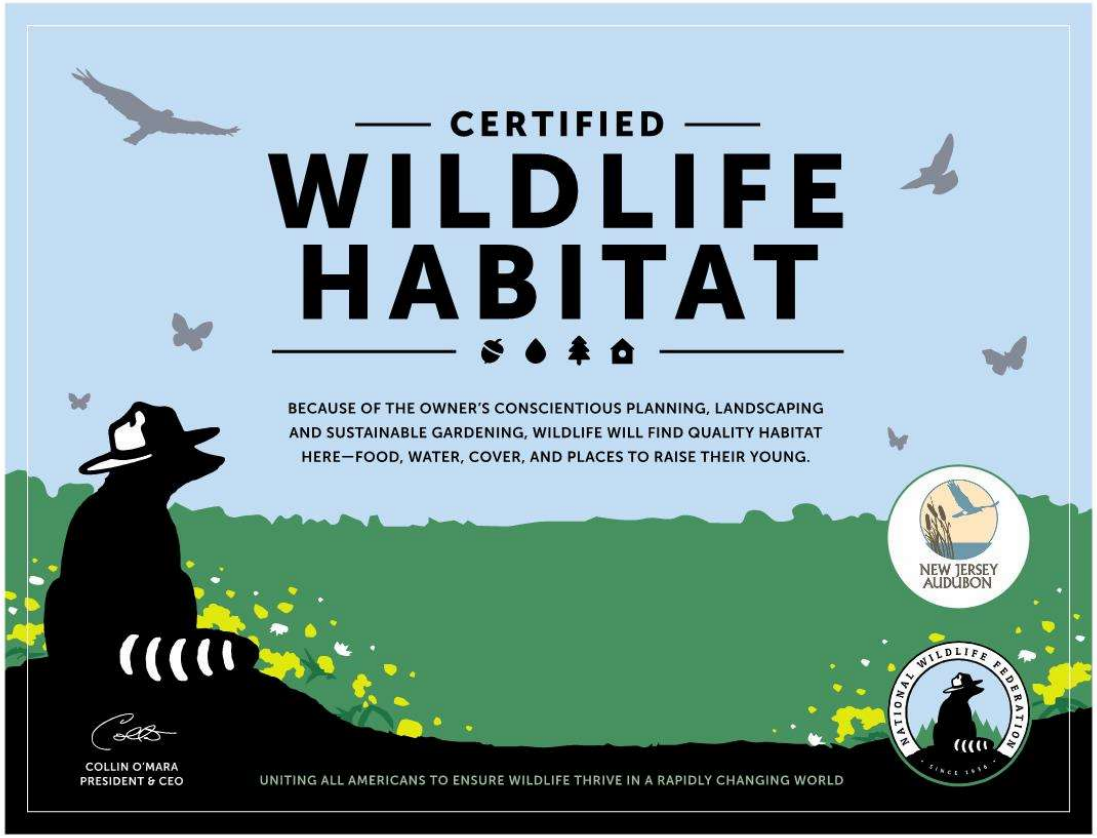


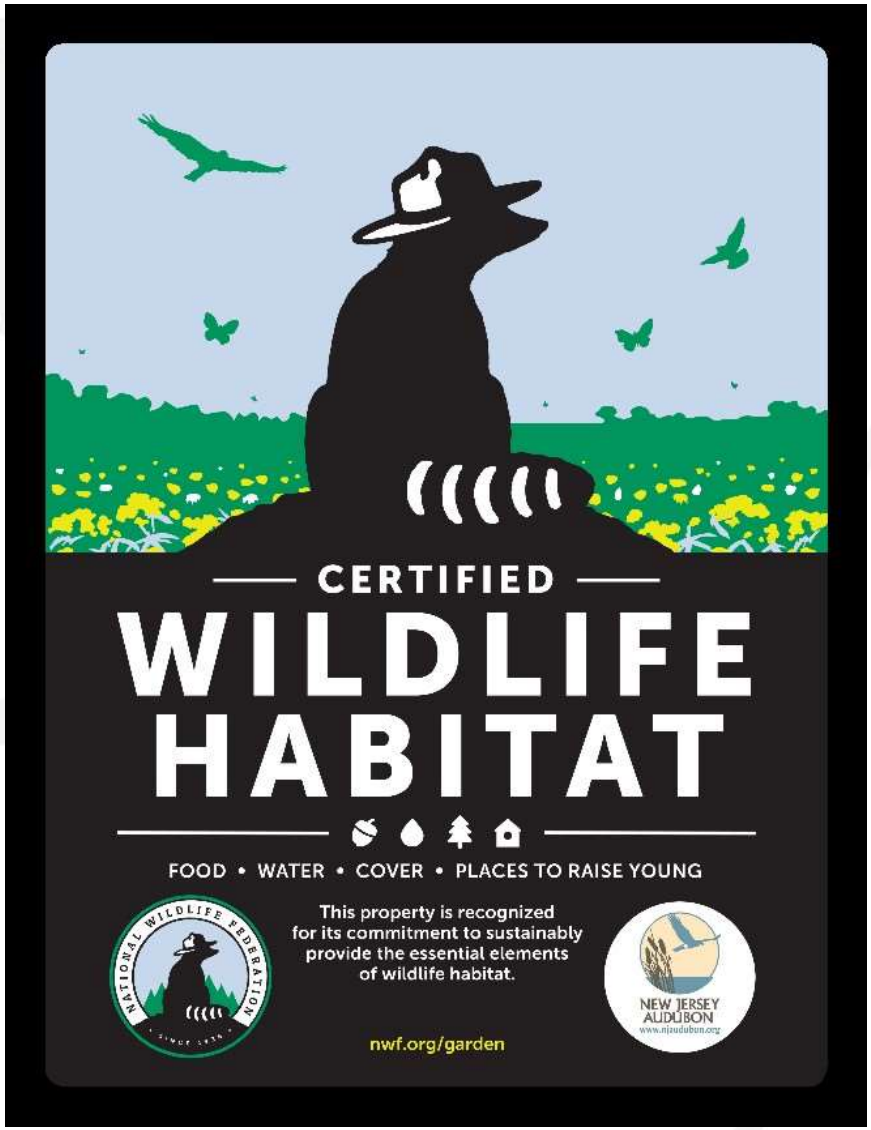
Online

https://www.nwf.org/certify

GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE

NWF.ORG/GARDEN


CERTIFIED
WILDLIFE
HABITAT
BECAUSE OF THE OWNER'S CONSCIENTIOUS PLANNING, LANDSCAPING AND SUSTAINABLE GARDENING, WILDLIFE WILL FIND QUALITY HABITAT HERE—FOOD, WATER, COVER, AND PLACES TO RAISE THEIR YOUNG.
NEW JERSEY AUDUBON
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
COLLIN O'MARA
PRESIDENT & CEO
UNITING ALL AMERICANS TO ENSURE WILDLIFE THRIVE IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD


CERTIFIED
WILDLIFE
HABITAT
FOOD • WATER • COVER • PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG
NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION
This property is recognized for its commitment to sustainably provide the essential elements of wildlife habitat.
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nwf.org/garden



NEW JERSEY AUDUBON

Benefits:

-One year membership to NWF

-One year subscription to National Wildlife magazine

-10% off NWF merchandise

-Subscription to monthly Garden for Wildlife e-newsletter with gardening tips, wildlife stories, and other resources

NWF.ORG/COMMUNITY



- Home
- Workplace
- Homeowners Association
- Library
- School/University
- Apartment Rooftop
- Patio
- Place of Worship

