A REPRINT FROM
NATIONAL WILDLIFE MAGAZINE
11 (3): 5-16 1973

THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION says:

Invite wildlife to your backyard

BY JACK WARD THOMAS, ROBERT O. BRUSH AND RICHARD M. DeGRAAF

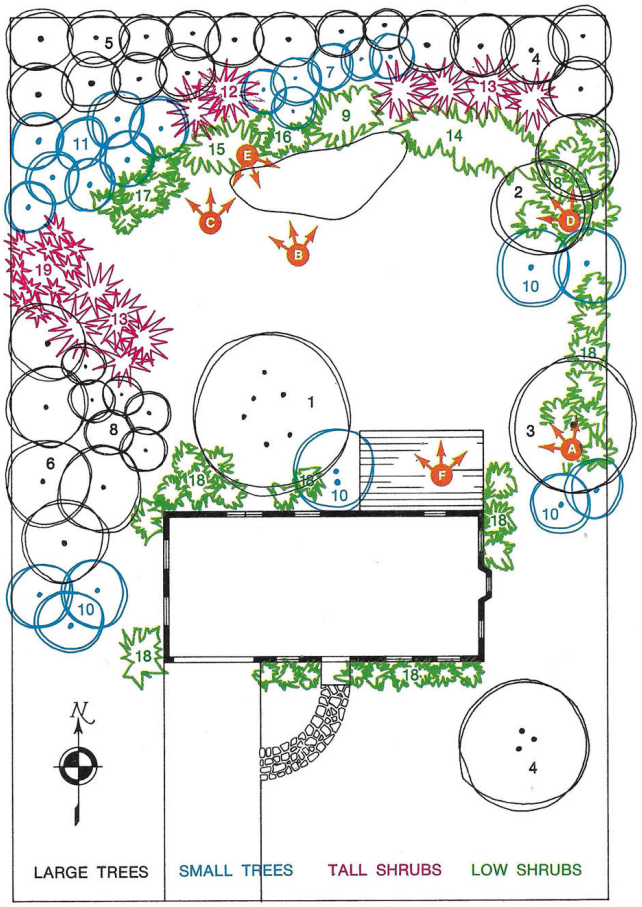
GO OUT IN YOUR BACKYARD and look around. Watch the fish weaving among the water lilies, the dragonflies moving in glittering arcs above the little pool. Don't move — the robins are busy feeding their youngsters in that nest above your head; squirrels are edging down the beech trunks behind you and darting into the shrubbery. The wisteria on your stone wall is almost irresistible to the hummingbird that just appeared, and song sparrows are adding their notes to a tangle of birdsong sifting down from the oaks and maples. If you're really patient, that timid cottontail might bring her brood onto the grass for one last taste of the dew-silvered grass.

This isn't your yard, you say? It could be. If you have even a quarter-acre of crabgrass right now, you can turn it into a wildlife habitat as beautiful and gratifying as the one above. A few square yards — yes, even a window box

Your backyard can look like this — for as little as $200 and a plan like ours. This lot, viewed from the rear, has the mature plantings that attract a maximum variety of wildlife. On page 7, you can see this idealized wildlife habitat as viewed from the house patio.

Reprinted from April-May National Wildlife Magazine A membership publication of the National Wildlife Federation 1412 16th St. N.W. Washington, D. C. 20036

After the initial planting of trees, shrubs, flowers and herbs the first year, robins and other birds will feed on the lawn, and ground-feeding sparrows and finches will forage among the shrubs and flowers. Bird nesting will be limited, but many species will be attracted by the feeders and water.

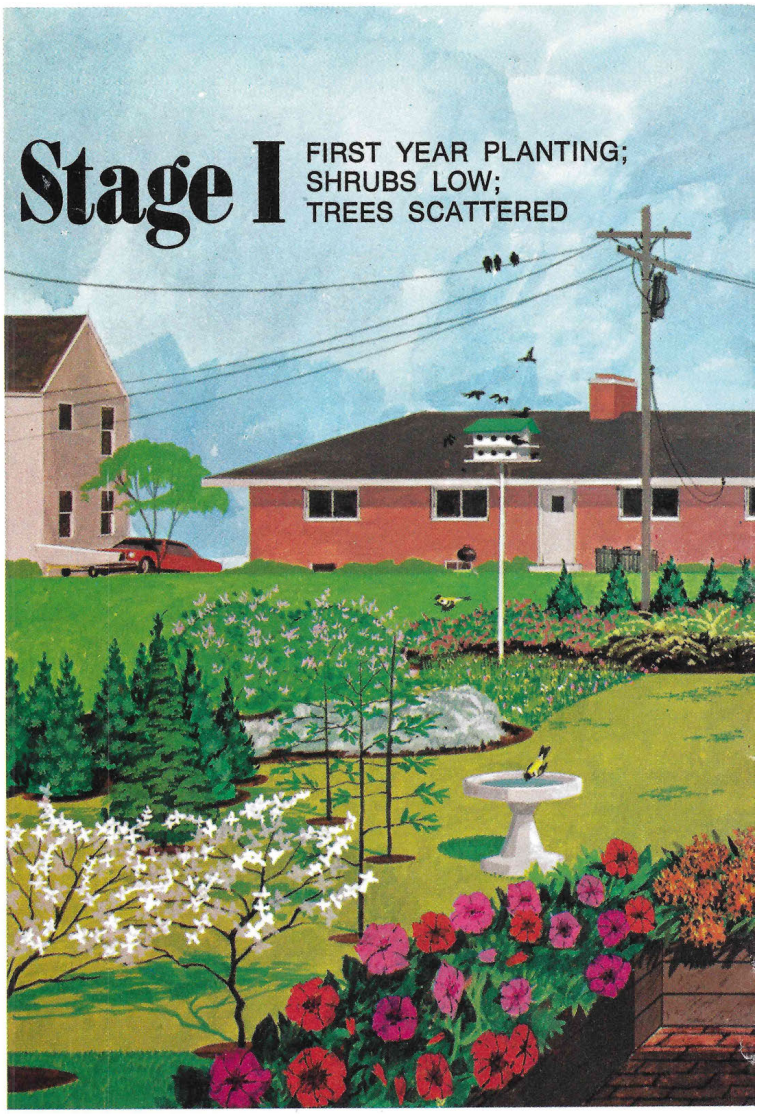


The overhead view of this ideal backyard plan keys plantings to table on pages 4-5, and gives artist's viewing position in illustrations for food (A), water (B), cover (C), and reproductive area (D) on pages 8 -11. Page 1 view is from backyard (E); Stages I, II, and III are viewed from terrace (F). Backyard area is 100 by 120 feet (about one-quarter acre).

— can become a wildlife refuge-in-miniature. You start with a dream — but then you need a plan. Want to have your own wildlife haven? Well, here is the plan . . .

Where do you start? This backyard habitat plan is divided into three model stages. No matter what your backyard looks like now, it will fit into one of them, give or take a few years' growth. But, before you do anything, put your plan on paper, no matter how crudely. Because the planning you do at the outset will determine the whole course of your backyard wildlife program.

