

# Application for Certification

Take heart, you needn't be a zoologist or a botanist to fill out this application. Do your best to answer the questions about your habitat, and if there are problems, we'll get back to you with some suggestions. If your habitat meets our requirements, we'll send you a beautiful personalized certificate suitable for framing. For questions on how to complete this form, please call 1-800-822-9919. To certify your habitat online, go to [www.nwf.org/bwh](http://www.nwf.org/bwh).



Have you ever been certified before?  Yes  No If yes, what is your habitat # \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, have you moved  or is this for a second property ?

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) to Appear on Certificate (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_  
Maximum 30 characters, spaces included.

Address of Habitat \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

## In what type of area is your property?

Urban  Suburban  Rural

## What is the size of your property?

0-1/8 acre  1/8-1/4 acre

1/4-1/2 acre  1/2-1 acre

1-5 acres  over 5 acres

## Check the option that best describes your habitat.

Backyard  Apartment/Rooftop Garden

Workplace  Community Garden/Park

Farm  Place of Worship

If you are certifying a school, you must use a different application. To obtain this application or for more information about the Schoolyard Habitats® program, please visit us at <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyardhabitats> or call 1-800-822-9919.

## WILDLIFE: Please check the types of wildlife that your habitat supports.

Insects/invertebrates  Fish

Amphibians  Reptiles

Mammals  Birds

**FOOD:** Plants are the best food source for wildlife. Feeders can be used as a supplemental source of food. Remember that some creatures will become food for others in a balanced habitat. Encourage a natural diversity of wildlife in your yard to ensure a healthy ecosystem. How do you provide food for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 3)

Plant Foods:  Seeds  Nuts  
 Berries  Fruits  
 Nectar  Sap  
 Foliage/Twigs  Pollen

Feeder Types:  Tube  Platform  
 Suet  Hummingbird  
 Squirrel  Butterfly

**WATER:** Wildlife need a clean water source for drinking and bathing. How do you provide water for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 1)

Birdbath  Water Garden/Pond  
 Lakefront  Riverfront  Stream  
 Puddling Area  Seasonal Pond  
 Wetland  Coastal  Spring

(Continued on other side)

**COVER:** Wildlife need places to find shelter from the weather and from predators. How do you provide cover for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 2)

- Wooded Area     Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- Bramble Patch     Evergreens
- Ground Cover     Brush Pile
- Log Pile     Rock Pile/Wall     Caves
- Meadow/Prairie     Roosting Box
- Water Garden/Pond     Burrows

**PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG:** In order to provide complete habitat, you must provide places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior and to mate, and then to bear and raise their young. How do you provide places to raise young for wildlife? (Minimum requirement: 2)

- Mature Trees     Dead Trees/Snags
- Meadow/Prairie     Dense Shrubs/Thicket
- Nesting Box     Water Garden/Pond
- Wetland     Burrows     Caves
- Host Plants for Caterpillars to Live on

**PLANT LIST:** Plant communities form the foundation of habitat for all wildlife. Plants that are native to your region are best. Please check the plant types that grow in your habitat. You may also list as many species as you can identify in the space provided or attach a list to this application.

- Evergreen trees     Deciduous trees
- Evergreen shrubs     Deciduous shrubs
- Vines     Grasses and grass-like plants
- Cacti/succulents     Aquatic plants
- Wildflowers     Ferns     Other

Plant Species: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**SUSTAINABLE GARDENING PRACTICES:** How you manage your garden or landscape can have an effect on the health of the soil, air, water and habitat for native wildlife – as well as the human community. What sustainable gardening techniques do you employ to help conserve resources? (Minimum requirement: 2)

*Water Conservation:*

- Vegetative Buffer Zone Around Water Feature
- Rain Garden
- Capture Rain Water from Roof
- Xeriscape
- Drip or Soaker Hose for Irrigation
- Reducing Lawn Areas
- Reducing Erosion
- Eliminating Chemical Pesticides
- Eliminating Chemical Fertilizers
- Mulching

*Soil Conservation:*

- Mulching     Reducing Erosion
- Composting
- Eliminating Chemical Pesticides
- Eliminating Chemical Fertilizers

*Controlling Exotic Species:*

- Monitor Nesting Boxes
- Keeping Your Cat Indoors
- Removing Invasive Plants
- Restoring Native Plants
- Reducing Lawn Areas

*Organic Practices:*

- Eliminating Chemical Pesticides
- Eliminating Chemical Fertilizers
- Encouraging Pest Predators
- Composting

To apply, please send:     Completed application - **REQUIRED**  
                                        \$15 non-refundable application fee - **REQUIRED**  
                                        Photos, sketches or other attachments - **OPTIONAL\***

TO: NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION® • P.O. Box 1583 • Merrifield, VA 22116-1583

Allow 4-6 weeks for processing. Please keep a copy of this application for your records.

\* Although not required, you are encouraged to send us a simple sketch and/or photos (limit 5) of your habitat. Please include your name and address on the back of each sketch or photo. Photos and sketches will not be returned.