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION™

GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE™

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Community Wildlife Habitat

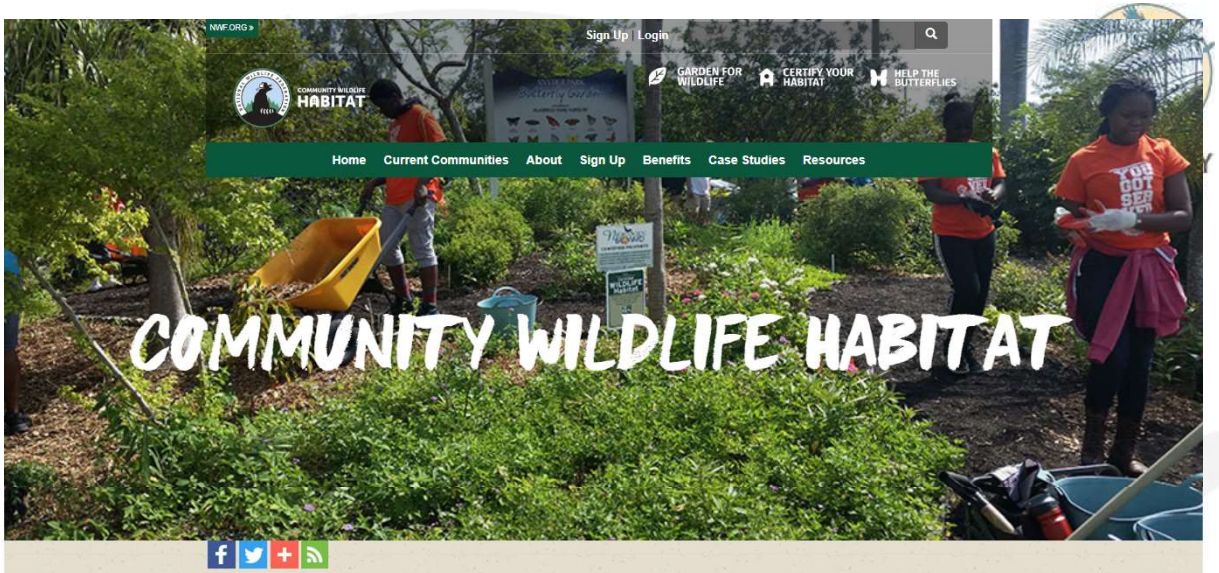


- Nationwide (as of Jan 2024)
  - 158 certified
  - 173 registered

- Houston, TX became the 100th Community Wildlife Habitat in 2017
  - Population 2.3 million
  - America's largest Community Wildlife Habitat

- **Create Habitat:** Certify individual properties (homes, parks, schools, etc.) as NWF Certified Wildlife Habitats® (based on community population)

- **Engage and Educate:** Earn points by hosting Garden for Wildlife workshops, planting community gardens, creating native plant lists, etc.



NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION™

COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT™

Requirements

NWF.ORG/COMMUNITY

Community Certification Points

Property Certification Requirements:

Activity / Type of Certification	Points
For each *home* certified, including townhomes and apartments	1
For each *common area* certified, including public parks, HOA common areas, businesses, places of worship, farms, universities and municipal buildings	3
For each *school* certified as an NWF Schoolyard Habitat - Pre-K - 12 or nature center	5

VERIFICATION: Homes that were certified more than 15 years prior to a community's registration date must be verified. Schools certified more than 5 years prior to a community's registration date must be verified.

Minimum Habitat Certification Points	Sliding Scale Based on Population Size
20	500 or Less
40	501-1,000
100	1,001-5000
150	5,001-10,000
175	10,001-15,000
200	15,001-20,000
225	20,001-25,000
250	25,001-50,000
300	50,001-100,000
400	100,001-300,000
500	300,001-500,000
750	500,001-1,000,000
1000	1,000,001 or More

Requirements – Education and Outreach Points

- Registration (40 points)
- Education (40 points)
- Outreach (50 points)
- Administration (20 points)



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Education and Outreach Requirements:

Registration Goals – 40 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Name your NWF Community Wildlife Habitat project	5
Identify your Team Leader & Habitat Team Members (typically 3-7 total) & Register as NWF Volunteers	5
Set up system for tracking progress (journal, google doc, etc.)	5
Establish project goals & vision for one, three and five years with a budget	5
Submit your community summary for the NWF website	5
Complete the Community Assessment Form	5
Attend NWF Welcome Webinar for New Communities	5
Create plan for keeping all Habitat Team Members in regular communication	5
One member of your Habitat Team becomes an NWF Habitat Steward or Habitat Host Volunteer (not avail in all areas) (up to 5)	5
Send out a press release for about your community registration	5
Hold a call with NWF's state affiliate in you state if they are active in this program (NWF can facilitate)	5
Meet, call or otherwise connect with another Community Wildlife Habitat in your area (NWF can facilitate)	5
Obtain letter of support from community government officials (mayor, county commission, HOA president)	10
Pass a proclamation announcing your community's registration at your city council meeting	10
Plan & organize a kick-off celebration	10