No matter how large or small your backyard is, you use the same basic principles to attract wildlife



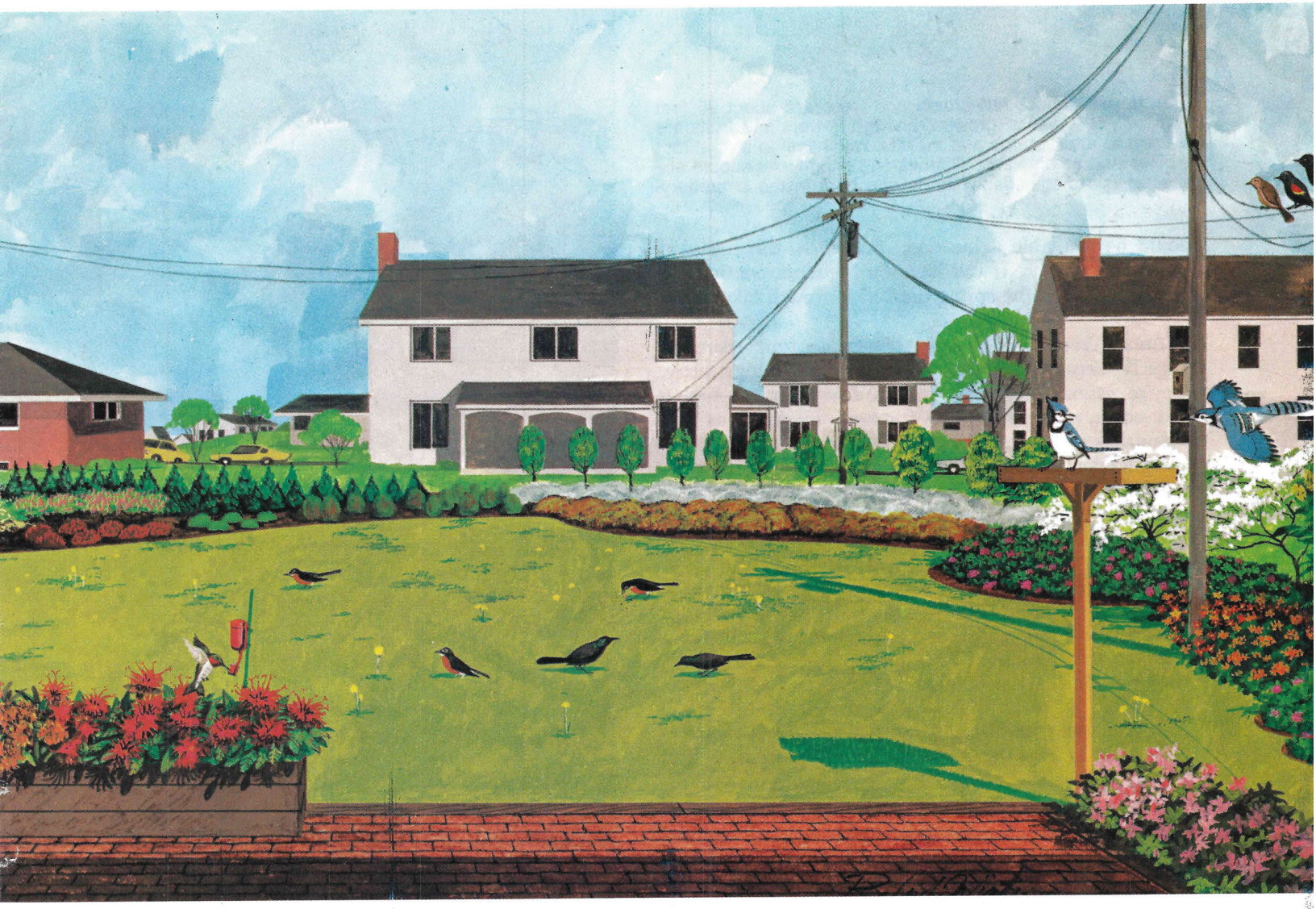
Stage I. If you start with only a sodded yard, and plant the trees, shrubs and herbs suggested on pages 4-5, your yard will be in Stage I. At this point you will already have some sparse, but usable wildlife habitat. In the early years, you really need to augment food and water resources with artificial feeders and birdbaths. Bird nesting will be limited, but here you can help with nesting boxes. Robins will feed on the lawn and ground-feeding sparrows and finches may forage among the shrubs and flowers. Cottontails may also come occasionally.

If you already have trees and shrubs in your yard but the kind, numbers and placement don't fit the total backyard habitat program outlined here, work out your own version of this plan. Use what you have to best advantage. Take out undesirable plants and relocate others.

Leave enough open space so you can observe wildlife without disturbing it. Consider the eventual heights of your plantings so the taller ones will be in the rear. Vary the heights of masses for a visually pleasing growth.

Stage II. It takes a yard about 5 to 10 years to progress from the initial plantings of Stage I to the fairly mature shrub condition of Stage II. The trees will be about 25 feet tall. If your yard is in this stage now, but is a dense wooded area of young trees and shrubs, make a plan to thin vegetation to achieve a balanced habitat.

In Stage II there will be enough flowers and fruits to



attract a variety of birds and insects, which will in turn attract reptiles and amphibians. A small pond will replace the birdbath. Robins will raise broods in the trees. Catbirds, cardinals and song sparrows will nest in the denser shrubbery. Dusk will bring rabbits to browse in the security of your yard. Mornings will find chipmunks emerging from holes in your stone wall to scurrry up trees.

Stage III. Starting from scratch, you can expect Stage III 30 to 40 years after initial planting. This means a yard with varied mature trees, with hardwoods in full fruit production, plus mature shrubs and sufficient open areas.

If, however, your yard has little shrubbery, but already has a reasonable number of these trees producing fruits and nuts, you can plant shrubbery and low vegetation to achieve Stage III in 5 to 10 years.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE *worked over a period of months with Ralph Winter, noted architectural artist, and a research team to develop this backyard wildlife feature. The authors are U.S. Forest Service specialists researching urban habitat needs for wildlife at the Environmental Forestry Research Unit, Amherst, Mass. Jack Ward Thomas, Unit Leader, and Richard M. DeGraaf are wildlife biologists; Robert O. Brush is a landscape architect experienced in wildlife management.*

This stage attracts the maximum number of wildlife species. Orioles and tanagers will nest in the higher branches; foliage-gleaning warblers will feed in the treetops. Rabbits will feed on the lawn and low shrubs and may even raise their young in well-hidden nests. Squirrels will live in tree hollows or nest boxes, if available. Chipmunks, field mice, garter snakes, toads, butterflies and other insects may make your backyard home.

As darkness falls, bats and nighthawks may swing through the sky on feeding flights. Deeper into the night, whip-poor-wills and owls will mingle their calls with croaks of frogs and the chirps and trills of katydids.

Four wildlife needs. All wildlife, indeed all life, requires four basic elements to survive: food; water; cover as protection from natural enemies and the elements; and areas where they can reproduce and bear their young in safety. Combinations of these four elements are unique for each species, but you can plan a habitat that offers enough combinations to attract the greatest number and variety of wildlife your area will support.

