



# PENNSYLVANIA WILDLIFE No. 2

## Attracting Wildlife: Sources of Assistance

Everyone loves to see wildlife, and what better place to watch wild birds and mammals than in your own backyard! Regardless of the size of your property, you can provide food, water, and shelter for a variety of species.

You might decide to transform all or part of your lawn into a colorful meadow or wildflower garden for butterflies, bees, and birds. Or you could create a woodland garden with islands of native shrubs and trees to provide cover for rabbits and nest sites for birds. With a little knowledge and effort, you can help restore native habitat for many species of wildlife.

This fact sheet presents an annotated listing of books about landscaping with the needs of wildlife in mind. Included are bird-feeding guides, guides to building houses for birds and mammals, and organizations and agencies to contact for more information. Be creative and enjoy developing your own private wildlife sanctuary!

### Landscaping for Wildlife

■ Adams, George. *BIRDSCAPING YOUR GARDEN* (new edition). Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press, 1998. Contains life history information for 64 bird species commonly found in the United States. Also describes plants that provide food, shelter, and nesting sites for native birds.

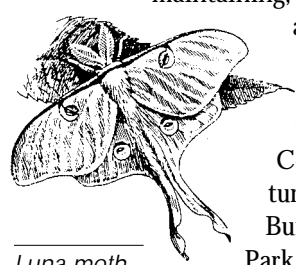
■ Daniels, Stevie. *THE WILD LAWN HANDBOOK: ALTERNATIVES TO THE TRADITIONAL FRONT LAWN*. New York: Macmillan, 1995. Offers instruction on transforming a turfgrass lawn into gardens of grasses, wildflowers, and other native plants. Includes instructions for installing and maintaining a wild lawn, and suggestions for creating meadows, moss lawns, and woodland or front-yard gardens.



*Song sparrow*

■ Hassinger, Jerry, et al. *WOODLANDS AND WILDLIFE*. University Park, PA: College of Agricultural Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, 1992.

Written to help landowners make their property more attractive to wildlife. Contains information on establishing, maintaining, and improving farms and woodlands for wildlife. Available from the Publications Distribution Center, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802.



*Luna moth*

Telephone: (814) 865-6713.

Web site: <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/Subject.html>

■ Henderson, Carrol. *LANDSCAPING FOR WILDLIFE*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1987. One of the best available books on landscaping yards, farmlands, and woodlands for wildlife. Includes appendices that group plants according to their value for attracting wildlife as well as landscaping. Although the book was written for residents of the Upper Midwest, many of the plants mentioned can also be found in the Northeast. Available from the Minnesota Bookstore, Room 110A, 117 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55155. Telephone: (800) 657-3757.

■ Kress, Stephen. *THE BIRD GARDEN* (new edition). New York: Dorling Kindersley, 1998. This National Audubon Society book is a regional guide to garden birds and the plants that attract them. It describes over 300 shrub and tree species, gives instructions for planting, and indicates which bird species might use the plantings for food and cover. Includes plans for building nest boxes, feeders, dust baths, and water sources.

■ Lewis, A. (ed). *BUTTERFLY GARDENS: LURING NATURE'S LOVELIEST POLLINATORS TO YOUR YARD*. New York: Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1995. Features an extensive listing of host and nectar plants, along with color photos.

■ PENNSYLVANIA WILDLIFE FACT SHEETS. This series includes fact sheets on landscaping for wildlife and attracting wildlife.

Pa. Wildlife No. 3—*Managing Habitat for Eastern Bluebirds*

Pa. Wildlife No. 5—*Meadows and Prairies: Wildlife Friendly Alternatives to Lawn*

Pa. Wildlife No. 6—*Attracting Hummingbirds*

Pa. Wildlife No. 7—*Landscaping for Wildlife: Trees, Shrubs, and Vines*

Pa. Wildlife No. 8—*Gardening for Butterflies*

Pa. Wildlife No. 10—*Neighborly Natural Landscaping: Creating Natural Environments in Residential Areas*

Pa. Wildlife No. 11—*Winter Bird Feeding: The Basics*

Pa. Wildlife No. 13—*Managing Habitat for American Kestrels*

Pa. Wildlife No. 14—*Water for Wildlife: Bird Baths and Backyard Ponds*

Fact sheets are available from the Publications Distribution Center, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802. Telephone: (814) 865-6713.

