

# WEST VIRGINIA WILD YARDS APPLICATION

Fill out the application on the following pages to have your yard considered for the WV Wild Yards Program. Send the completed application and any supplementary materials (species lists, photos of plantings or other habitat features, etc.) to:

WV Wild Yards  
WVDNR  
P.O. Box 67  
Elkins, WV 26241  
DNRWildYards@wv.gov

**Name**   
**Property Address**

**City**  **County**  **ZIP**

**Telephone**  **Email**

**Property size (approximate square feet or acreage):**

### This property is best described as:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> private residence        | <input type="checkbox"/> farm                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> corporate land           | <input type="checkbox"/> school                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> park/recreation facility | <input type="checkbox"/> other: <input type="text"/> |

### Target Species

What wildlife species or groups of species would you like to attract?  
(List the top 5) For example: cardinals, flying squirrels, butterflies, woodpeckers, songbirds, small mammals, amphibians, pollinators, etc.

### Vegetation Structure

Different layers and types of vegetation provide diverse ecological functions and visual interest to a backyard landscape. Select all that are present.

- Overstory trees (>20 ft tall)
- Understory trees and shrubs (<20 ft tall)
- Grasses, Wildflowers, and Other Herbaceous Plants

**Native Plant Species Richness:**

List the species of native plants that are present on the property. Feel free to provide a complete species list along with any other supplemental materials.

**Large Trees (>20 ft tall)**

e.g., Red Oak, White Pine, Black Cherry, Sugar Maple

**Small Trees/Saplings (5-20 ft tall)**

e.g., Flowering Dogwood, Eastern Redbud, Pawpaw

**Shrubs**

e.g., Spicebush, Rhododendron, Allegheny Blackberry

**Forbs**

e.g., Wrinkleleaf Goldenrod, Sensitive Fern, Butterflyweed

**Grasses and Graminoids**

e.g., Little Bluestem, River Oats, Pennsylvania Sedge

**Vines**

e.g., Greenbrier, Trumpet Creeper, Virgin's Bower

**Natural Food Sources**

What types of native food plants are present on the property? See the section on "Food" on page 11 for more information on what we're looking for.

- Hard mast producing trees and shrubs
- Soft mast producing trees, shrubs, and vines
- Nectar-producing flowers for hummingbirds
- Native prairie patches, rain gardens, or other native wildflower plantings (min 100 sq. ft)
- Wooded or shrubby areas with a variety of *native* flowering species (min 100 sq. ft)
- 'Bee lawn' with flowers (e.g., clover, violets, dandelions) that bloom when mown at standard heights
- Bee-pollinated ornamental plants or vegetable gardens that are allowed to bolt
- Non-native (but not invasive) flowering/fruiting trees and shrubs

Other:

**Supplemental Food Sources:**

See the section on "Supplemental Bird Feeding" on page 29 for information on types of food to offer.

- Supplemental bird feeding in fall/winter
- Supplemental bird feeding in spring/summer

Other:

**Cover**

What types of cover resources are available for animals to seek shelter? See the section on "Cover" on page 16 for more information.

- Unmowed areas of grasses, wildflowers, or other herbaceous vegetation
- Dense shrub thickets
- Areas with patchy vegetation or bare ground
- Native bunchgrasses
- Leaf litter left on site in fall and through the spring
- Brush piles, log piles, or other coarse woody debris
- Rock piles, rock walls, or rock garden edging
- Bee hotel or other structure for nesting/overwintering solitary bees

Other:

**Water**

Water is provided:

- seasonally
- year-round

Water is provided in the following ways

- Permanent natural water source on or adjacent to site (stream, river, pond, lake, or wetland)
- Open water feature at least 10 sq. ft
- Bird Bath

Other:

### Reproductive Resources

See the section on “Reproductive Resources” on page 17 for more information.

- Host plants for butterfly and moth caterpillars (which plants?)

- Snags/standing dead trees
- Large trees for nesting
- Small trees for nesting
- Bat boxes
- Fish-free pools or ponds
- Nest boxes for cavity-nesting birds (which types?)

Other:

### Conservation Practices

What other practices do you engage in to protect natural resources like soil, water, and wildlife?

- Cats/other pets kept indoors unless restrained or supervised in designated area(s)
- Pesticides/herbicides not used on site EXCEPT for control of invasive species
- All new landscaping and garden plants purchased are neonic-free
- Chemical fertilizers not used
- Rain collection
- Compost
- Rain garden
- Limit nighttime outdoor lighting

Other:

### Invasive Species

See the section on “Invasive Plants” on page 8 for more information. Priority 1 and 2 refers to high and moderate priority invasive species according to the WVDNR Natural Heritage Program.

Invasive Species Presence (pick one):

- No priority 1 or 2 invasive species present on site.
- Invasive species cover <5% of site
- Invasive species cover 5-10% of site
- Four or more priority 1 or 2 species present OR invasive species cover >10% of site

Invasive Species Control (pick one):

- Control is planned for all invasive species present
- A portion of the invasive species will be addressed
- Invasive species will NOT be controlled
- Invasive species not present at site

### Community Action

How are you getting involved with your community around native plants and wildlife habitat?

- Share native plants/seeds with neighbors
- Talk to city officials/local organizations about landscaping with native plants
- Work with community to change ‘weed’ ordinances to promote native plant landscaping
- Talk about the importance of pollinators, native plants, and wildlife habitat with friends, family, and community
- Participate in community science or habitat restoration efforts in your area

Other:

**Future habitat improvements**

Give the who, what, where and why. (What are you doing, where are you putting it, what is it providing, and which animals are going to benefit?) Examples: 4-5 brush piles along perimeter of yard to provide cover for cottontail rabbits; 2 nest boxes in mowed area of yard to provide nesting sites for bluebirds; 1 suet feeder on pole with bird feeders to provide food in winter for woodpeckers. Continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary.

What will be added	Where	To provide	For what animals

Continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary.