



Illinois Audubon Society
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www.illinoisaudubon.org

The mission of the Illinois Audubon Society is to promote the perpetuation and appreciation of native plants and animals and the habitats that support them. Independent from National Audubon, the Illinois Audubon Society is a privately supported, not-for-profit, statewide organization. It was founded in 1897 and is Illinois' oldest conservation organization with over 2300 members, 19 chapters and 13 affiliate groups. IAS currently owns and manages 10 sanctuaries (985.5 acres) for wildlife, and as a land trust, IAS has added an additional 2000 acres which are now being protected and managed for habitat and biodiversity throughout Illinois.

For more information regarding the Certified Backyard Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary Project contact: ias@illinoisaudubon.org

Applications can also be downloaded from our website at:
www.illinoisaudubon.org

USING NATIVE SPECIES IN YOUR BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY

Birds, butterflies, bees and other wildlife have evolved with native plants. The best nectar sources, the best fruits, and the best nesting foliage are provided by the plants which have grown in our Illinois landscape for thousands of years. There are many reasons for using native plants in your yard rather than those imported from around the world.

Our native plants are adapted for our climate. They are able to survive periods of hot weather and drought. Lowland species can withstand periodic flooding. Native plants do not become invasive and spread like wildfire through the landscape, smothering other species and developing monocultures that are unfavorable to wildlife. Native trees and shrubs are better suited as nesting sites and food sources than many exotic species which are widely available in nurseries.

Diversity is very important in maintaining a home for wildlife. Native plants meet the needs of our insects, spiders, birds, small mammals, amphibians and reptiles. When planning your backyard sanctuary, **THINK NATIVE!!**

<u>Nectar Providers</u>	Caterpillar food
Boneset	Dill, parsley, fennel,
Black-Eyed Susan	Carrot
Blazing Star	Hollyhock
Dandelion	Alfalfa, clover
Dogbane	Broccoli, cabbage
Goldenrod	(mustard family)
Joe-Pye-Weed	Sunflowers
Milkweeds	Milkweed
New England Aster	Willow, cottonwood, elm
Thistle	
Wild Bergamot	
Yarrow	

ILLINOIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Helping Preserve Illinois Flora and Fauna Since 1897



Certified Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary Project



Certified

Bird and Butterfly

Sanctuary Project

Your backyard can become a Certified Illinois Audubon Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary!

While maintaining your grounds to attract wildlife, you will be adding to the value of your property and the beauty of your neighborhood.

It is important to *educate* everyone on the importance of maintaining an environmentally sound backyard habitat and to warn the public about the dangers of dependence on chemicals to control weeds and insects — there are safer alternatives available.

Every participant qualifies for the sanctuary designation will receive a certificate and a sign for posting the property.



shelter food space

Does your yard have the four elements of backyard habitat?

Illinois Audubon Society

HOW TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION:

1. Your yard must have plantings especially suited to attracting birds and butterflies and provide the four basic elements of habitat: **Food, Shelter, Water and Space**. This should include trees and shrubs to provide nesting cover for birds, berry-producing shrubs, and flowers for hummingbirds and butterflies. It may also include nest boxes if there is space, and should have a birdbath, small pond or other source of water.
2. You must agree to use a **minimal amount chemicals** in maintaining your sanctuary. Many herbicides and pesticides are detrimental to birds, bees and butterflies, and can also be harmful to people and pets (preferably none).
3. You must use your yard or grounds to **educate** other people about the importance of bird and butterfly plantings. This can take many forms-- simply telling neighbors and visitors about the Illinois Audubon Society Backyard Sanctuary Program and showing them the special plantings in your yard; giving a slide presentation to a group concerning the importance of backyard habitat, or inviting them to view your yard.
4. **Fill out the application** form and send along a brief paragraph explaining how you have provided the four main elements of habitat: Food, Shelter, Water and Space. Please include a photo or two for our files of your yard showing that it is "bird and butterfly friendly."

APPLICATION FOR CERTIFIED BIRD AND BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY

Name _____

Address _____

I agree to give IAS permission to use photos submitted and the following information in presentations, press releases and on the IAS website as stated below. (Please circle your preferences)

Yes No My backyard may be listed as "The (name) Certified Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary" (For example: "The Smith Certified Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary")

Yes No The city/town where my Bird and Butterfly Sanctuary is located may be listed (**exact street addresses will never be publicized.**)

Please include a \$10 application fee and send to: Illinois Audubon Society, PO Box 2547, Springfield, IL 62708