Working with the natural resources at your disposal, your aim should be to plan the vegetation, supply water and natural, as well as artificial food, so that you provide the maximum number of homes for wild creatures.

Be sure to select your plants carefully to provide the maximum overlap of flowering and fruiting times. Food

Shrubs are almost full-grown and trees are about 25 feet high with 5-10 years' growth. Enough flowers and fruits are present to attract birds and insects, which will in turn attract reptiles and amphibians. Rabbits and chipmunks should appear at this stage. Many birds can nest in the shrubbery.

should be available as needed. For birds, this means a year-round supply. If you have bird feeders, continue to fill them through the spring until new growth takes over.

Trees. Trees are the key element in progressing to Stage III because they take the longest to reach maturity. They're essential to most backyard wildlife, providing food, cover, and nesting sites for many songbirds as well as squirrels and raccoons.

Get advice locally on species best suited to your lot, considering soil, moisture, nutrients and sunlight. It is possible to overcome some natural limitations through watering, landscaping and fertilizing.

Shrubs. They are really more important than trees in your wildlife program. Shrubs are less fussy, grow faster and provide food, cover and reproduction areas for a great variety of wildlife which lives on or near the ground. Don't prune the lower branches.

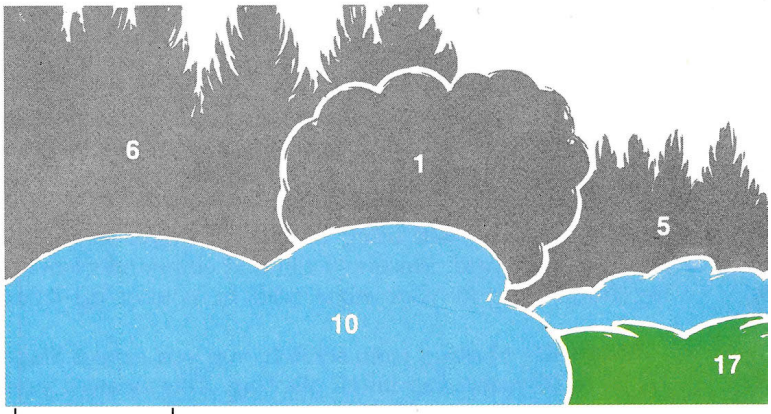
Blend your plantings. How you arrange your trees and shrubs is important. This suggested plan uses all of the basic principles of wildlife management to best advantage. For example, wildlife researchers have found

Key to Backyard Plantings

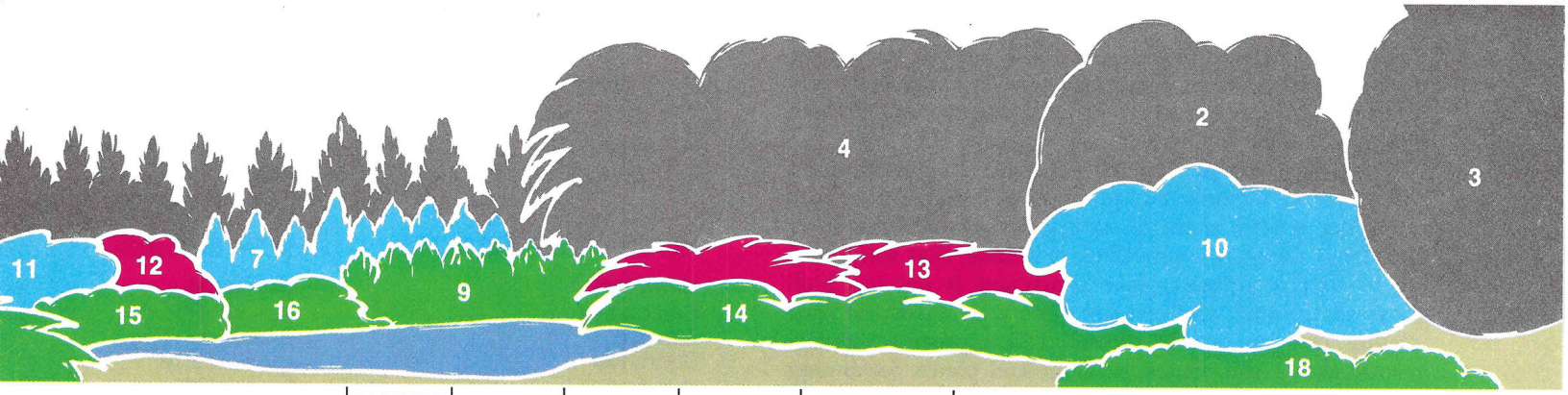
This list contains the plant materials suggested in our backyard wildlife plan for the Northeast. You may substitute others (see list on pages 6 - 7), but remember to select a variety of species that produce a year-round supply of food. Also, be sure that moisture and light requirements match your yard's conditions.

All the plants are available at commercial nurseries; many can also be transplanted from the wild.

An excellent guide to wildlife food habits is *American Wildlife and Plants* by Alexander C. Martin, Herbert S. Zim and Arnold L. Nelson (McGraw-Hill).

