



GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE



melindamyers.com

CREATE THE HABITAT

FOOD, WATER, SHELTER, PLACE TO RAISE THEIR YOUNG

DESIGN THE HABITAT NEEDED BY WILDLIFE YOU'RE TRYING TO ATTRACT

- Birds
- Butterflies
- Beneficial Insects
- Toads and Frogs
- Small Mammals

FOOD FOR YOUNG AND OLD

FRUITS & BERRIES - Songbirds, Small Mammals

- SERVICEBERRY (*Amelanchier*)
- CHOKEBERRY (*Aronia*)
- SPICEBUSH (*Lindera benzoin*)
- VIRBURNUM (*Viburnum*)
- ELDERBERRY (*Sambucus*)
- DOGWOOD (*Cornus*)

GRAINS & SEEDS - Birds, Mammals

- BUTTONBUSH (*Cephalanthus*)
- RUDBECKIA (*Rudbeckia*)
- CONEFLOWER (*Echinacea*)
- SUNFLOWER (*Helianthus*)
- NATIVE GRASSES
- MORE...

NUTS & ACORNS - Birds, Mammals

More than 100 U.S. Vertebrate species eat acorns

- OAK (*Quercus*)
- BEECH (*Fagus*)
- HAZELNUT (*Corylus*)

NECTAR SOURCES

Bees, Beneficial Insects, Hummingbirds

- COLUMBINE (*Aquilegia*)
- AGASTACHE (*Agastache*)
- MILKWEED (*Asclepias*)
- GOLDENROD (*Solidago*)

WOODY PLANT FOLIAGE, GRASSES, LEGUMES

Host Plants, Insects

- LITTLE BLUESTEM (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)
- SWITCHGRASS (*Panicum*)
- PRAIRIE DROPSEED (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)

AQUATIC PLANTS - Waterfowl, Insects

- WHITE WATER LILY (*Nymphaea odorata*)
- PICKEREL WEED (*Pontederia cordata*)
- ARROWHEAD (*Sagittaria latifolia*)

INSECTS, SLUGS, WORMS

Protein source for birds, bats, amphibians and other insects

ROTTEN FRUIT - Butterflies, bees, beetles

RODENTS - Hawks, Owls

SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD

- Draw them into the garden
- Increase diversity of visitors
- Provide nearby cover and safe route to feeders
- Always check local regulations
- Bird Feeding Tips

Summit Responsible Solutions

Protecting you, and the environment we live in.

Summit Mosquito Dunks® and Mosquito Bits® are America's favorite biological mosquito controls because they kill mosquitoes before they become biting, disease-spreading adults. The active ingredient is *Bti* (*Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*), a bacterium that's deadly to mosquito larvae but harmless to other living things.

Summit Mosquito Bits® can also be used to control fungus gnats on indoor plants.

Summit® Year-Round® Spray Oil is an organic, environmentally responsible way to kill insect pests on even the most sensitive plants. Summit® Year-Round® Spray Oil has no bad odor, and it can be used on garden plants and fruit trees right up to the day of harvest. Use it to kill insects on indoor and outdoor plants.

Learn More



WATER

ALL WILDLIFE

DRINKING

BATHING - Birds

- Remove dirt and parasites from feathers
- Cooling
- Offset discomfort of new feather growth
- Pond, bird baths and water features
- Shallow with sloping sides for easy access

BIRD BATHS

- Sloping side
- No more than 3" deep
- 3' above ground to avoid predators
- Year round

IN GROUND - PONDS

- Various levels / depths

MANAGING MOSQUITOES

- Fish eat mosquito larvae
- Moving water deters mosquito breeding
- Summit Mosquito Dunks®
 - Organic product that kills mosquito larvae, but safe for wildlife

PUDDLES, DAMP SPOT, DAMP SPONGE

Bees, Butterflies

- Add a pinch of wood ash or sea salt

LOCATION

- Near shelter and safe travel route

ALL OR PORTION OF THEIR LIFE IN WATER

Toads, Frogs, Salamanders

HOME FOR SHELTER & RAISING YOUNG

Protect from adverse weather and predators

For nesting and raising young

Places to rest and sleep

PROVIDE SHELTER WITH:

- Plants
- Dead Trees and Snags - no hazards
- Cavities and Burrows
- Rock Piles
- Leaves
- Bare Soil for Ground Bees
- Abandoned Rodent Holes for Bumblebees
- Brush Piles
- Bird Houses and Nest Boxes
- Bee House
- Bumblebee House
- Toad Abode

SPACE

Evaluate space and territorial needs to help determine what wildlife your landscape can support

DESIGN STRATEGIES

MINIMIZE THE AMOUNT OF EDGE HABITAT

- This is where one type of habitat meets another
- Allows us to support wildlife while reducing the risk of damage

CREATE CIRCULAR OR SQUARE GARDEN BEDS

- More interior space and less border space



About Melinda

Nationally known gardening expert, TV/ radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has over 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, including Can't Miss Small Space Gardening, the Midwest Gardener's Handbook, and Jackson and Perkins' Beautiful Roses Made Easy. She hosts the nationally-syndicated "Melinda's Garden Moment" program airing on over 115 TV and radio stations throughout the U.S. Melinda also hosts the internationally distributed Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series, including the latest Food Gardening for Everyone DVD set. She is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine, writes the twice monthly "Gardeners' Questions" newspaper column and a nationally-distributed gardening column. She appears regularly as a guest expert on national and local television and radio shows.

Visit Melinda's website,
melindamyers.com

AVOID LONG, LINEAR BEDS

- More edges and less interior space
- Provides easier access for animals to dine

WORK WITH NATURE AND YOUR COMMUNITY

- Create large blocks and corridors of habitat
- Plant wildlife food other than your gardens
- Help us coexist

LOOK TO NATURE

SELECT PLANTINGS FOR FUNCTION, NOT JUST BEAUTY

- Provide food, shelter and nesting sites
- Shade and windbreaks

DIVERSITY

- Plant a variety of plant species to attract various wildlife
 - Reduces risk of a disease or insect causing major damage to landscape
 - Flowers that bloom at different times
 - ◆ Season long supply of nectar and pollen
 - ◆ Day and night bloomers for various pollinators
 - Various colors and flower shapes
 - Single flowers better than doubles
 - Fruit, berry and seed producing plants
 - ◆ Provide food throughout the year
- Structural diversity
 - Various plant shapes and sizes
 - Dead plants
 - Structures
 - ◆ Nesting boxes
 - ◆ Bird houses...

INCLUDE NATIVE PLANTS WHENEVER POSSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE

- Evolved with native pollinators, beneficial insects, birds and other wildlife

PLANT IN MASS

- Large clusters of plants
- Prairies and meadows
- Hedgerows and thickets
 - Mixed plants
 - ◆ Shrubs
 - ◆ Small trees
 - ◆ Herbaceous
 - ◆ Vines - tangles
- These provide
 - Continuous cover
 - Habitat and safe travel for a variety of wildlife
 - Efficient pollination
- Even a window box will help
- Join forces with your neighbors

INCLUDE MULTIPLE LAYERS (VERTICAL DIVERSITY)

- Trees, shrubs, herbaceous plants, ground layer
 - Provides habitat for a variety of wildlife
 - Plant in clusters or individual plants
 - Limit pruning
 - ◆ Maintain natural form
 - * Less work for you
 - * Denser growth from ground up
 - Better shelter
- Include evergreens
 - Year round shelter
- Deciduous
 - More food value
 - Host for many insects

UPCOMING APPEARANCES & WEBINARS

Check often as more appearances and webinars continue to be added.

January 29th

Washington County Builders Association Home Building & Remodeling EXPO
Food Gardening Success

February 2nd Webinar

Small Space Gardening

February 11th - 13th

PBS Wisconsin Garden & Landscape EXPO
More Information

February 18th - 20th

NARI Milwaukee Spring Home Improvement Show
More Information

February 23rd Webinar

Dahlias - Proven Performers!

Register Today for the Webinars!

- Use shrubs and perennials as fillers
 - Place holders for new plantings
 - Additional habitat and food
- Leave non-hazardous dead and dying trees in landscape
 - Cavity nesters
 - Branches and logs on the ground provide home for small mammals

CHANGE OF HABITS

HEALTHY PLANTS

- Right plant for growing conditions
- Healthy soil foundation

AVOID PESTICIDES

- Tolerate damage
- Wait for nature to intercede
- If intervention is needed, use wildlife-friendly products and spot treat with organics like Summit Year-Round Spray Oil and Mosquito Dunks

LEAVE PERENNIALS STAND FOR WINTER

- Increases plant hardiness
- Provides habitat
- Provides food
- Winter interest

LEAVE LEAF LITTER IN PLACE

CONSIDER WILDLIFE WHEN ADDING NIGHT LIGHTING

- Lighting Resources
- Avoid bright lights that can disrupt natural rhythms of migratory birds and nocturnal creatures
- Opt for subdued downward facing lights

- Avoid flood lights
- Use motion detectors where bright light is needed for safety
- Look for wildlife certified lighting

DETERRING UNWANTED WILDLIFE

- A healthy habitat attracts predators like hawks, owls and foxes
- Don't feed them intentionally
- Don't leave pet food and trash outside in unsecured containers
- Add predator guards to bird boxes and feeders
- Critter proof your house to keep them outside
- Compost in elevated rodent proof containers
- Protect gardens from grazing deer, rabbits, woodchucks...
 - Grow plants less favored by deer and rabbits
 - ◆ Feeding habits can vary from year to year
 - ◆ If hungry and populations are high, they will eat anything
 - Fencing
 - Scare tactics
 - Repellents like rain resistant Plantskydd
 - ◆ Start applying before the feeding begins
 - ◆ Repeat as needed

DOING MORE

- Become a Citizen Scientist and help monitor wildlife populations
- Certify your backyard as wildlife friendly
- Take the Million Pollinator Garden Challenge



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FREE
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a seasonal prize!***

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Habitat Management Guidelines for Amphibians and Reptiles of the Midwestern States, Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
- [The Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#)
- [Audubon Society](#)
- [Xerces Society](#)
- [Monarch Watch](#)
- [Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center](#)
- [National Wildlife Federation](#)
- [USDA National Resources Conservation Service](#)
- *Attracting Birds, Butterflies & Other Winged Wonders to Your Backyard*, by Kris Wetherbee





Thank You to Summit for Sponsoring this Webinar

[LEARN MORE](#)

Melinda's Garden Moment AUDIO TIPS

Melinda's Garden Moment VIDEO TIPS

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLISTS & MORE

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER TO GET TIMELY GARDENING TIPS AND A CHANCE TO WIN



melindamyers.com



THE GREAT COURSES "How to Grow Anything"

DVD SERIES

Food Gardening for Everyone

Make Your Trees and Shrubs Thrive

Your Best Garden and Landscape

Container Tips and Techniques

BOOKS

Midwest Gardener's Handbook

Small Space Gardening

Midwest Lawn Guides

Minnesota & Wisconsin Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Minnesota & Wisconsin

Michigan Getting Started Garden Guide

Month-by-Month Gardening in Michigan

Month-by-Month Gardening in Iowa



Birds & Blooms Magazine

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