

Gardening with Wildlife, Welcome and Otherwise

Birds:

Birds adopt gardens that provide food, water, and shelter. To attract birds, plant trees and shrubs that have berries and small fruits. Let stand the seedheads of ornamental grasses and various flowers for fall and early winter. Provide a water basin/bird bath near a shrub, preferably a dense evergreen, where birds can check for predators before flying in. Plant, or keep, tall trees for perching and nesting: pines and hemlocks provide nesting materials as well. Finally, if you have space, allow milkweed and other wild plants useful to birds to develop in a bramble away from house traffic.

To deter birds: Our feathered friends are beautiful, lovable, inspiring, and useful in that they eat insects, some good and some bad. They also eat your berries and your flower and grass seeds. A mesh cover is almost the only way to protect berries. Remember when planting for birds that they drop seeds everywhere. Bears are eager for birdseed: if there are bears in your area, stocking a bird feeder may not be a good idea.

Hummingbirds:

Hummingbirds rely on sight, not scent, to locate their food. They are attracted by tubular, brightly colored flowers, and prefer single-petaled varieties to doubles. Like butterflies, hummingbirds require a continuous supply of nectar.

Bears, bees, and wasps love nectar, too: think twice before putting out sugared water.

Butterflies:

Ideal for a butterfly garden is the sun-warmed side of a south-facing fence, a wall, or a windbreak. Because this lovely thing is cold-blooded, it can fly only when warmed by the sun and in air that is 55 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. On sunless days and at night butterflies roost in deeply fissured bark, or a butterfly hotel: a wooden box with perches and an entrance big enough for a butterfly with folded wings to slide through, a slot about 1/4 inch wide by about 3 1/2 inches high. For basking, butterflies also need tall verticals that hold warmth—statuary, stones, standing logs. And a puddling place—a patch of damp sand or drying mud where male butterflies can gather and take up moisture and dissolved salts, which we believe are helpful for mating. The food for adult butterflies is the nectar in flowers. They are drawn to brightly colored flowers—purple, yellow, orange, and red. The caterpillars of most species need a specific host plant: *Peterson Field Guide to Eastern Butterflies* can tell you which. Learn to recognize the caterpillars of butterflies, and even many moths, so that you won't be tempted to eliminate them from the garden when you see them eating your plants.

Deer:

To attract Bambi and company, plant fruit trees. They relish apples and pears. They also adore hostas, daylilies, rhododendrons, and other large, succulent leaves, and roses, raspberries, impatiens—anything that doesn't have itsy bitsy leaves or flowers. Provide a salt lick and water in a secluded spot, and for winter put out bales of hay.

To deter these oversize white-tailed rats: Every commercial deterrent we have tried so far has succeeded only until the deer decided it wasn't a sign of danger. Wrapping evergreens with burlap in late fall and winter

works: for summer, use cayenne pepper. To protect a large property with a chain-link fence, you may be able to use a solution of crushed garlic, or predator urine. Lotions such as Avon's Skin So Soft may also work. Replace these scents

Rabbits, Woodchucks:

To attract these sweet critters, provide a path to let them feel safe.

Chicken wire fencing 4 to 6 feet tall as well as a fence enclosing your garden over

Good Plants for

Annuals, Perennials,

Anemophila breviflora
Beach Grass
Echinacea purpurea
Purple Coneflower
Echinops ritro, Globe

Trees, Shrubs, and Vines

Abies concolor, White Pine
Acer saccharum, Sugar Maple
Amelanchier arborea
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi
Buxus spp., Boxwood
Cedrus libani ssp. *atlantica*
Blue Atlas Cedar
Cercis canadensis, Redbud
Chamaecyparis obtusa
Dwarf Hinoki Cypress
Chionanthus virginicus
Cornus florida, Flowering Dogwood
Cotinus spp., Smoky Tree
Cotoneaster spp., Cotoneaster
Crataegus viridis, Hawthorn
× *Cupressocyparis leylandii*

works: for summer, use chicken wire—at a distance you won't see it. Or plant in small, fully enclosed spaces. To protect a large property, try high tensile fencing 9 to 10 feet high, or double fences 4 to 5 feet apart. If you can't fence, you may be able to discourage them this way: at places where they enter your garden, hang tubes of crushed garlic, or predator urine, chunks of Irish Spring soap, or human hair damp with strongly scented lotions such as Avon's Skin So Soft. Hang them at the height of the deer's nose, a different scent at each entry point. Replace these scents with new different ones every four to six weeks of the gardening season.

Rabbits, Woodchucks, and Other Rodents:

To attract these sweet critters, develop a wilderness bramble with fallen logs far enough from the beaten path to let them feel safe. Provide a source of water. Time and nature will do the rest.

Chicken wire fencing that starts 24 inches underground keeps out most rodents: for woodchucks, make it 4 to 6 feet tall as well and leave it loose and floppy, not stiff enough to climb. Keeping raccoons out too requires enclosing your garden overhead as well.

Good Plants for Birds

Annuals, Perennials, and Grasses:

Ammophila breviligata, American Beach Grass
Echinacea purpurea 'Magnus', Purple Coneflower
Echinops ritro, Globe Thistle

Helianthus annuus, Sunflower
Panicum virgatum, Switch Grass
Rudbeckia fulgida var. *sullivantii* 'Goldsturm', Black-Eyed Susan

Trees, Shrubs, and Vines:

Abies concolor, White Fir
Acer saccharum, Sugar Maple
Amelanchier arborea, Serviceberry
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, Bearberry
Buxus spp., Boxwood
Cedrus libani ssp. *atlantica* 'Glauca', Blue Atlas Cedar
Cercis canadensis, Eastern Redbud
Chamaecyparis obtusa 'Nana Gracilis', Dwarf Hinoki Falsecypress
Chionanthus virginicus, White Fringe Tree
Cornus florida, Flowering Dogwood
Cotinus spp., Smoke Tree
Cotoneaster spp., Cotoneaster
Crataegus viridis, Hawthorn
× *Cupressocyparis leylandii*, Leyland Cypress

Euonymus alatus 'Compactus', Dwarf Burning Bush
Fagus grandifolia, American Beech
Juniperus spp., Juniper
Liquidambar styraciflua, Sweet Gum
Liriodendron tulipifera, Tuliptree
Lonicera × *heckrottii*, Goldflame Honeysuckle
Malus spp. and hybrids, Flowering Crabapple
Nyssa sylvatica, Sour Gum
Oxydendrum arboreum, Sourwood
Parthenocissus quinquefolia, Virginia Creeper
Picea pungens 'Glauca', Colorado Blue Spruce
Pinus strobus, Eastern White Pine
Prunus spp., Flowering Cherry
Pseudotsuga menziesii, Douglas Fir
Pyracantha coccinea, Firethorn

Pyrus calleryana, Callery Pear
Quercus spp., Oak
Rosa spp. and hybrids, Rose
Sciadopitys verticillata, Umbrella Pine
Spiraea spp., Spirea

Good Plants for Hummingbirds

Annuals, Perennials, and Bulbs

Ageratum houstonianum, Ageratum
Ajuga spp., Bugleweed
Alcea ficifolia, Hollyhock
Allium spp., Flowering Onion
Antirrhinum majus, Snapdragon
Aquilegia spp., Columbine
Asclepias tuberosa, Butterfly Weed
Begonia grandis, Hardy Begonia
Chelone spp., Turtlehead
Crocsmia spp., Crocsmia
Dahlia spp. and hybrids, Dahlia
Delphinium spp., Larkspur
Dianthus spp., Pinks
Digitalis spp., Foxglove
Heuchera spp. and hybrids, Coral Bells
Hibiscus moscheutos, Marsh Rose Mallow
Hosta spp. and hybrids, Hosta
Impatiens walleriana, Impatiens
Kniphofia spp., Red Hot Poker

Trees, Shrubs, and Vines:

Buddleja davidii, Butterfly Bush
Campsis radicans, Trumpet Vine
Caryopteris × clandonensis, Blue Spirea
Chaenomeles speciosa, Flowering Quince
Daphne × burkwoodii 'Carol Mackie', Daphne
Hibiscus syriacus, Rose-of-Sharon

Stewartia pseudocamellia, Japanese Stewartia
Taxus × media, Yew
Thuja occidentalis, Arborvitae
Tsuga canadensis, Canadian Hemlock