Outreach Goals – 50 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Improve your community's weed ordinances or other public policies to make them more wildlife-friendly	10
Work with municipal or other local park agencies to convert parkland to wildlife-friendly landscapes	10
Provide Garden for Wildlife information at a booth or table at a community event (up to 3 events)	5
Coordinate a stream cleanup, tree planting, invasive species removal, native plant rescue, native plant sale, trail clean-up, family nature event or other restoration event (up to 10 events)	10
Work with local nurseries to label and/or provide native plants	10
Each Habitat Team Member that serves on a community board or council related to environmental issues (up to 3)	5
Each presentation to an organization not yet associated with your project (up to 5)	5
Other Community Project (please discuss with NWF staff)	TBD

Education Goals – 40 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Create an information kiosk or permanent display at a public place (rec center, library, school) where the community can learn about the project (up to 3 kiosks / displays)	10
Create an NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat project brochure or fact sheet specific to your community	5
Create a website or web page where community members can learn about your project	10
Create and maintain a Facebook page or group or other social media site for your project	10
Write a regular column in your community newsletter or newspaper paper to about your project	10
Secure a feature article in the local media about your project (up to 3 feature articles)	10
Secure a radio or TV interview or PSA on your project	10
Host a workshop to educate community members about wildlife gardening (up to 5 workshops)	5
Create & distribute a native plant list for your community	5
Hold a garden tour that features certified habitats (up to 3 garden tours)	10
Create a demonstration garden at a public site with educational signs (up to 3 demonstration sites)	10
Launch a campaign to educate the community about an iconic plant or animal species for your community (i.e. - Baltimore's focus on the Oriole)	10
Recruit another community to register as an NWF Community Wildlife Habitat (up to 3)	5
Other Education Project (please discuss with NWF staff)	TBD

Administration Goals – 20 Points Required	
Activity	**Points**
Maintain and submit to NWF your online or paper project notebook / log	5
Identify the individuals that will make up the post-certification Habitat Team (typically 3-7 people)	5
Donate 5 wildlife, garden or other project-related photos to NWF	5
Per new volunteer registered with volunteer team (up to 10)	3
Per partner organization affiliated with your project (up to 5)	5
Each grant application submitted to support project (up to 3)	10
Participate in an NWF Community Wildlife Habitat conference call (up to 4)	5

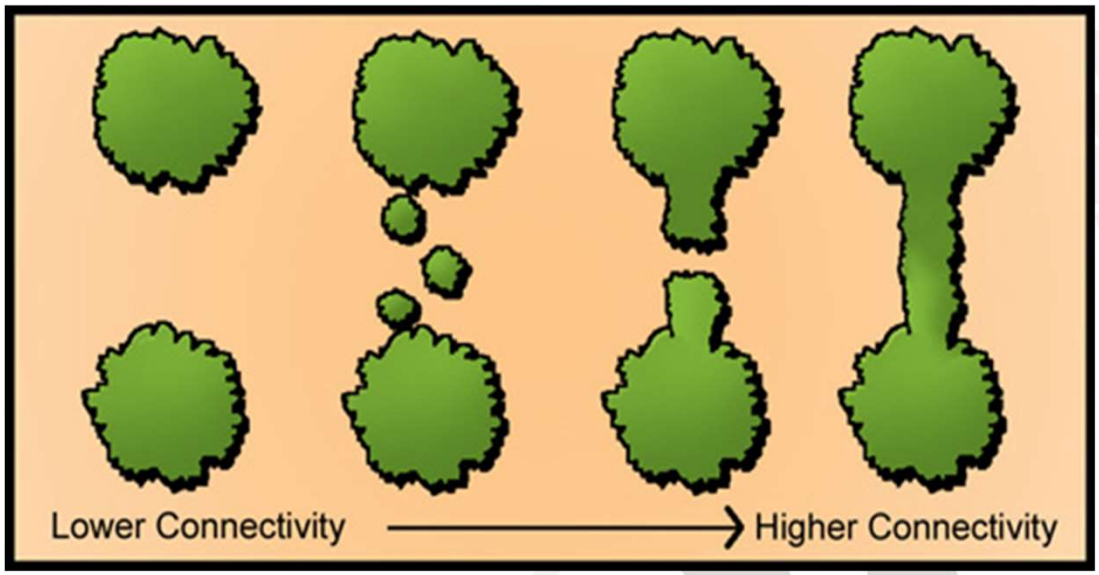
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Certified Community Wildlife Habitat