Web site: <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/Subject.html>

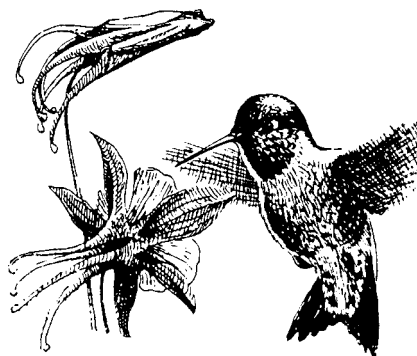
■ Roth, Sally. *NATURAL LANDSCAPING: GARDENING WITH NATURE TO CREATE A BACKYARD PARADISE*. Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press, 1997. Provides information on how to create woodland gardens, shade gardens, wildflower meadows, and songbird gardens.

■ Schneck, Marcus. *CREATING A HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1994. Has information on gardening for hummingbirds in spring, summer, and fall, as well as facts about the lives and habits of hummingbirds. Includes garden plans and tips on providing food and water for hummingbirds.

■ Stokes, Donald and Lillian. *THE HUMMINGBIRD BOOK: THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO ATTRACTING, IDENTIFYING, AND ENJOYING HUMMINGBIRDS*. New York: Little, Brown, 1989. Contains information on attracting hummingbirds through gardening and the use of feeders. Also gives general information about hummingbirds.

■ Wilson, James. *LANDSCAPING WITH WILDFLOWERS: AN ENVIRONMENTAL APPROACH TO GARDENING*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1992. A comprehensive guide to planting native wildflowers, this book covers everything from creating a spring garden in the woods to planting in meadows or in damp or wet areas. Includes information about attracting butterflies and birds, along with regional plant lists and mail-order wildflower seed and plant sources.

*Ruby-throated hummingbird*



*Wild bergamot*



■ Xerces Society. *BUTTERFLY GARDENING: CREATING SUMMER MAGIC IN YOUR GARDEN*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1998. How to design and plant gardens to attract butterflies. Includes a listing of the most familiar North American butterflies and moths and their nectar and larval food plants, as well as descriptions of their life cycles.

## Bird Feeding

■ Dennis, John. *A COMPLETE GUIDE TO BIRD FEEDING REVISED*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1994. A thorough guide to all aspects of bird feeding.

■ Henderson, Carrol. *WILD ABOUT BIRDS*. St. Paul, MN: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 1995. A comprehensive guide to bird feeding, this book provides life history information about birds that visit feeders. Includes over four dozen bird feeder designs and information about different types of bird feed. A special section provides tips on preventing problem animals from raiding your feeders. Available from the Minnesota

Bookstore, Room 110A, 117 University Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55155. Telephone: (800) 657-3757.

■ Roth, Sally. *BACKYARD BIRD FEEDER'S BIBLE: THE A-Z GUIDE TO FEEDERS, SEED MIXES, PROJECTS AND TREATS*. Emmaus, PA: Rodale Press, 2000. Describes food preferences of birds from across the United States, provides color photos of common feeder birds, and gives instructions on bird-feeding projects such as how to make birdseed wreaths.



## Houses for Mammals and Birds

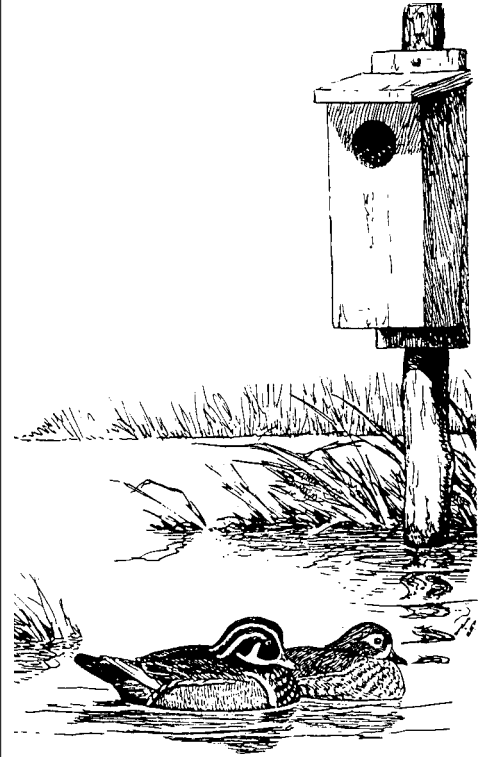
■ Hassinger, Jerry. *WOODCRAFTING FOR WILDLIFE*. Harrisburg, PA: Pennsylvania Wild Resource Conservation Fund and Pennsylvania Game Commission (no date). A complete guide to designing and building houses and nest platforms for birds and mammals. Available from the Pennsylvania Game Commission, Dept. AR, 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797. Telephone: (717) 787-4250.

