

GARDENING TO ATTRACT BIRDS

FOOD, WATER AND SHELTER

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Information prepared by:

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EASY RECIPES FOR FEEDING BIRDS

Hummingbird Nectar

- ½ cup white sugar
- 2 cups boiling water

Boil water to sterilize, mix in white sugar. Cool. Fill feeder ¼ full. Store remainder in the refrigerator. Hang the feeder out of the direct sun and change the nectar every few days.

Clean the feeder with hot water and a small amount of vinegar and rinse well.

Honey should never be used in place of the sugar as it promotes the growth of a fungus that is harmful to birds.

Homemade Bird Pudding

- 1 pound of lard or Crisco or suet
- 1 cup or more of quick-cooking oats
- 1 cups of chunky peanut butter
- ½ cup cornmeal or millet (optional)

Mix all of the above ingredients. If using suet, melt the suet first and then add the other ingredients. Fill feeder holes or plastic trays for the feeders. Suet mix should be kept in the refrigerator. Lard and Crisco mixes may be kept at room temperature in a tightly closed container.

No Mess Birdseed Mix

- 1 part sunflower seed chips
- 2 parts cracked corn (fine scratch feed)
- 1 part peanut bits
- 1 part mixed millets or whole black-oil sunflower seed can be added for a bit of a mess

NATIVE PLANTS IN YOUR LANDSCAPE

NATIVE PLANT AND SEED SOURCES

The following information is provided by the Kitsap Master Gardener Foundation.

Kitsap Conservation District, 817 Sidney Ave., Port Orchard, WA, 98366. 360-876-7171. Tree Sale is held in March. Orders must be in by late January. Northwest natives include; trees, shrubs, ferns, ground covers, and wetland plants.

Jefferson County Conservation District, 205 West Patison St., Port Hadlock, WA 98339. 360-385-4105. Tree and Shrub Sale is held in late February. Orders must be in by early February. Material is mostly northwest natives.

Metro Parks Tacoma, Nature Center at Snake Lake, 1919 South Tyler St. Tacoma, WA 98405, 425-591-6439. Native Plant Sale is held in early October. Orders must be in by early September.

Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington, 3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle, WA 98195-4115. 206-543-0415. Programs, seminars and plant sales.

Washington Native Plant Society. PO Box 28690, Seattle, WA 98118-8690. Olympic Peninsula Chapter meets in Port Hadlock, Jefferson County.

Information prepared by:
Fay I. Linger, Kitsap County MG
January 1999

REFERENCES

The following references are only a few of the books available on the identification, propagation and cultural requirements of Northwest native plants.

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LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE PLANTS FOR WILDLIFE HABITAT

*Presented by Clayton U. Antiau
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WSU Cooperative Extension Jefferson County*

In support of Jefferson Land Trust's North Quimper Wildlife Corridor Project

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WHAT WILDLIFE??

Wildlife includes bears, birds (raptors, scavengers, songbirds, and hummingbirds), mammals (foxes, rabbits, bobcats, raccoons, and squirrels), ungulates (deer and elk), but also includes animals such as insects (particularly bees, beetles, butterflies, and –wasps and hornets)—and worms and other soil beasts!!!

WHY SHARE??

We benefit from sharing our habitat with wildlife, in the areas of: 1) beauty; 2) quality of life; 3) learning; and 4) moral obligation.

WHAT IS HABITAT??

Wildlife is attracted to a place such as your gardens and property by the presence of suitable habitat. Habitat is that place or places where a plant or animal usually lives and reproduces—at least for a portion of its life (in the case of some animals). Habitat is composed of numerous physical characteristics of the environment that provide for the basic life needs of a particular organism. Most wildlife species have basic needs for food (seeds, berries, leaves, organic matter [detritus], nuts, nectar, insects, algae), water (ponds, puddles, baths, streams, wetlands), shelter or cover (thermal, escape, nesting, roosting, hunting—in the form of brush piles, trees, shrubs, rock walls, hollow logs, standing dead logs, wildlife houses), and space (corridors, territories, quite space, open space).