- 1) Cape Island
- 2) Montclair
- 3) High Bridge
- 4) Lambertville
- 5) Cherry Hill
- 6) Atlantic Highlands



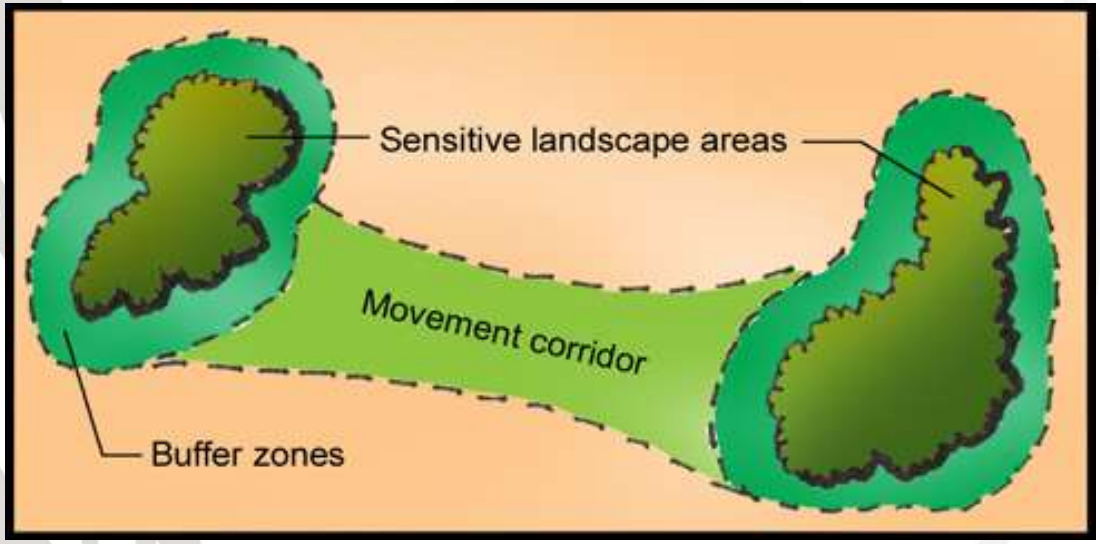
Registered	Communities	In	New Jersey
Collingswood	Ewing Twn	Hamilton	Island Heights
Mendham Twn & Boro	Monroe Twn	Morris County	Red Bank
Smoke Rise HOA	Stillwater Twn	Washington Twn	Washington Boro
West Windsor	Colts Neck	Raritan Twn	Howell Twn
Vineland	Allamuchy	Middletown Twn	Eatontown Twn
Hope Twn	Moorestown	Lenola -Moorestown	Cranbury
Riverside Twn	Mountain Lakes Boro	Warren County	



NEW JERSEY AUDUBON

Habitats Get More Fragmented

GOAL: Increase Habitat Connectivity in the Community



Benefits Abound

- Communities get to know their neighbors and local businesses
- Community involvement and pride increased
- Re-establishment of endangered Atala butterfly population in Broward County, FL
- Certification gave residents a distinctive increase in their quality of life in Ashburn, VA
- South Woodlawn, TN raised $32,750 in grant money to build an outdoor classroom at the middle school
- A fast growing community decided to certify to combat the negative effects of development in Nibley City, UT



Review:

- Food: 3
- Water: 1
- Cover: 2
- Places to Raise Young: 2
- Use Sustainable Practices
- 5 min, self-guided online application
- Cost friendly, one-time fee: $20
- Provide much needed resources for our struggling pollinators, songbirds, and other wildlife
- Can certify a community
- Support two non-profits
- Help us spread the word about Gardening for Wildlife




Questions?
garden@njaudubon.org
NJAudubon.org/garden