Lavandula angustifolia, Lavender
Lilium spp., Lily
Lobelia cardinalis, Cardinal Flower
Lobularia maritima, Sweet Alyssum
Mentha spicata, Mint
Monarda didyma, Bee Balm
Nepeta faassennii, Catmint
Pelargonium spp. and hybrids, Geranium
Penstemon digitalis, Beardtongue
Petunia × hybrida, Petunia
Phlox paniculata, Phlox
Rosmarinus officinalis, Rosemary
Rudbeckia spp., Black-Eyed Susan
Salvia spp., Salvia and Sage
Scabiosa spp., Pincushion Flower
Tropaeolum majus, Nasturtium
Verbena spp., Verbena
Zinnia elegans, Zinnia

Lonicera × heckrottii, Goldflame Honeysuckle
Sophora japonica, Japanese Pagoda Tree
Stewartia pseudocamellia, Japanese Stewartia
Syringa vulgaris, Lilac
Wisteria floribunda, Japanese Wisteria

Good Plants for

(Including plants for b

Achillea millefolium
Agastache spp., An
Alcea spp., Holly
Allium spp., Orn
Alyssum saxatile, A
Aquilegia spp., Co
Aristolochia spp.,
Anabis spp., Rock
Armeria maritima
Asclepias tuberosa,
Asimina triloba, F
Aster spp., Aster
Astilbe spp., Astill
Boltonia asteroides
Buddleja davidii,
Caryopteris × cland
Centaurea spp., B
Centranthus ruber
Ceratostigma plun
Chelone spp., Tur
Coreopsis spp., Ti
Crocsmia spp., C
Delphinium spp.,
Dendranthema sp
Dianthus spp., Pi
Echinacea purpur
Echinops ritro, Gl
Eryngium spp., Se
Eupatorium spp.,
Joe Pye Weed
Filipendula rubra
Foeniculum vulga
Gaillardia spp., I
Helenium autum

Good Plants for Butterflies

(Including plants for butterfly larvae, or caterpillars)

- Achillea millefolium*, Yarrow
Agastache spp., Anise Hyssop
Alcea spp., Hollyhock
Allium spp., Ornamental Onion
Alyssum saxatile, Alyssum
Aquilegia spp., Columbine
Aristolochia spp., Dutchman's Pipe
Anabis spp., Rockcress
Armeria maritima, Sea Thrift
Asclepias tuberosa, Butterfly Weed
Asimina triloba, Paw Paw
Aster spp., Aster
Astilbe spp., Astilbe
Boltonia asteroides, Boltonia
Buddleja davidii, Butterfly Bush
Caryopteris × *clandonensis*, Blue Spirea
Centaurea spp., Bachelor's Buttons
Centranthus ruber, Jupiter's Beard
Ceratostigma plumbaginoides, Leadwort
Chelone spp., Turtlehead
Coreopsis spp., Tickseed
Crocosmia spp., Crocosmia
Delphinium spp., Larkspur
Dendranthema spp., Chrysanthemum, Daisy
Dianthus spp., Pinks
Echinacea purpurea, Purple Coneflower
Echinops ritro, Globe Thistle
Eryngium spp., Sea Holly
Eupatorium spp., Perennial Ageratum,
Joe Pye Weed, White Snake Root
Filipendula rubra, Meadowsweet
Foeniculum vulgare, Fennel
Gaillardia spp., Indian Blanket
Helenium autumnale, Sneezeweed
Helianthus spp., Sunflower
Heliopsis helianthoides, Heliopsis
Hemerocallis spp., Daylily
Iberis spp., Candytuft
Iris pseudacorus, Yellow Flag
Kniphofia uvaria, Red Hot Poker
Lavandula angustifolia, Lavender
Liatris spicata, Blazing-Star
Lilium spp., Lily
Lindera benzoin, Spicebush
Lobelia spp., Cardinal Flower, Blue Lobelia
Monarda didyma, Bee Balm
Nepeta faassenii, Catmint
Origanum spp., Oregano
Passiflora spp., Passion Vine
Petroselinum crispum, Parsley
Petunia × *hybrida*, Petunia
Phlox spp., Phlox
Physostegia virginiana, Obedient Plant
Primula spp., Primrose
Rosmarinus officinalis, Rosemary
Rudbeckia spp., Black-Eyed Susan
Ruta graveolens, Rue
Salvia spp., Salvia, Sage
Scabiosa spp., Pincushion Flower
Sedum spp., Stonecrop
Skimmia japonica, Skimmia
Solidago spp., Goldenrod
Spinea japonica, Spirea
Stokesia laevis, Stokes' Aster
Vernonia noveboracensis, Ironweed
Verbena spp., Verbena
Veronica spp., Speedwell
Zinnia elegans, Zinnia