HOW CAN I, A LOWLY HUMAN, CREATE HABITAT??

To build a habitat, begin by understanding some basic ecological principles:

- Diversity:* Plant species diversity: many types of flowers, fruits, fruiting and flowering times.
Habitat diversity: shrub areas, meadows, forests, conifers versus deciduous trees, wet areas or water features
- Edges:* Where two vegetation types meet. Curvilinear edges, not straight edges.
- Layering:* Groundcover, shrub layer, understory (low tree layer), overstory (high tree layer).
- Native Plant:* Plants that were native to an area prior to approximately 1850, and which grow and reproduce without the aid of humans.

WHY NATIVES??

1. Native animals cue on native plants (UW research)
2. The habitats “look” natural, from a PNW point of view: a sense of place
3. Native plants are drought tolerant—closely matched to local soil and climate. Typically, they don’t need spraying, irrigation, or pruning.

WHERE TO START? SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK!

1. Where does the human usage concentrate in your garden? Wildlife usage? Can areas be shared? Screened?
2. What wildlife habitat features already exist, or are absent, in your garden? Snags? Food? Lawn? (NOT!) Shrub thickets? Diversity?
3. Is water present?
4. How can you benefit directly from increased wildlife usage?
5. Are “unfriendly” animals present? Starlings, house sparrows, cats, dogs?
6. How are your neighbors doing with respect to wildlife habitat?

WHAT NATIVE PLANTS ARE USEFUL FOR CREATING WILDLIFE HABITAT ON THE QUIMPER PENINSULA??

UPLAND FOREST (DECIDUOUS, CONIFER, OR MIXED)

Overstory

grand fir (*Abies grandis*)
Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*)
bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)
red alder (*Alnus rubra*)
western bitter cherry (*Prunus emarginata*)

Tree Understory

vine maple (*Acer circinatum*)
western hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*)
Pacific yew (*Taxus brevifolia*)

Shrub Layer

serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*)
salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)
oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)
low Oregon holly-grape (*Mahonia nervosa*)
Indian-plum (*Oemleria cerasiformis*)
Pacific rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*)
thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*)
red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*)
snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*)
evergreen huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*)

Ground Cover

deerfern (*Blechnum spicant*)
false lily-of-the-valley (*Maianthemum dilatatum*)
western sword fern (*Polystichum minus*)
fringe-cup (*Tellima grandiflora*)
piggyback plant (*Tolmeia menziesii*)

GRASSLAND/MEADOW

tufted hairgrass (*Deschmopsia cespitosa*)
Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*)
red fescue (*Festuca rubra*)
yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)
camas (*Camassia leichtlinii*)
fireweed (*Epilobium angustifolium*)
goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)

WETLAND/RIPARAN (STEAMSIDE)

Trees

Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*)
Oregon crabapple (*Malus fusca*)
shore pine (*Pinus contorta*)
willow (*Salix spp.*)
western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*)

Shrubs

redtwig dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)
black twinberry (*Lonicera involucrate*)
Nootka rose (*Rosa nutkana*)
salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*)

Herbaceous Perennials

sedges (*Carex ssp.*) and rushes (*Juncus spp.*)
coltsfoot (*Petasites frigidus*)
burreeds (*Sparganium spp.*)
cattail (*Typha latifolia*)

BUTTERFLY GARDENS

vine maple (*Acer circinatum*)
salal (*Gaultheria shallon*)
low Oregon holly-grape (*Mahonia nervosa*)
mock-orange (*Philadelphus lewisii*)
self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*)
goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*)

HUMMINGBIRD GARDENS

columbine (*Aquilegia formosa*)
delphinium and larkspur (*Delphinium spp.*)
wild strawberry (*Fragaria chiloensis*; *F. vesca*; *F. virginiana*)
lupine (*Lupinus spp.*)
penstemon (*Penstemon spp.*)
red-flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*)