■ Williams-Whitmer, Lisa, and Margaret Brittingham. *A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO NORTHEASTERN BATS AND BAT PROBLEMS*. University Park, PA: College of Agricultural Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University, 1995. Provides information about the life history and benefits of bats, as well as ideas for batproofing your house. Includes bat box construction plans and information about attracting bats with bat boxes. Available from the Publications Distribution Center, 112 Agricultural Administration Building, University Park, PA 16802. Telephone: (814) 865-6713. *Web site:* <http://pubs.cas.psu.edu/Subject.html>

## Agencies and Organizations with Additional Information

■ BIRD-WATCHER'S DIGEST. P.O. Box 110, Marietta, OH 45750. Telephone: (800) 879-2473. *Web site:* <http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com> *Bird-Watcher's Digest*, published bimonthly, contains information about birds that visit your feeder, yard, and garden. Also available are numerous booklets, including *Backyard Birds*, *Enjoying Bird Feeding More*, *Enjoying Purple Martins More*, *Enjoying Bluebirds More*, *Enjoying Hummingbirds More*, and *Bird Photography Basics*.

Wood ducks



■ THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION. Backyard Habitat Program, Mid-Atlantic Region, 11100 Wildlife Center Drive, Reston, VA 20190. Telephone: (703) 438-6000. *Web site:* <http://www.nwf.org/backyardwildlifehabitat/>

The National Wildlife Federation began its Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program to acknowledge the efforts of individuals who garden for wildlife. Homeowners can order an information packet including a program application, a booklet on planning and planting a habitat, and *The Backyard Naturalist*, a book about one person's experiences and efforts in attracting wildlife to his yard. Order by calling (800) 822-9919 and requesting item #79946. You also can apply for an official certificate deeming your property a Backyard Wildlife Habitat.

■ NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBIRD SOCIETY. The Wilderness Center, P.O. Box 244, Wilmot, OH 44689-0244. Telephone: (330) 359-5511. *Web site:* <http://www.nabluebirdsociety.org> Nonprofit organization dedicated to

increasing the populations of the three species of bluebirds on this continent and to educating the public about the importance of preserving bluebirds in their native environment. The society's publication is *Sialia*.

■ **PENN STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION.** Contact your county extension office for additional information about landscaping for wildlife, bird feeding, houses for birds and mammals, and sources of assistance. For the address or phone number of your local office, contact Penn State's Regional Directors of Cooperative Extension and Outreach at (814) 863-3438. *Web site:* <http://www.extension.psu.edu/>

■ **PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION.** Department AR, 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797. Telephone: (717) 783-8164. *Web site:* <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us>

*Wildlife Notes* is a series of 38 pamphlets, each describing the habits and habitats of a particular wildlife species. *Nesting Boxes, Feeding Stations, Bird Houses, Wildlife Shelters, and How to Build Them* provides ideas for enhancing food and cover for wildlife. Landowners who want to attract more wildlife to their land can purchase seeds from the game commission

for planting wildlife food plots. More than 30 species of trees and shrubs favored by wildlife, as well as additional information and publications, also are available.

■ **PURPLE MARTIN CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION.** Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA 16444. Telephone: (814) 734-4420. *Web site:* <http://www.purplemartin.org>

An international nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of the purple martin through scientific research, state-of-the-art wildlife management techniques, and public education. Their publication is the *Purple Martin Update*.

■ **WILDLIFE HABITAT COUNCIL.** 8737 Colesville Rd., Suite 800, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Telephone: (301) 588-8994. *Web site:* <http://www.wildlifehc.org>

Nonprofit group of corporations, conservation organizations, and individuals dedicated to enhancing and protecting wildlife habitat on public and private corporate land. Provides technical assistance and has a certification program to identify and honor wildlife habitat projects on corporate land.

■ **WILD RESOURCE CONSERVATION FUND.** Offers videos, publications, and posters about Pennsylvania wildlife. Proceeds from all sales support research, management, and education associated with Pennsylvania's native plants and wildlife. To find out more, write to: Wild Resource Conservation Fund, P.O. Box 8764, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8764. *Web site:* <http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/wrcf/videopage.htm>

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#### Illustrations

Rae Chambers: wild bergamot  
Jeffery Mathison: bird feeder, squirrel  
Ned Smith: luna moth, song sparrow, wood ducks, hummingbird

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