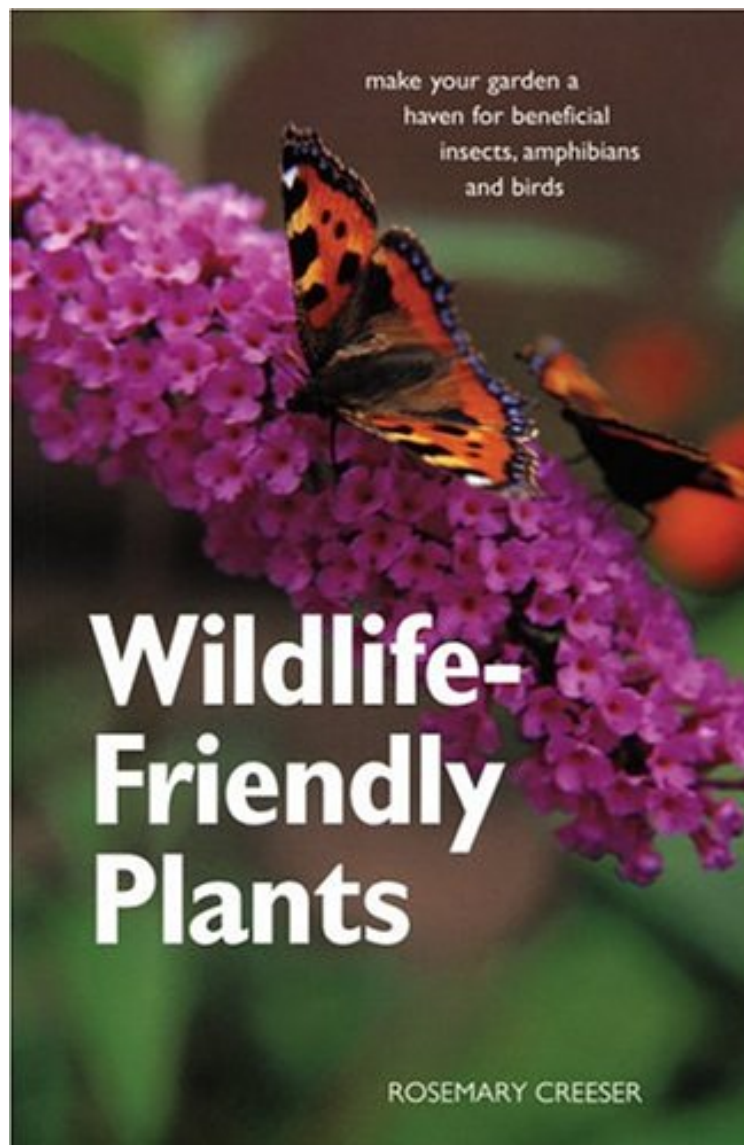


[Mobile book] Wildlife-Friendly Plants: Make Your Garden a Haven for Beneficial Insects, Amphibians and Birds

Wildlife-Friendly Plants: Make Your Garden a Haven for Beneficial Insects, Amphibians and Birds

Rosemary Creeser

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Rosemary Creeser : Wildlife-Friendly Plants: Make Your Garden a Haven for Beneficial Insects, Amphibians and Birds before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wildlife-Friendly Plants: Make Your Garden a Haven for Beneficial Insects, Amphibians and Birds:

6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The joys of plants and animals
By Yvonne Rogers
This is a wonderful book that makes you think about which plants to select and grow in your garden, backyard, roof top or balcony with a view not just for the colors, fragrances and beauty they bring to you as a human but also what kinds of wildlife they can attract to also enjoy the fragrances, blooms, blossoms and nectars they provide. The guidance on how to do this throughout the book is clear and beautifully illustrated, with enticing descriptions of nectar-rich plants for attracting different species, from bees to birds throughout the year. Suggestions like planting a creeping thyme that is nectar-rich in the small crevices between the stones on a gravel path to enable butterflies to bask in the early morning sunshine provides a quite different way of thinking about what to plant in a garden. Not just to enrichen your own experience but also provide a haven, a home and a food supply for insects. The extensive plant directory also includes a wonderful set of home drawn (and easy to understand) set of symbols for both plant and wildlife attributes - my favorite being the kinky shaped caterpillar. Each plant is described in terms of the region it will grow in, where to plant it and how to care for it to attract a range of wildlife. Living in the mid-west of the USA, I was intrigued to see what plant plus wildlife combos I could experiment with. I am squarely in zone 5 and was pleased to see from the list of plants that most would attract a range of wildlife, although sadly Indiana is not suitable for growing the poached egg plant (*limnanthes douglasii*) which thrives further south. This book will greatly appeal to those who are interested in encouraging (and discouraging) certain kinds of insects, amphibians and birds to their gardens. While the advice suggests postponing deadheading and trimming spent flowers till a little later in the season (to encourage the wildlife to drink the remaining nectar) the trade-off in doing so is to provide wildlife with both food and a place to hibernate over winter without disruption. What better form of altruism. This book provides a different way of thinking about flora and fauna, especially if you are curious about attracting wildlife to your garden.
6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Recommends common invasives which negatively impact wildlife habitat
By Lorel
I purchased this book because I do gardening for wildlife in Florida and thought it would be a good read. I was appalled that one of the plants recommended was English Ivy which is a major exotic invasive in the United States which has negative impacts on our natural areas. To recommend a common invasive that Governments spend millions of dollars to remove so it doesn't hurt our wildlife doesn't speak well of this as a reference guide. Pass this one up.
4 of 6 people found the following review helpful. From soil preparation to choosing the right plants
By Midwest Book Review
Many home gardeners wish to create a natural habitat for wildlife but don't know how: Rosemary Creeser's bright *Wildlife Friendly Plants: Make Your Garden A Haven For Beneficial Insects, Amphibians And Birds* covers plants which invite not only birds, but beneficial insects and amphibians, expanding the number of creatures which fall under the 'beneficial' flag. Contrasting colors, scents, and shapes are the heart of creating such a sanctuary, and Creeser's practical advice covers everything from soil preparation to choosing the right plants that go together.

