

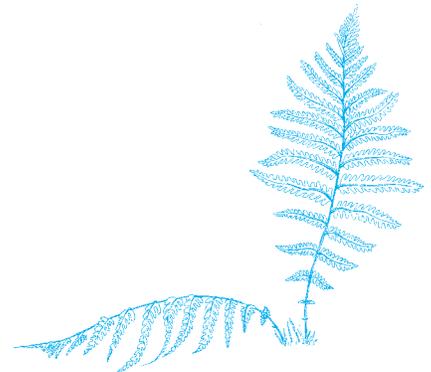
How To Apply to the West Virginia Wild Yards Program:

- Read the Wild Yards booklet provided or available online at www.dnr.state.wv.us.
- Fill out the application completely.
- Provide a rough sketch or diagram of the property you would like to have considered as a West Virginia Wild Yard. Label property dimensions and directional North. Show existing habitat features and habitat features you plan to add.
- Mail your completed application to: WV Wild Yards, WV DNR, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241. If you have any questions about the application, call Wild Yards Coordinator, at (304) 637-0245 or email joycutright@wvdnr.gov

If your application is approved, you will be added to a state-wide register of WV Wild Yards. You will also receive a certificate designating you as a Wild Yards participant and a sign to post in your backyard habitat area.

We would greatly appreciate any photographs, or preferably slides, of your backyard habitat! You could even send in shots of you, your family, or friends working in or enjoying your habitat area. These pictures may be used in presentations about the Wild Yards Program so that others may learn from your habitat management experiences. We will not be able to return any of your pictures to you. If your slides are used in presentations, you understand that we have your permission to use them unless you request that they not be used. You will be given photo credit if ever we publish your photographs in Wild Yards materials. This would be an enormous help to us to help get the word out about wonderful West Virginia Wild Yards!

We look forward to hearing from you!



West Virginia Wild Yards
A Backyard Habitat Certification Program for West Virginians

APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ County _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Property size (approximate square feet or acreage): _____

This property is best described as:

private residence park/recreation facility farm
 corporate land other: _____

Your neighborhood is located in an area best described as:

city/urban suburb rural community agricultural landscape
 forested landscape older neighborhood in city limits
 other: _____

Guidelines for WV Wild Yards:

Use primarily plants native to West Virginia. (See section in Wild Yards booklet on native plants.)

Provide food, water and cover for wildlife.

Clean up all problem areas on property, such as garbage.

Do not create unsafe situations for wildlife by attracting them to the dangers of cats or dogs or to interactions with humans that could be detrimental to them.

Use common sense and careful judgement when deciding which backyard habitat projects are most reasonable for your property.

A wild yard is not necessarily an unkempt yard. Particularly in urban areas, become familiar with local ordinances and consider the feelings of your neighbors when designing your yard.

TARGET SPECIES: What wildlife species or groups of species would you like to attract with your wild yard plan? (List the top 5) For example: cardinals, squirrels, salamanders, butterflies, woodpeckers, songbirds, small mammals, amphibians, etc.

WATER (drinking, bathing, etc.)

Water is provided: ___year round ___seasonally

It is provided in the following ways:

___bird bath ___water dripping into a bird bath ___natural spring
 ___wildlife pool ___pond ___stream
 ___other: _____

FOOD (plantings, vegetation)

List the plants on your property that provide food to wildlife such as acorns, berries, nuts, seeds, buds, nectar, etc. Use additional paper if necessary.

<u>Large trees</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>Small trees</u>	<u>number</u>
ex: red oak	3	ex. flowering dogwood	2
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___

<u>Shrubs</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>Perennials</u>	<u>number</u>
ex: elderberry	7	ex: bee balm	3
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___

<u>Vines</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>Annuals</u>	<u>number</u>
ex: summer grape	2	ex: zinnias	12
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___
_____	___	_____	___

Do you have an unmowed grassy areas to provide food from seeds, vegetation to wildlife, and cover for insects and small mammals? ___ Yes ___ No

If so, size of area(s): _____

FEEDERS:

List any feeders you have, what food is supplied, and the time of year that they are filled.

tube feeder (1) _____ black oil sunflower seeds _____ fall to spring _____

hummingbird feeders (2) _____ sugar water _____ spring to early fall _____

COVER (places to hide, nest, raise young, etc.)

Wind and weather breaks and places for wildlife to escape from predators are provided in the following manner:

___ dense shrub thickets (which types?) _____

___ evergreens (which types?) _____

___ ground covers (which types?) _____

___ brush piles

___ log piles

___ rock piles/walls

___ meadow/prairie patch (approximate size of area?) _____

___ shrubby, brushy habitat patch (approximate size of area?) _____

___ mature trees for nesting

___ small trees for nesting

___ trees with cavities

___ dens in ground or in rocks

___ wildlife pools or ponds

___ nest boxes (which types?): _____

___ plants for butterfly caterpillars (which ones?) _____

___ other: _____

Future plans for habitat improvements:

<u>What will be added:</u>	<u>Where:</u>	<u>To provide:</u>	<u>For what animals:</u>
<i>Examples:</i>			
<u>4-5 brush piles</u>	<u>along perimeter of yard next to prairie patch</u>	<u>cover</u>	<u>cottontail rabbits</u>
<u>2 nest boxes</u>	<u>in mowed area of yard</u>	<u>nest sites</u>	<u>bluebirds</u>
<u>1 suet feeder</u>	<u>on pole with bird feeders</u>	<u>food in winter</u>	<u>woodpecker</u>
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Please continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary.