

Chapter 1 : How to Create a Green Anole Habitat: 7 Steps (with Pictures)

Native Plants How Urban Landscapers Use Native Plants to Create Habitats for Wildlife. Increasingly, popular public spaces are using a conservation-oriented gardening philosophy that can also transform communities.

Tell students they are going to form groups to research different habitats of the world. Each group will produce a report on its habitat including the following information: A physical description of the habitat Examples of the habitat geographical locations Examples of animals and plants that live in the habitat In addition, each group will be given a specific assignment that will require the group to show how the animals in the assigned habitat are adapted for life there. On the chalkboard, write the names of the different habitats students will investigate: Then divide your class into six groups, assigning each group one of those habitats to research. Following are specific assignments for each group. Research the speeds of animals that live in the African grasslands. Create a display that compares the different speeds of these animals. Write an explanation for why speed is important for survival in the grasslands. There are few trees or places for animals to hide in grasslands habitats. Therefore, speed is important for both predators that are hunting and animals that are fleeing predators. Explain to students that in the winter, less water is available for trees to take in through their roots, because much of the water in the ground is frozen. Since trees lose water through their leaves, losing leaves is a way for a tree to conserve water. Coniferous trees do not lose nearly as much water through their needles as deciduous trees lose through their leaves. Put a twig from a coniferous tree cone-bearing tree with needles instead of leaves in a cup of water, and tightly fasten a clear plastic bag around its needles. Put a twig from a deciduous tree leafy tree that loses its leaves in the fall in a cup of water, and tightly fasten a clear plastic bag around the leaves. Draw pictures and write an explanation for what you observed. There will be more water droplets on the inside of the bag covering the leaves, showing that leaves lose more water than do needles. Describe the three main levels of the rain forestâ€”canopy, understory, and forest floor. Make a diagram or model showing examples of animals and plants that live on each level. Choose an animal or plant from each level and explain how it is adapted to its particular place in the tropical rain forest. Choose a desert animal or plant. Make a model of it, draw it, or describe it. Explain how it is particularly well adapted to survive in a place where there is very little water. The saguaro has stored-up water during the long desert dry periods. Research both the polar bear North Pole and the penguin South Pole. Draw or make a model of each animal. For each animal, explain at least three waysâ€”physical or behavioral characteristicsâ€”in which it is well adapted for life in a very cold and snowy climate. Explain how a tidepool is formed, and describe several animals that are found in tidepools. Make two models of a tidepoolâ€”one at high tide and one at low tide. Use sand, rocks, salt water, and other materials e. Draw at least three tidepool animals and explain how they survive in a constantly changing habitat sometimes wet, sometimes dry.

Chapter 2 : How to Create a Wildlife-Friendly Habitat Garden | This Old House

Best plants to create habitat One of the best reasons to grow native plants is that they do more to provide ecosystem services than non-native plants. With pollinators and birds in decline, it's a great way to help.