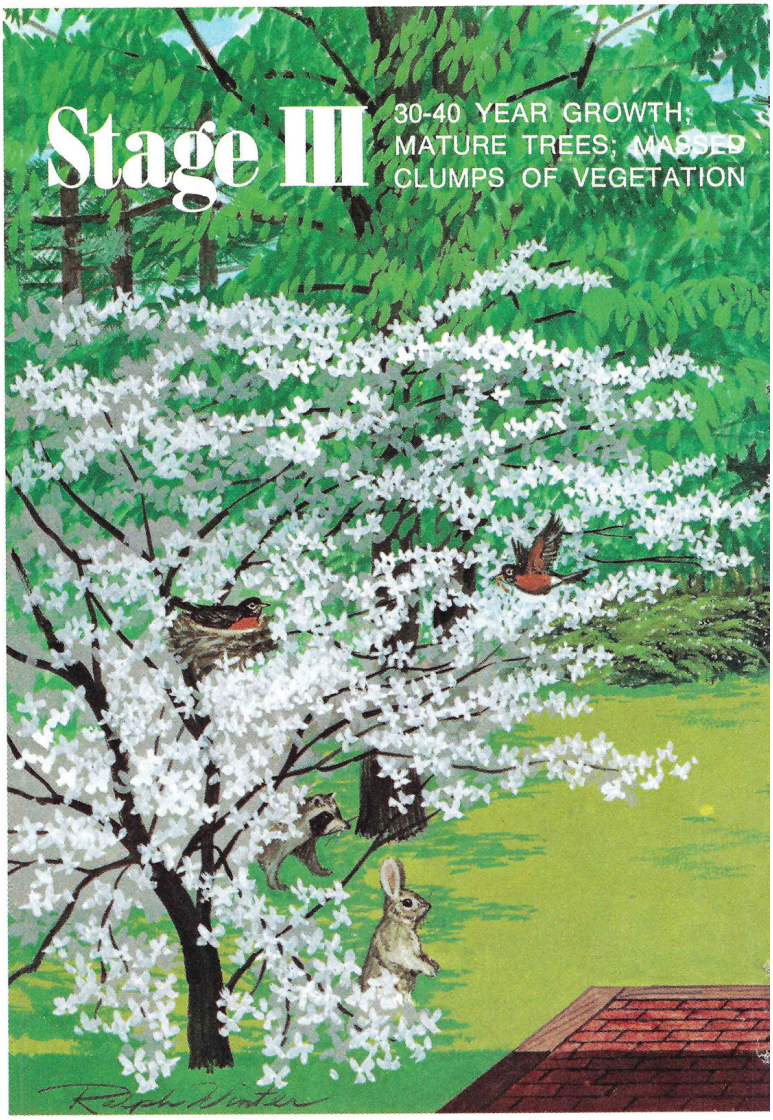


SPECIES	MATURE HEIGHT	FLOWERS	FRUITS	SUN/ SHADE	WET/DRY	WILDLIFE SERVED
Trees						
1. Beech	50-100′		Sept-Oct	Lt shd/sun	Moist	Nuts, seeds, acorns: fall and winter food for squirrels, large songbirds. Spring, summer foliage: cover and reproductive areas for songbirds, tree-dwelling mammals, insects. Leafless branches: winter roosting for birds.
2. Red oak	50-100′		Sept-Oct	Lt shd/sun	Moist	
3. White oak	40-100′		Sept-Nov	Lt shd/sun	Moist/dry	
4. Red maple	40-100′			Shd/sun	Moist/ well-drained	
5. White pine	40-100′		Aug-Sept	Sun	Dry	Cones: fall, winter food for pine squirrels, songbirds. Boughs: year-round cover, reproductive areas for songbirds, tree-dwelling mammals, insects.
6. White spruce	40-100′		Aug-Sept	Sun	Dry	
7. Hemlock	50-80′			Shd/sun	Moist	
8. Red cedar	30-80′		Sept-May	Sun	Moist/dry	
Small Trees						
9. Winterberry	10′	May	Oct	Lt shd	Wet/moist	Flowers: food for butterflies, other insects. Berries, fruit: fall, winter food for songbirds. Spring, summer foliage: cover, reproductive areas for songbirds. Leafless branches: winter cover, roosting for songbirds.
10. Flowering dogwood	10-40′	Mar-June	Aug-Nov	Sun	Well-drained/ dry	
Shrubs						
11. Hawthorne	10-20′	June	Oct-Mar	Sun	Dry	
12. Crabapple	15-30′	Mar-May	Sept-Nov	Sun	Moist/dry	
13. Autumn olive	10′	May-July	Sept-Feb	Sun/lt shd	Moist/dry	
14. Silky dogwood	6-8′	May-July	Aug-Sept	Sun/lt shd	Wet to dry	
15. Red osier dogwood	to 10′	May-Aug	July-Oct	Sun	Moist/wet	



SPECIES	MATURE HEIGHT	FLOWERS	FRUITS	SUN/ SHADE	WET/DRY	WILDLIFE SERVED
16. Elderberry	3-13′	June-July	Aug-Sept	Sun	Moist/wet	Spring, early summer flowers: food for butterflies, other insects. Berries: food for songbirds. Foliage: cover, reproductive areas for songbirds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects. Dead branches: winter cover for ground-dwelling mammals and birds.
17. Blackberry	to 10′	May-July	July-Sept	Sun	Moist	
18. Rhododendron	10-15′	May-July	Aug-Dec	Shd	Moist	Spring flowers: food for butterflies, other insects, hummingbirds. Foliage: dense cover, reproductive areas for songbirds, mammals. Rhododendron foliage: winter cover for songbirds, mammals.
19. Honeysuckle	to 10′	June-July	July-Sept	Sun/shd	Well-drained/ dry	
Annual Flowers						
20. Sunflowers	to 5′	Aug-Oct	Sept-Nov	Sun	Moist/dry	Flowers: food for butterflies, other insects. Seeds: late-summer, fall, winter food for many seed-eating birds, especially sparrows.
21. Asters	to 4′	Aug-Oct	Sept-Nov	Sun	Moist	
22. Daisies	to 2′	June-Aug	July-Sept	Sun	Dry	
23. Marigolds	to 2′	Aug-Oct	Sept-Nov	Sun	Moist/dry	
24. Black-eyed Susans	to 2′	June-Sept	July-Sept	Sun	Dry	

Mature trees, more than 50 feet tall, characterize a yard in Stage III, 30-40 years after initial planting. Hardwoods in full fruit production will provide food for squirrels and jays. Orioles and tanagers might rear young in higher branches. This stage will attract the maximum number of wildlife species.



that different plant growth forms – grasses, shrubs, trees – planted around open areas create the "edge effect." These edges attract the greatest variety and numbers of wildlife to the smallest piece of land.

When do you start? Today. Of course, the best time to plant trees and shrubs is spring or early fall. But you can make your all-important plan, clear out unproductive growth, and prepare your soil almost any time. Maybe you'll build a bird feeder the first rainy weekend.

What's the cost? The answer to that is how much do you want to spend? You can make your own plans, provide your own muscle power and, if you don't mind waiting a little while for concrete results, you can start with quite small plant materials.

Retail nursery and garden centers are equipped to give you advice and supply the needed plants. Mail order nursery catalogs carry a wealth of information.

If cost is not a concern, you can hire a landscape architect to design your own backyard and a landscape firm to do the installation. This way you will see the fastest results in the shortest time.

You will have additional cost for periodic maintenance. But expenditures for fertilizer, water and labor are no more for this kind of wildlife backyard than for a lawn.

How big a backyard? The backyard brought to life on these pages is about 100 feet by 120 feet (about one-fourth acre). If your yard is smaller, it may be impossible to provide food, water, cover and breeding areas for many species. But it *is* possible to provide one or more of them and attract *some* wildlife.

If you have no yard at all, you can still provide food and water in window box planters (see page 12). These can bring a little piece of nature into the lives of even apartment dwellers – provided, of course, that some bird life is already present, your apartment is not too high above the ground, and you can open your windows. Your window box can support the same basic processes as any natural area – soil, water, sunlight and plants combining to produce life in a microcosm. With a little luck, birds will make your window box a part of their lives.

