

The Wildlife Garden Project

Mini Guide to Wildlife Gardening

Whatever the size of your garden, there are plenty of ways that you can attract and help wildlife. Planting wildlife friendly plants, shrubs and trees is one of the best ways to provide food, shelter and breeding spots for a whole host of creatures. There are quick ways to make your wildlife friendly too. In just one afternoon, you could make your garden more wildlife friendly by putting out bird feeders and water and by creating log and leaf piles in shady corners.



An easy way to make your garden more wildlife friendly is to let an area of your lawn grow. Lots of plants traditionally considered weeds, like dandelions and nettles, are actually great for wildlife. You'll soon notice how many bees and butterflies 'weeds' can attract if given the chance. Lots of creatures, like hedgehogs, amphibians and invertebrates, love leaf piles to hide and shelter in. So by being less tidy, you'll be providing vital habitat with very little effort!

Install bee and bug hotels, bird boxes and bat boxes and provide hedgehogs with a feeding station stocked with meaty cat food and fresh water. Create 15cm gaps in fences to give hedgehogs access, and ask your neighbours to do the same. Look after visitors to your garden by avoiding pesticides and keeping bird feeders and water bowls clean. A compost heap is a lovely warm habitat for slow worms and grass snakes. Keep an eye out for foxes, particularly if you live in a city, they love kitchen scraps!



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