

## Garden Plants & Supplies

### HANC

780 Frederick St., San Francisco  
**(415) 753-0932**  
Haight Ashbury Neighborhood Council Recycling Center  
Organic SF native plants. Proceeds benefit recycling center. Demonstration garden.

### Floorcraft Garden Center

550 Bayshore Blvd., San Francisco  
**(415) 824-1900**  
Large variety of nursery plants that thrive in Bay Area climates.

### Sloat Garden Center

**www.sloatgardens.com**  
2706 Sloat Blvd., SF **(415) 566-4415**  
327 3rd Ave., SF **(415) 752-1614**  
3237 Pierce St., SF **(415) 440-1000** (Fall of 2005)  
Large variety of nursery plants that thrive in the Bay Area.

### Larner Seeds

**www.larnerseeds.com**  
235 Grove Rd., Bolinas, CA 94924  
**(415) 868-9407**  
Mail order native seeds & plants, workshops & Demonstration garden.

### Magic Gardens

**www.magicgardens.com**  
729 Heinz Ave., Berkeley, CA  
**(510) 644-2351**  
Specializes in Bay Area plants.

### Mostly Natives Nursery

**www.mostlynatives.com**  
P.O. Box 258 - 27235 Hwy 1, Tomales, CA 94971  
**(707) 878-2009**  
Nursery plants especially coastal natives.

### San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum

Golden Gate Park - 9th Avenue at Lincoln Way  
San Francisco, CA 94122  
**(415) 661-1316**

### Yerba Buena Nursery

**www.yerbabuenanursery.com**  
19500 Skyline Blvd., Woodside, CA  
**(650) 851-1668**  
Extensive native plants.

Thanks for Illustrations by Jan McCracken  
© National Audubon Society, Inc.

## Writings on Wildlife Gardening

Bauer, Nancy, (2001) *The Habitat Garden Book: Wildlife Landscaping for the San Francisco Bay Region*. Coyote Ridge Press, Sebastopol, CA, Clear & compact beginner's guide.

Grissell, Eric., (2001) *Insects and Gardens; In Pursuit of a Garden Ecology*. Timber Press, Portland, OR. Book on the importance of insects.

Lowry, Judith Larner, (1999) *Gardening with a Wild Heart; Restoring California's Native Landscapes at Home*. Berkeley: U.C. Press. Wild land ecology.

Sonoma County Master Gardeners, (1999) *Flora for Fauna: Habitats for Birds, Butterflies, and Beneficial Insects*. Wayward Gardens, Sebastopol, CA. Booklet of fauna attractors.

Stein, Sara, (1993) *Noah's Garden: Restoring the Ecology of Our Own Backyards*. Houghton Mifflin., Boston, MA. Transformation of garden to native ecosystem.

Sunset Books & Magazines, (2000) *Attracting Birds*. Sunset Books Inc., 2nd edition, Menlo Park, CA. Illustrated bird habitat guide.



## Resources for Wildlife Gardening

These organizations have web sites that are of interest to the wildlife gardener:

**Calflora**  
[www.calflora.org](http://www.calflora.org)

**California Native Plant Society**  
**San Francisco Gardening with Natives**  
[www.cnps-yerbabuena.org](http://www.cnps-yerbabuena.org)

**Cats Indoors**  
[www.abcbirds.org](http://www.abcbirds.org)

**Golden Gate Audubon Society**  
[www.goldengateaudubon.org](http://www.goldengateaudubon.org)

**Native Habitats**  
[www.nativehabitats.org](http://www.nativehabitats.org)

**National Audubon Society**  
[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)  
[www.audubon.org/bird/at\\_home/](http://www.audubon.org/bird/at_home/)

**National Wildlife Federation**  
[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org) Click on "Your Yard"

**San Francisco ©Garden at Strybing Arboretum**  
[www.sfbotanicalgarden.org](http://www.sfbotanicalgarden.org)

### Sponsored by:



**Golden Gate Audubon Society**  
2530 San Pablo Avenue, Ste. G  
Berkeley, CA 94702  
Phone (510) 843-2222  
Fax (510) 843-5351  
[www.goldengateaudubon.org](http://www.goldengateaudubon.org)



**San Francisco Recreation & Parks**  
McLaren Lodge  
Golden Gate Park  
501 Stanyan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117-1898  
Phone (415) 831-2700  
[www.parks.sfgov.org](http://www.parks.sfgov.org)

Golden Gate Audubon Society  
with  
San Francisco Recreation & Parks

# INVITING WILDLIFE

into your backyard





We are delighted you have an interest in making your backyard more bird friendly! Backyards make up the largest green space in San Francisco, larger than all our parks put together. One of the great secrets of our City is that in the center of nearly every block, behind an unbroken perimeter of houses, lie fifty or sixty backyards, providing food and shelter to local birds, like doves, hummingbirds, finches, jays and even parrots. Migratory birds, like the Golden-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco and Yellow-rumped Warbler, use them after flights of up to many hundreds of miles. Butterflies, damsel flies, bees and spiders also depend on the backyards of our City. By making your backyard a more natural area, you will create a beautiful and interesting garden and make a tangible contribution to the survival of wildlife in a changing world. But how to begin? Please read on!