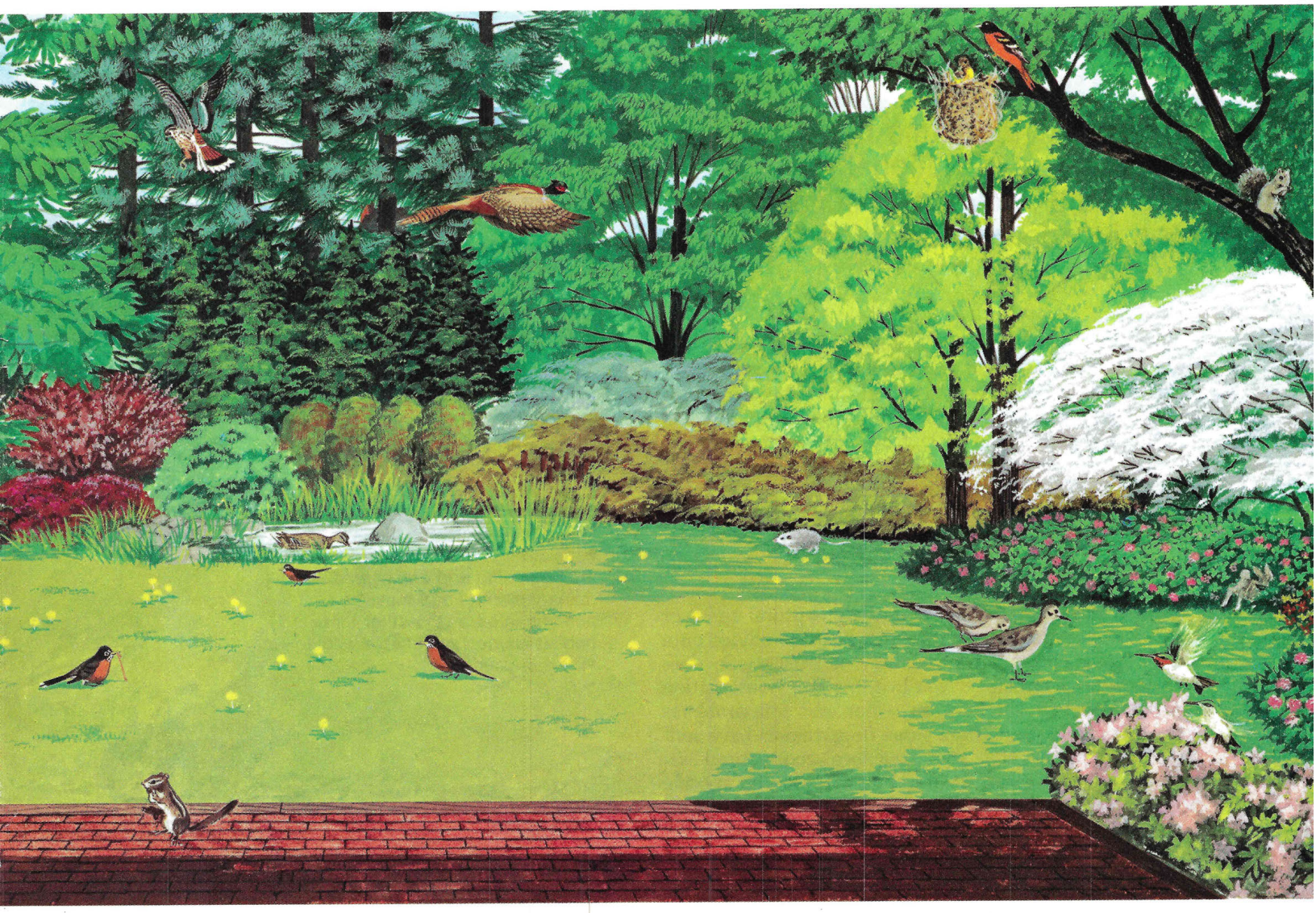
If your yard is larger than our model, you're lucky. You can use the same basic principles to create a wildlife habitat which is vastly more effective because it can be more complete, diverse and stable (see page 12). It takes an acre or more to attract animals higher in the food chain – those that live on other animal life. These would include hawks and owls, as well as raccoons, skunks and foxes, which eat both plants and small animals.

Cooperation with neighbors to provide a larger area of suitable habitat will multiply the effects of your efforts

Regional Equivalents for Plantings

The plant materials listed on pages 4-5 and illustrated on these pages grow best in the Northeast. Use this list to select those best suited to other areas.

HERBACEOUS GROWTH	LOW SHRUBS
Northeast	**Northeast**
Panicgrass	Blackberry
Timothy	Blueberry
Sunflower	Huckleberry
	Snowberry
Southeast	**Southeast**
Lespedeya spp.	Blackberry
Panicgrass	Blueberry
Sunflower	Bayberry
	Spicebush
	Huckleberry
Northwest	**Northwest**
Turkeymullein	Blackberry
Timothy	Blueberry
Sunflower	Snowberry
Filaree	Oregon grape
Lupine	
Fiddlenecks	
Tarweed	
Southwest	**Southwest**
Turkeymullein	Utah juniper
Sunflower	Blackberry
Filaree	Spicebush
Lupine	Prickly pear
Fiddlenecks	Algerita



TALL SHRUBS

Northeast
Sumac
Dogwood
Elderberry
Winterberry
Autumn olive
Wisteria

Southeast
Sumac
Dogwood
Elderberry

Northwest
Sumac
Bitterbrush
Russian olive
Elderberry
Buckthorn
Madrone

Southwest
Mulberry
Lote bush
Sumac
Manzanita
Madrone

SMALL TREES

Northeast
Flowering dogwood
Crabapple
Hawthorn
Cherry
Serviceberry
Red cedar

Southeast
Holly
Dogwood
Serviceberry
Cherry
Persimmon
Red cedar
Palmetto
Hawthorn
Crabapple

Northwest
Serviceberry
Dogwood
Hawthorn

Southwest
Serviceberry
Dogwood
Mesquite
Crabapple

TALL TREES

Northeast
Coniferous
White pine
Hemlock
Colorado spruce
Deciduous
Sugar maple
White oak
Red oak
Beech
Birch

Southeast
Coniferous
Longleaf pine
Loblolly pine
Shortleaf pine
Deciduous
Ash
Beech
Walnut
Live oak
Southern red oak
Black gun
Pecan
Hackberry

Northwest
Coniferous
Douglas fir
Ponderosa pine
Western white pine
Lodgepole pine
Colorado spruce
Deciduous
Oregon white oak
California black oak
Bigleaf maple

Southwest
Coniferous
Arizona cypress
Pinon pine
Deciduous
Live oak
Pine oak
Bitter cherry

Wildlife has the same needs in your yard as in National Forests... food, water, cover and suitable sites for reproduction

It works anywhere. While this backyard plan is designed for the Northeast, you can apply these same principles wherever you live. In Miami, fill your yard with night-blooming jasmine and lemon trees and listen to the mockingbirds. In Tucson, plant flowering cactus and enjoy the white-winged doves. In Seattle, grow lupine and attract western bluebirds. In a window box or a national forest, the same principles apply. So, no matter where your yard is, or how big it is, you can refer to the substitution chart on pages 6-7 for suitable plant materials.

Where to get help. Your county agricultural agent or state university landscape specialist has free advice on a wide variety of problems you may encounter. So does your local nurseryman. If you live in a Soil Conservation District, you can get help on water and soil problems from that office. Some state game departments have staff biologists that can help you. Your local zoo, natural history museum or nature center can tell you the specific needs of wildlife in your area. And some commercial nursery catalogs are gold mines of information.

Don't expect too much. The illustrations on these pages show the variety of wildlife that might visit your backyard over a 24-hour period. However, it will be impossible for you to attract every kind of animal you would like to see in your backyard. The combinations and amounts of food, water, shelter and breeding sites for each species are too complex and varied.

Only a limited number of animals can use a single yard as home, particularly during the breeding season when a bird may require a larger territory and will defend it against others. Once the breeding season ends, however, territorial defense stops and additional individuals and species may use your backyard.

Include your neighbors. Your small island of good habitat will be a happy haven for some wildlife. But you'll be more successful if you can persuade your neighbors to cooperate in a backyard habitat program. And as the trend toward urbanization continues, green space for people and plantings for wildlife will become increasingly important. By cooperating with your neighbors, you can create "wildlife neighborhoods" that will aid wildlife and make life more fun for you and your family.

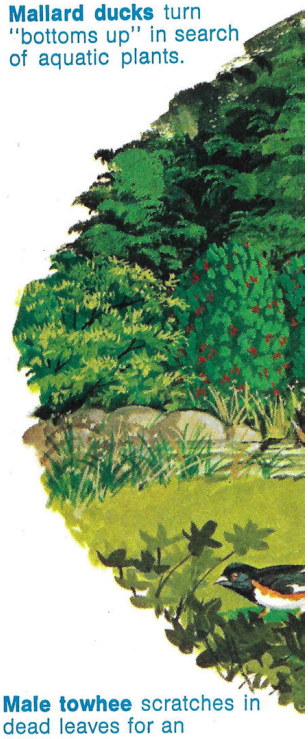
Informally, you can share plant materials and ideas. Formally, you can plan together. For example, if your yard is in Stage I, with only grass and shrubs, and is next to a neighbor's yard with 25-foot trees, the combined habitat would be close to Stage II in completeness. If you are lucky enough to have a neighbor with a stream or pond, or with a fairly wild woodlot or field, your total

Food

Food for wildlife is easy to furnish. You can supplement natural growth with a variety of products, especially for seed-eating birds. In fact, many people who don't have enough land to provide water, cover and reproductive areas can enjoy some wildlife through feeding alone.

The ideal wildlife management plan, however, supplies as much food as possible through vegetation, and variety — from berries to nuts — is necessary to meet the year-round needs of many species.

But don't make the mistake of considering food provision the beginning and end of wildlife management. Food must be accompanied by the other three habitat elements to enable wildlife to live in your yard.



Mallard ducks turn "bottoms up" in search of aquatic plants.

Male towhee scratches in dead leaves for an insect meal.

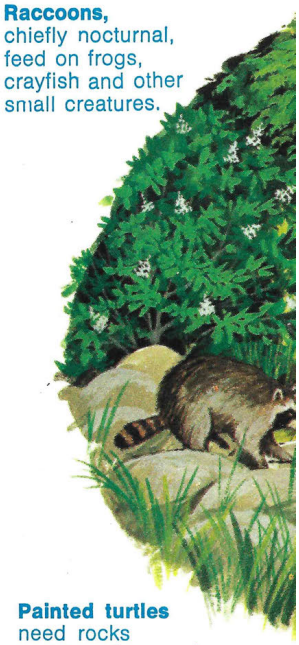
Water

You can fulfill wildlife's critical water needs — drinking and bathing — with a simple bird bath or ground watering device. Most desirable, however, is a small pool with an area large enough to support plants that grow in water, as well as around the edge. It will become the scene for a broad range of wildlife activity.

During the night, raccoons might make feeding forays while bats sweep the air above the pool for insects. In very early morning and late evening, rabbits will feed on the succulent growths around the edge, to the accompaniment of a nighthawk's plaintive "peent" as it, too, hunts insects overhead. Activity will drop during the day, but birds will still use the area for watering and bathing, turtles and frogs for sunning.

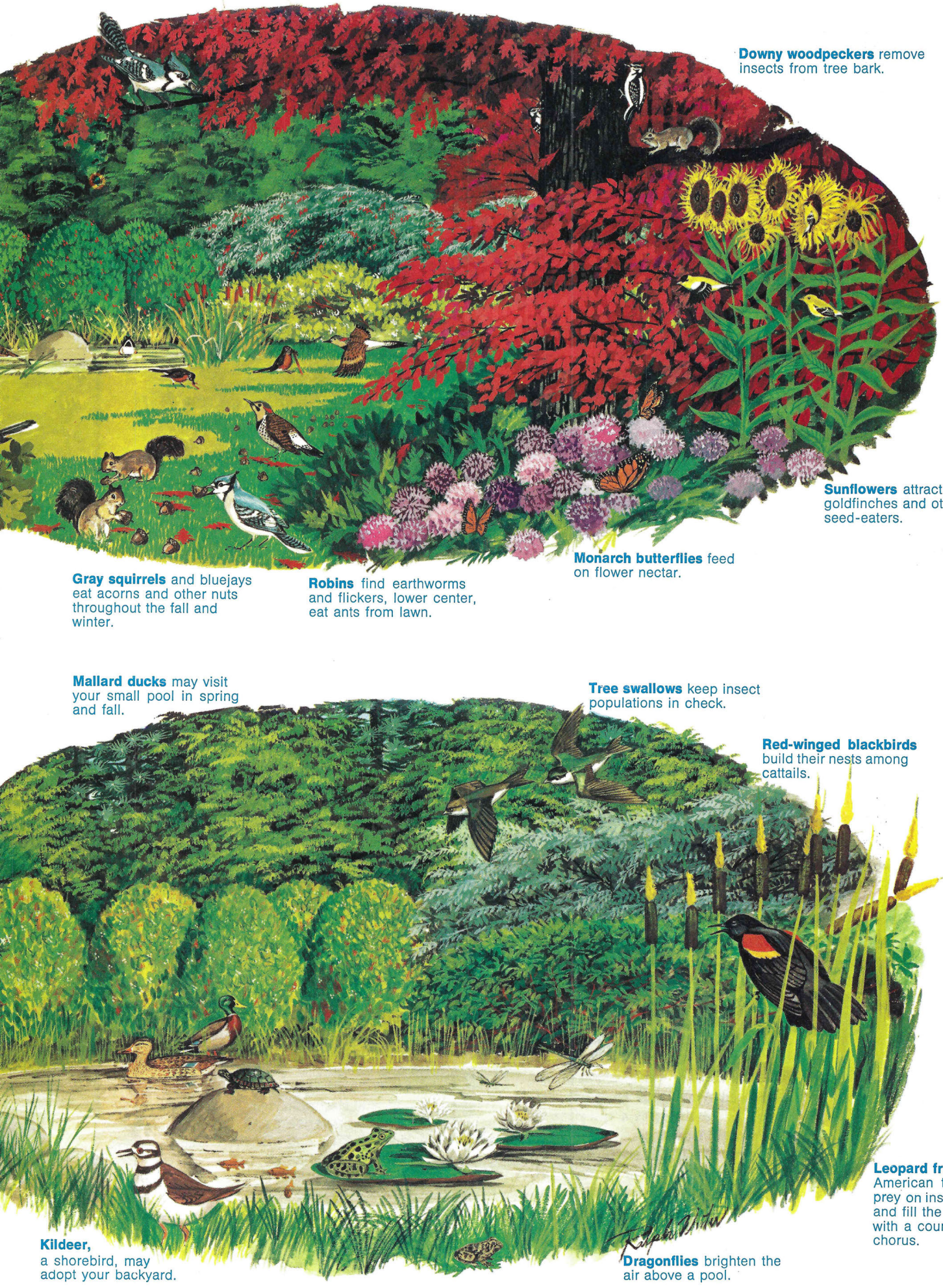
You can encourage winter activity by keeping a section of the pool ice-free; use a livestock trough warmer.

In addition to its wildlife value, the water area will provide a key focal point in the landscape design. Locate it to provide maximum visibility from the terrace or windows of the house.



Raccoons, chiefly nocturnal, feed on frogs, crayfish and other small creatures.

Painted turtles need rocks and logs for sunning.



Downy woodpeckers remove insects from tree bark.

Sunflowers attract goldfinches and other seed-eaters.

Monarch butterflies feed on flower nectar.

Gray squirrels and bluejays eat acorns and other nuts throughout the fall and winter.

Robins find earthworms and flickers, lower center, eat ants from lawn.

Mallard ducks may visit your small pool in spring and fall.

Tree swallows keep insect populations in check.

Red-winged blackbirds build their nests among cattails.

Leopard frogs, American toad, prey on insects and fill the night with a country chorus.

Kildeer, a shorebird, may adopt your backyard.

Dragonflies brighten the air above a pool.

Avoid uniformity; the greatest variety of wildlife species is found where one habitat type blends into another

habitat will attract wildlife much more successfully than your yard could alone. And if your neighbor likes wildlife too, he's not as likely to complain if rabbits wander into his cabbage patch.

Unwelcome wildlife. Let's face it, some wildlife tenants are unwelcome. Rabbits may girdle shrubs. Squirrels may rob bird feeders or get into attics. Snakes repel some people, and bees and wasps may sting if disturbed. You have two choices when faced with undesirable species. You can accept the situation, or you can control it.

If you decide on control, you can either alter the habitat to eliminate the life requirements of the unwanted animals, or directly remove the offending individuals. You can discourage squirrels by using bird feeders that are squirrel-proof, taking down winter nest boxes, sealing the attic and covering tree holes with tin. Or you may want to live-trap the squirrels and transplant them.

While the actions of dogs and cats, whether pets or strays, are natural and part of the drama of nature, you can do this: increase the cover, move the bird feeder out of reach of cats, or move it closer to protective cover. Or, chain the dog, bell the cat, build a fence.

What's the pay-off? As your habitat develops and grows, it will become an increasingly exciting and intimate part of your family's life. Your backyard can become a stage where wild animals are the stars and people the audience. Inviting wildlife to your backyard is probably the best way for children to learn a simple tenet of the complex science of ecology: life operates in one large system and everything in that system is interconnected; any change in one part affects the rest of the system.

The case presented here is simple. Man's habitat can be wildlife habitat, too. If we are to maintain any contact between urban and suburban man and nature, we must share our living space. Also, studies show that property values rise from three to ten percent with the addition of vegetation and good tree cover.

What's really important. Anthropologist Rhoda Metraux has said that only when man has incorporated into the urban setting all that he once gained through living in nature will he be "fully and faithfully . . . urbanized."

Our society has been alerted to the deterioration of our environment, and we have heard the call to great crusades, both public and private. Yet there is a question in many minds: what can one person do?

You can improve your own environment with plans like these and, in doing so, exhibit a concern for, and a faith in, the solution of environmental problems. And you can do it where it means most to you — in your own backyard.

Cover

Cover is any place that protects animals from predators and the weather. Different species have different cover requirements: rock piles or stone walls for chipmunks and lizards . . . brush piles or dense shrubs for cottontails and towhees . . . evergreens for chickadees and pine squirrels . . . water for frogs and turtles.

Cover also serves as a home base — the farther an animal must venture from cover, the more vulnerable it is to predators. So try to provide cover close to food and water. Many cover plants can also be food plants.

You can also arrange cover to please the eye. Define your yard's open spaces with trees, shrubs and stone walls, grading their heights so tall trees and shrubs won't block open areas and low growth from view.

Hooded warbler uses dense cover to escape from sparrow hawk.

Reproductive areas

All wildlife needs a specific kind of cover where it can produce young, and, in most cases, raise them. Each reproductive area must offer protection from the elements and be relatively safe — either inaccessible to predators or well hidden.

The diversity of cover you need for a complete habitat requires mature trees. These provide den sites for squirrels and nesting places for both high- and low-nesting birds.

Until your habitat is complete, you can compensate for a lack of big trees with nest boxes for squirrels and some birds — English sparrows, house wrens and tree swallows will probably use them.

Unmowed lawn edges and low shrubs are perfect sites for song sparrows and cottontails; the moistness will attract katydids, crickets and grasshoppers.

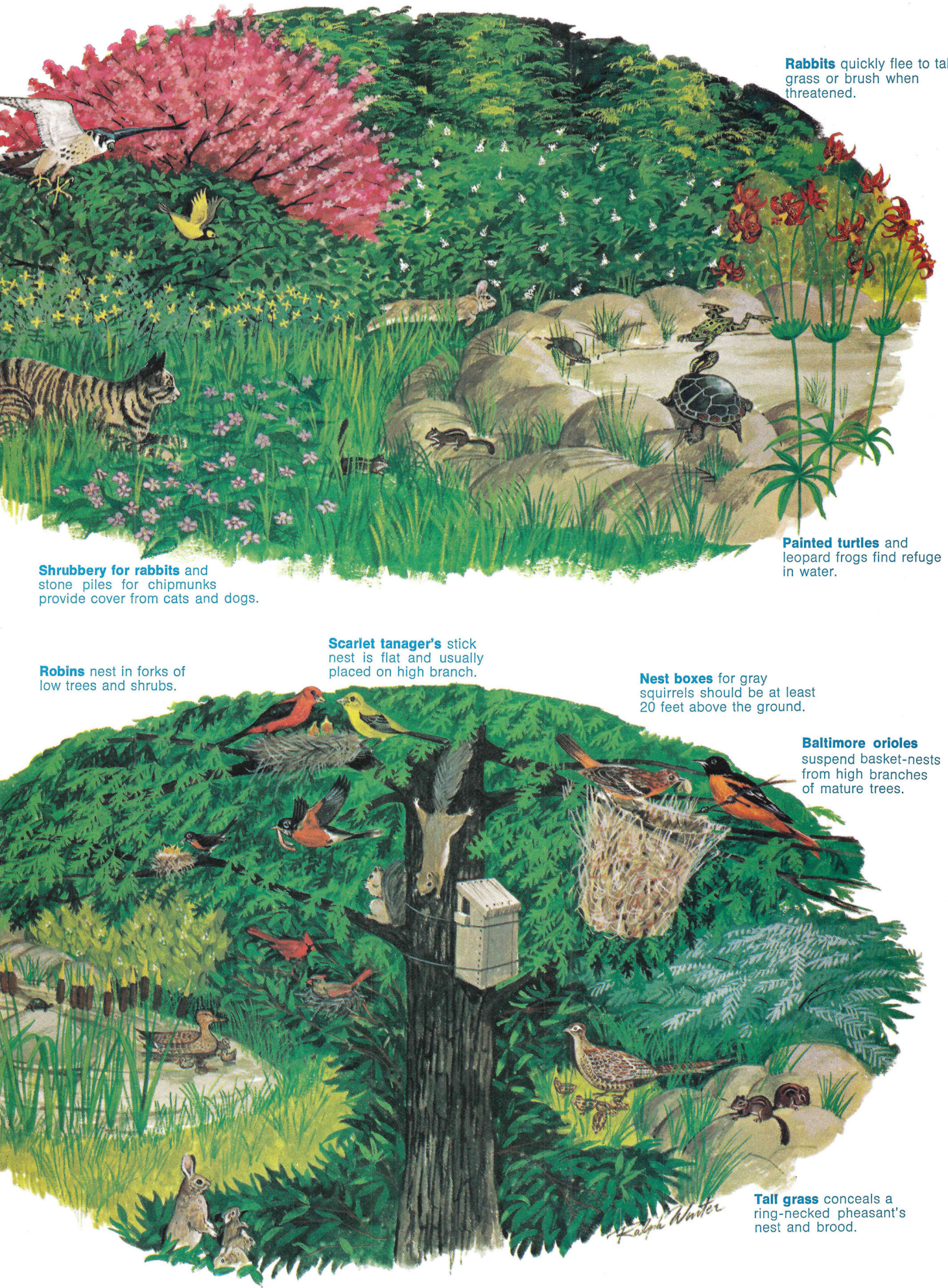
Frogs, toads, salamanders and fish may deposit their egg masses in the pool and its vegetation, and water insects such as dragonflies, waterstriders and back-swimmers will breed there.

