

Landscape Components You Can Add

⦿ **BUTTERFLY GARDEN** –Butterfly gardens are made up of flowers that are especially attractive to butterflies and caterpillars. If you want to attract a specific butterfly, you may need to include certain plants that it requires as a host plant (Monarchs need milkweed).



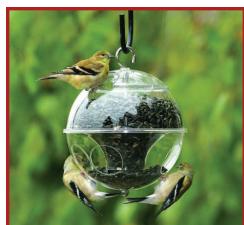
⦿ **FROG PONDS**– A great way to add a water source to your landscape is with a frog pond. Small and easy to maintain, frog ponds will attract more than just frogs! Introduce some aquatic plants and a small waterfall or rock fountain and you will have a feature that's appealing to the eye and to wildlife.

⦿ **NATIVE PRAIRIE GARDEN**– These gardens are designed to replicate the natural prairies in our area. They are adapted to our climate and don't require much maintenance once they are established. They provide ground nesting cover for birds and small mammals. Strong prairie grass holds up even under heavy snow, providing valuable shelter in the winter.



⦿ **ROCK/BRUSH PILES**– These landscape features are a great element to incorporate into your gardens or in a corner of your property. While adding another interesting landscape component into your yard, they also provide great escape cover and den sites for rabbits, chipmunks, toads and many other animals.

⦿ **BIRDBATHS**– Birdbaths are a great way to introduce water to your landscape. The key to making them attractive to birds is making sure they stay full and clean.



⦿ **FEEDERS**- Providing food in addition to what is produced by your trees, shrubs and flowers ensures you will have a variety of wildlife visiting your yard. Seed and suet feeders are great for songbirds and can provide an important food source in the winter. Nectar feeders will attract hummingbirds and orioles. You can also spread seeds or corn on the ground for squirrels.

⦿ **HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN**– Ruby-throated hummingbirds prefer red tubular flowers. Choose flowers that bloom in spring and others in fall so you have hummingbirds all year.

Where to Buy Local Native Plants

⦿ *Landscape Alternatives*

25316 St. Croix Trail (Hwy 95) Schafer, MN

651-257-4460 <http://www.landscapealternatives.com>

⦿ *Sunrise Native Plants*

Almelund, MN

651-257-4414 <http://www.sunrisenativeplants.com/>

⦿ *Dragonfly Gardens*

491 State Highway 46 Amery, WI

715-268-7660 <http://www.dragonflygardens.net>

⦿ *Prairie Restorations*

Scandia 651-433-1436

Princeton 763-389-4342

<http://www.prairieresto.com>

⦿ *MN Native Landscapes*

14088 Highway 95 NE Foley, MN

320-968-4222

<http://www.mnnativelandscapes.com>

⦿ *Hayland Woods Nursery* (Specializes in shade & wetland plants)

6549 Keystone Rd Milaca, MN

320-983-6354

Additional Information

For more information on native plants, visit these resources:

<http://mdc.mo.gov/nathis/backyard/backwild/>

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/components/DG6711e.html>

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/gardens/butterfly/index.html>

<http://www.minnesotabirds.com/gardening.php>

Chisago SWCD Brochure Series



⦿ LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE ⦿

Attracting nature to your yard



Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District
38814 Third Avenue
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Bringing Conservation to Chisago County

Creating Backyard Habitat For Wildlife

Adding wildlife habitat to your yard relieves some of the pressure put on wildlife by urban development. Including different habitat components will help to attract a variety of animals such as butterflies, deer, birds and frogs. The habitat in your yard increases the connectivity to other habitats in the area.



Key Habitat Components

Food. Every species has different food requirements. Animal food preferences often change with age and with the seasons. Including flowers, grasses and trees that provide fruits, seeds, nectar, nuts and fiber will help to provide a year-round source of food for a variety of wildlife.

Water. All animals depend on water for survival. That's why lakes, ponds, streams and wetlands are so important to our environment. You can provide anything from a simple bird bath to a large pond. Even a small aquatic garden can have an immense value to the frogs and insects that depend heavily on available water sources. The sound of flowing water is particularly effective at attracting wildlife.

Shelter. Shelter is especially important when animals are raising their young or asleep. Bird houses are one type of shelter you can provide. Trees, shrubs, tall grasses, rock piles, standing dead trees and hollow logs are other options.

Space. All animals have different space and territorial requirements. Some animals need a large area while others can utilize smaller spaces. Learn about the needs of animals you wish to attract to your yard.

Creating Your Wildlife Landscape

Create a list of project goals. If there are certain animals you would like to attract, plan your project to incorporate habitat components they need. For example, use water features if you want to attract frogs or dragonflies. Include different types of flowers to attract butterflies and hummingbirds. Many small mammals require rock or woodpiles for making dens. Learn about the native plant communities in your area and how you can use them in your landscape.



Map out your property. Note the topography, buildings, existing vegetation, sunny and shady areas, soil types and other important features. Decide what elements you want to keep and what you could enhance. Make sure you consider family use in the yard so you still have room for a vegetable garden or for the kids to play. Look at your neighbors yard and consider adding to any natural features that border your yard.

Group similar plants together to provide larger areas of similar habitat and make the garden more appealing to the eye.

Plant deciduous trees on the south side of the house. These trees will provide wildlife habitat as well as shade in the summer and still allow sunlight in the winter. Evergreens are great year-round windbreaks and should be placed near the north-west corner of the home.

If you are using a water feature, consider installing a water pump that will move the water. You could create a small waterfall or just have it trickle down over some rocks. This keeps the water clean longer, prevents mosquitoes from breeding and is much more attractive to wildlife.



Native Plants For Butterflies and Insects

Wild columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
Wild lupine *Lupinus perennis*
Little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*
Rough blazingstar *Liatris aspera*
Butterflyweed *Asclepias tuberosa*
Common milkweed *Asclepias syriaca*
Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia hirta*
Purple coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*
Joe-pye weed *Eupatorium perfoliatum*
Turtlehead *Chelone glabra*
Stiff tickseed *Coreopsis palmata*
Chokecherry *Prunus virginiana*



Common milkweed

Native Plants For Birds

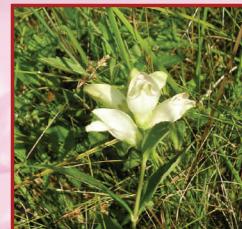
Wild columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
Wild bergamot *Monarda fistulosa*
Goldenrod *Solidago spp.*
Cardinal flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Aster *Aster spp.*
Indian grass *Sorghastrum nutans*
Highbush cranberry *Viburnum trilobum*
Elderberry *Sambucus canadensis*
Red osier dogwood *Cornus stolonifera*
Sumac *Rhus spp.*



Cardinal flower

Native Plants For Small Mammals

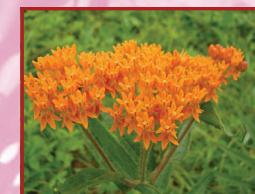
Little bluestem *Schizachyrium scoparium*
Indian grass *Sorghastrum nutans*
Highbush cranberry *Viburnum trilobum*
American hazelnut *Corylus americana*
Bur oak *Quercus macrocarpa*



Turtlehead



Wild bergamot



Butterfly weed



Black-eyed Susan