



Backyard Habitat for Wildlife



TWEED
SHIRE COUNCIL

What is Backyard Habitat for Wildlife?

The Backyard Habitat for Wildlife program offers urban landholders a great opportunity to conserve our unique environment in their own backyards!

Backyard Habitat for Wildlife supports landholders who love native animals and who have areas of native habitat in their backyards.

Why is backyard native habitat important?

Land clearance and other intensive modifications to the natural environment have destroyed or degraded large tracts of land and put at risk the survival of many native animals.

In urban areas, backyard habitats have become important sanctuaries for fauna providing food, shelter and a place to breed. Neighbouring backyards containing native habitat and even scattered or single trees have become important corridors enabling native animals to move through the landscape. Backyard native habitats are now the new home for many native animals.

What can I do to encourage wildlife in my backyard?

Creating a wildlife-friendly backyard is easy, inexpensive and lots of fun. It can help improve backyard amenity and can be used to create a comfortable microclimate around your house and outdoor living areas.

Although it makes sense to plan wildlife-friendly gardens from the ground up, encouraging wildlife into your backyard can be as simple as:

- Planting native trees and shrubs instead of exotics
- Retaining or installing rocky areas, hollow logs and small ponds
- Installing a bird bath or nest box
- Ensuring native animals are safe from pets.

There is a particular joy in observing wildlife, safe and protected, going about their business in your own backyard.

How do I join Backyard Habitat for Wildlife?

To join, simply log on to www.yoursaytweed.com.au/backyard-habitat and click on the registration form icon. Once you join, a range of information is available on site to help you maintain your wildlife habitat.

What will I receive?

Joining the program is free and there are no meetings. When you join you receive:

- Factsheets and other information
- A great sign for your letterbox or gate
- Opportunities to network with other people who love native animals
- Invitations to free workshops
- The opportunity to share pictures of your favourite wildlife with other members

To minimise unnecessary use of resources, the Backyard Habitat for Wildlife program will be largely paper-free. The program website will be used to facilitate forums and share wildlife pictures and other information with members.

For those without internet access, hard copy registration forms will be available at the Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads Civic Centres.

For further program information contact Council's Project Officer – Biodiversity, Michael Corke, on (02) 6670 2592 or email mcorke@tweed.nsw.gov.au