Cardinals, center, need dense shrubbery for nesting.

Painted turtles live in water, but lay eggs on land near pool.

Mallards need high grass near water to nest and raise broods.

Rabbits make their hair-blanketed nests in tall grass.



Rabbits quickly flee to tall grass or brush when threatened.

Painted turtles and leopard frogs find refuge in water.

Shrubbery for rabbits and stone piles for chipmunks provide cover from cats and dogs.

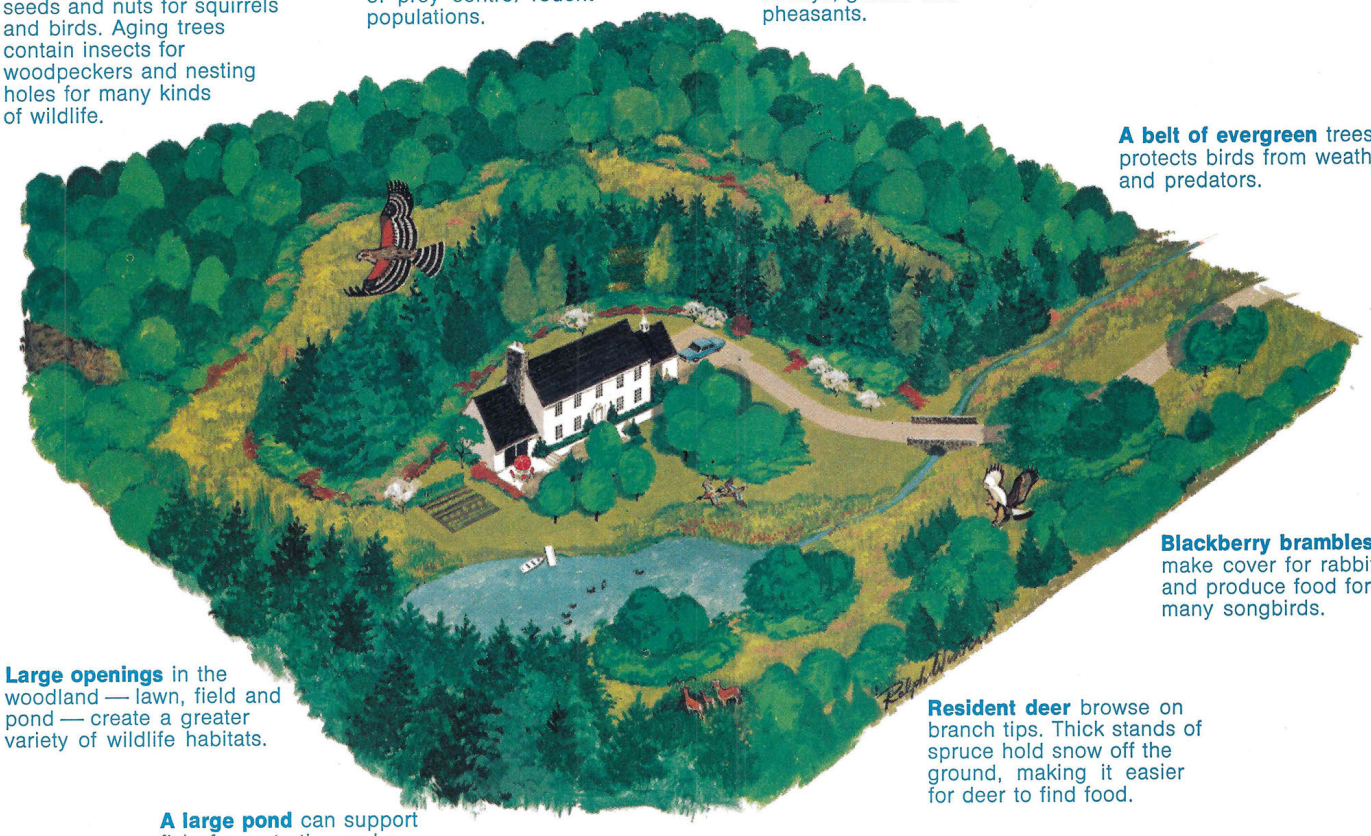
Scarlet tanager's stick nest is flat and usually placed on high branch.

Robins nest in forks of low trees and shrubs.

Nest boxes for gray squirrels should be at least 20 feet above the ground.

Baltimore orioles suspend basket-nests from high branches of mature trees.

Tall grass conceals a ring-necked pheasant's nest and brood.



...Three acre lot

Increased size allows you to expand all the requirements of wildlife to support more species, including bigger animals and those higher on the food chain.

...Window box

If you don't have a yard, you can use a window box planter to provide three basic elements — food, water and cover — to support a microcosm of life.

MAKE YOUR BACKYARD OFFICIAL:

Realizing the tremendous value of wildlife which is so rare in urban and suburban communities, the National Wildlife Federation has launched a program to establish a nationwide network of mini-refuges in the backyards of Federation members.

"We're proud of the way many of our members are already providing for wildlife," says Thomas L. Kimball, Executive Vice President of the Federation, "and we want to applaud them. If thousands of others would follow their example, vast amounts of land in residential neighborhoods could be turned into a tremendous asset to wildlife – and people."

All Associate Members who have a backyard are eligible to participate in this Backyard Wildlife Program. Every member whose application shows evidence of good wildlife habitat may receive a Backyard Wildlife Registration Certificate. In addition, he or she will be eligible to receive a bronze medallion Award for Backyard Wildlife Improvement.

For details on the Backyard Wildlife Program, or reprints of this article at 25 cents each, write to: Backyard Wildlife Program, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.