A practical and inspiring guide. Wildlife gardening books have traditionally focused on large gardens in rural areas where there is ample space to plant large trees and hedges. For many new gardeners or those living in urban areas, working with a small space presents a variety of challenges when trying to attract beneficial wildlife. *Wildlife-Friendly Plants* is a practical guide specifically designed to help gardeners choose the best plants for encouraging and supporting wildlife. By attracting beneficial wildlife, gardeners can eliminate the use of a range of chemicals and create a healthier environment. This book is intended for any size garden from large to small in the city or country. *Wildlife-Friendly Plants* includes: Beautifully photographed directory of wildlife friendly plants Helpful step-by-step projects for planting, pruning and dividing Extended backflap with a guide to the symbols used throughout the book. Many of these plants are perfect for use in small spaces, such as a patio, terrace or window box. With the valuable suggestions for use, planting and maintenance, anyone can create a safe haven for beneficial insects, amphibians and birds. *Wildlife-Friendly Plants* is the ideal book for gardening and wildlife enthusiasts everywhere.

From Publishers Weekly
Enthusiasm for attracting wildlife has influenced gardeners on both sides of the Atlantic with ecologically admirable results. Creeser, who lives in London and is active in organic efforts in Canada and the U.S., focuses on plants that attract helpful creatures in Britain and/or North America. Three succinct chapters give cursory but sound advice on "Creating a Haven for Wildlife," "How to Plant" and "Encouraging and Sustaining Wildlife." An alphabetical "Plant Directory" follows, listing desirable plants with general descriptions, recommended cultivars, preferred locations and suggestions for care. These are generally reliable, but there are problematic exceptions. The attractive color photographs, almost exclusively closeups of flowers in bloom, are seductive but uninformative. Readers learn what the flower looks like at its prime, but nothing of the habit of the plant. Cultural recommendations are inconsistent and often do not address local requirements. Esthetics are also at risk. Readers are exhorted to let spent flowers go to seed, leave the detritus from pruning on the ground for days and permit brush to pile up. This will encourage birds, amphibians and bugs, but probably won't make for an attractive landscape. For those who already embrace wildlife gardening, Creeser may have some useful tips. Newcomers, however, will find her guidance confusing at best. 180 color photos. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.
From Booklist
No matter what size the garden or where it's located, attracting and supporting wildlife is one

of the most beneficial of gardening activities. Although the common perception is that wildlife can only be found on large tracts of country land, Creaser demonstrates that, in nature, the "field of dreams" rule applies: if you build it, she says, they will come. By they, she means insects, birds, butterflies, and amphibians that can add life to the garden, and that need a garden habitat in order to survive. Knowing how to encourage wildlife is only part of a successful approach. The other is determining which plants are wildlife-friendly, and to that end, Creaser provides a comprehensive plant directory of perennials, trees, and shrubs. Complemented by breathtaking color photographs, each entry features informative symbols for at-a-glance reference. As beneficial wildlife populations diminish, it is more important than ever that gardeners plan and plant with these creatures in mind. Creaser's compact new guide makes that easy to do. Carol Haggas Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved Emphasizes both plant selection and wildlife-friendly gardening practices... and essential reference for all garden and wildlife enthusiasts. (Jessie Keith American Gardener 2004-09-15) Extensive plant directory... advocates organic methods but places a stronger emphasis on native plants and includes cautionary notes on invasives... highly recommended for public libraries. (Bonnie Poquette Library Journal 2004-11-01) An attractive, informative, and engaging book. It is recommended for gardening collections in rural, suburban, and urban areas. (January Adams American Reference Books Annual, Volume 36) Especially easy-to-use and with an attractive time-saving arrangement... perfect addition to the horticultural library. (Joanne S. Carpender National Garden Clubs) Ecologically admirable results... focuses on plants that attract helpful creatures. (Publishers Weekly 2004-09-13) 95 wildlife-friendly plants, each with a beautifully photographed specimen, practical advice for growing and at-a-glance symbols to easily identify plant information. (David Hobson Kitchener-Waterloo Record 2004-10-02) Comprehensive plant directory... breathtaking photographs, each entry features informative symbols for at-a-glance reference. As beneficial wildlife populations diminish, it is more important than ever that gardeners plan and plant with these creatures in mind. Creaser's compact new guide makes that easy to do. (Carol Haggas Booklist 2004-10-01) Tips and ideas for plants that attract a wide variety of aesthetically pleasing and useful birds and insects. (Science News 2004-10-23) A great place for beginners to start. It contains everything one needs to know in establishing a wildlife-friendly yard, without information overload. Whether your garden is large or small, in city, country or suburb, topics included here can be used by all. (Jewel Vanderhoef Lexington Herald-Leader 2005-03-05) Not only a cheerful book, but one that makes a lot of sense in planning a garden... ideally suited to gardeners living in cramped urban areas. (Ken Smith London Free Press 2004-11-27) Organic gardening tips... this book will interest a large and growing readership of landscape enthusiasts. (Colette Leaser-Freeman E-Streams) Appeals to the naturalist in me... a very user-friendly gardening guide book, and the photographs make it easy to imagine your future dream-garden. (Jill McCubbin Independently ed)