

# Creature Comforts

Create habitats to invite native wildlife to your backyard.



## The Backyard Community

There is a lot of wildlife living alongside us, whether we actually see them or not! Birds tend to be the most obvious, but salamanders, lizards, turtles, butterflies, moths, and a myriad of other species may be in your backyard.

**Wildlife need food, shelter, water, and habitat connections to live comfortably.**

To attract native wildlife - think about their needs. The tips below can help attract and support different types of critters.



## Attracting Birds

- Install bird feeders and bird baths
- Provide native vegetation for cover
- Keep cats indoors

## Attracting Pollinators

- Mow less - even keeping a portion unmowed can help
- Use less herbicides and insecticides
- Plant a variety of native wildflowers, trees and shrubs such as red cedar, silky dogwood, and blueberries

## Attracting Reptiles and Amphibians

Leave an area of the yard with natural leaf cover and fallen logs to help them find reliable habitat and food.



For more information check out New Jersey Fish and Wildlife's website [dep.nj.gov/njfw/conservation/backyard-habitats/](https://dep.nj.gov/njfw/conservation/backyard-habitats/)