## Elements of Good Backyard Habitat

1. **GETTING STARTED** - Spend time in your yard! Notice the wild creatures that already use it. See which shrubs and trees they favor. Determine the soil type there and the prevailing winds and their force. Note the trees and shrubs in your neighbors' yards and those growing in the streets and parks of your area. Observe if and how they attract wildlife. These observations will help you design a beneficial habitat, as well as connect you more deeply to the wildlife with whom we share with our City.
2. **WATER** - Birds and other wild creatures need water for drinking and bathing. Provide a constant, reliable source of shallow water such as a birdbath, pond or even a dish. Circulating water is best, so using a drip irrigation emitter as a water supply works well. Vessels of water should be placed as high as is practical and out in the open away from hiding predators, though thin overhanging branches of a nearby tree can act as a secure "ladder" for drinking and bathing birds.
3. **FOOD** - Use an array of native and non-invasive plants that produce nectar, berries, fruit and seeds throughout the year. Many plants will attract beautiful and fascinating butterflies, bees and other insects, which in turn provide food for birds and seldom pose a real threat to vegetation.
4. **COVER** - Create cover for birds and wildlife with plant diversity. Consider varying heights and densities with open areas of native grasses. Keeping a "wild corner" where perennial plants are left alone to grow with little intervention gives birds shelter and nesting. This corner could also contain a brush pile, a rock, brick pile, dead tree or hollow log for the same purpose. Though we are ever tempted to "clean up" our yards, remember that wild lands are not neat and tidy but often tangled with vegetation. Consider allowing a bit of wildness in your yard.
5. **SAFE COURTSHIP & PARENTING PLACES** - Besides the natural shelters mentioned, correct bird-houses for cavity nesting birds, like wrens, chickadees, and swallows can provide sanctuaries from predators. Birdhouses should be placed away from windows to keep birds from colliding with windows. There are ways to disguise windows for the same reason. Also, it is essential to keep cats indoors. It is safer for the cats as well as for the birds. Indoor cats have more than three times the life expectancy of outdoor cats who risk threats from cars, dogs, tomcats, and diseases.
6. **SUSTAINABLE GARDEN PRACTICES** - The way you garden or maintain your landscape impacts the wildlife in your yard. Native trees and plants typically require less water, fewer pesticides, and less fertilizer. Remove invasive plants. Use organic fertilizers and natural pesticides instead of chemical ones; produce rich soil by composting, and mulching. Remember, chemicals in your yard end up in the Bay and throughout the food chain! Consult the resources listed here to learn how you can make your backyard more sustainable for wildlife.



## Basic Wildlife-Friendly Plants

### Trees

<i>Acer sp.</i>	Maple
<i>Aesculus californica</i>	Buckeye
<i>Betula sp.</i>	Birch
<i>Pinus sp.</i>	Pine
<i>Prunus ilicifolia</i>	Islais Cherry
<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>	Coast Live Oak

### Tall Shrubs

<i>Buddleia davidii</i>	Butterfly Bush
<i>Garrya elliptica</i>	Coast Silk Tassel
<i>Heteromeles arbutifolia</i>	Toyon
<i>Myrica californica</i>	Pacific Wax Myrtle

### Medium Shrubs

<i>Arctostaphylos sp.</i>	Manzanita
<i>Baccharis pilularis</i>	Coyote Bush
<i>Ceanothus sp.</i>	Wild Lilac
<i>Mahonia sp.</i>	Mahonia
<i>Rhamnus californica</i>	Coffeeberry
<i>Ribes sanguineum</i>	Red Flowering Currant

### Perennials & Annuals

<i>Achillea sp.</i>	Yarrow
<i>Asclepias sp.</i>	Milkweed
<i>Aster sp.</i>	Aster
<i>Cirsium sp.</i>	Thistle
<i>Eriogonum sp.</i>	Wild Buckwheat
<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	California Poppy
<i>Heracleum lanatum</i>	Cow Parsnip
<i>Lupinus sp.</i>	Lupine
<i>Lantana sp.</i>	Lantana
<i>Mimulus aurantiacus</i>	Sticky Monkeyflower
<i>Oenothera sp.</i>	Evening Primrose
<i>Penstemon sp.</i>	Beard Tongue
<i>Salvia sp.</i>	Sage
<i>Zauschneria californica</i>	California Fuchsia

### Bunch Grasses

<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
<i>Nassella pulchra</i>	Purple Needlegrass