Just like humans and other animals, pollinators need food, water, shelter and space collectively known as habitat to support robust populations. Creating habitat is something that everyone can do to help support pollinators in their area. They have coevolved with plants and the relationship between plants and pollinators is very intricate; each relying on each other for survival. These important services help many plants complete their lifecycles, as well as ensuring food and shelter for humans and other animals for many generations. Pollinators visit flowers to collect nectar and pollen which provides nutrition for their offspring. Photo by Lisa Mason Figure 1b: Photo by Lisa Mason Figure 1c: Photo by Lisa Mason Figure 2: Photo by Lynn and Gene Monroehabitats Figure 3: Honey bee covered in pollen grains. Photo by Bruce Leander Figure 4: Pollinators include bees, wasps, beetles, flies, moths, butterflies, hummingbirds, and bats Fig. However, just because an insect or a bird is visiting a flower, it is not necessarily a pollinator Fig. Pollinators move between flowers of the same plant species in an orderly fashion, whereas flower visitors move haphazardly among flowers spending very little time within a flower. Even if it does happen that a flower visitor gathers pollen grains on its body, it will not necessarily move to the same flower species, therefore pollination would not occur. How Pollination Happens When a pollinator enters a flower, pollen grains from that flower stick to its body Fig. The pollinator then moves to another flower on the same plant or a different plant, but of the same species. This leads to the transfer of pollen from its body to the next flower resulting in cross-pollination. Pollination is essential for plant reproduction – production of fruits and seeds. It is important to note that not all plants rely on pollinators, some are wind pollinated such as most of our grains: What is Pollinator Habitat? Just like humans and other animals, pollinators need food, water, shelter and space to support robust populations. Pollinator habitat is an area with a variety of flowering plants that provide food and nesting space. The habitat may be a natural setting such as a prairie or a meadow, or it could be manmade where a combination of flowering plants are cultivated specifically to provide nutrition and nesting space for pollinators. Manmade pollinator habitats can be found in a variety of settings, both large and small. Some gardens, such as botanical gardens, may be a collection of plants used for conservation and display purposes and in other cases, gardens may be places where new varieties of flowering plants are being evaluated; these, along with home gardens can serve as pollinator habitat. In most cases, when there are several flowering plants all in bloom, pollinators will be attracted to them Fig. If a habitat is intentionally planted to provide nutrition for pollinators, then it needs to contain a mixture of plant species so that bloom times range from early spring to late fall. This ensures that flowers will be available throughout the pollinator activity season. Home gardens, parks, community gardens, prairies and meadows can all provide pollen and nectar. These habitats can be refuges for pollinators foraging through lawns and farmlands that may not have the floral resources they need. How to Create Pollinator Habitat You can design a garden that is both beautiful for you and provides habitat food, water and shelter for pollinators. An important factor to consider when planning a habitat garden is what type of pollinator you are designing it for. Providing plants that bloom early in the season until late is important for all pollinators, but you should also consider what type of flowers and potential nesting sites to make the garden attractive to different species. For instance, bees prefer a broad range of plants, some of which may provide pollen only, while others provide pollen and nectar. Flower size also matters. Some native bees are quite large and prefer size appropriate smaller bees will be able to work smaller flowers more effectively. When planting for pollinators it is important to consider the structure of the flowers too. Different species may be more or less inclined to visit a bell shaped flower over a flat disk shaped flower and vice versa. Bees like to focus on flowers of similar structure and so grouping flowers of similar structure together while designing the landscape will work in sync with their preferences. It is best to plant in layers, replicating nature. Begin by establishing a basic structure with trees and shrubs. Then add perennials, grasses, and groundcovers as further layers within the landscape. Plant list for forage The list of plants for pollinator habitats will vary for different

parts of Colorado as climatic conditions, soil quality, elevation and water availability are highly variable. Here are some suitable plants that are grouped based on the flowering season. Again, it is important to have plants that bloom from early spring through summer and as late into the fall as possible to provide continual resources for pollinators. This list may be updated periodically so check back before planting season and make sure plants you choose are appropriate to your area.

Chapter 3 : CO-Horts: Best plants to create habitat

Plant and Create Pollinator Habitat Gardens More than 85 percent of flowering plants require an insect for pollination which allows for the production of fruit and seed. These fruits and seeds are a part of the diet of about 25 percent of birds, and many mammals.

Garden for Wildlife Photo Contest Plant and Create Pollinator Habitat Gardens More than 85 percent of flowering plants require an insect for pollination which allows for the production of fruit and seed. These fruits and seeds are a part of the diet of about 25 percent of birds, and many mammals. Native bees pollinate an estimated 15 percent of U. S fruit, nut, vegetable, and field crops. Every individual can help by providing the following. Food Provide native flowering plants and trees that sustain pollinators with nutrient rich nectar and pollen. Learn more about the plants in your region that pollinators evolved with and rely upon. Places to Raise Young Butterflies need special host plants as food for their caterpillars. Planting host plants attracts more butterflies and allows them to successfully produce the next generation. Find host plants for butterflies and moths native to your area. Most native bees are solitary and lay eggs in tiny tunnels in dead trees, fallen. Leave standing dead trees, fallen logs, and bare patches of sandy soil. You can even put out a bee house filled with nesting tubes. Attract hummingbirds by planting dense shrubs for nesting. Sustain Healthy Pollinator Habitat Avoid Pesticides Attract ladybugs, predatory wasps and other natural enemies of garden pests. Native plants attract these beneficial pest predators. These insects are a sign of a healthy garden, and an important food source for birds. No need to spray pesticides! Hand-pick pests if you have an infestation or wash them off with a stream of water from a hose. If you must spray: Only use organic or natural pest deterrents such as soap, garlic and chili pepper. Use products that target specific pests rather than broad-spectrum ones. Specifically avoid garden products that include neonicotinoids. Learn more about avoiding these chemicals. Carefully read and follow application instructions on any spray, using them sparingly. Provide Clean Water Provide water for pollinators by filling a shallow birdbath with gravel or creating a muddy patch in a corner of your yard. Beesponsible You can advocate for pollinator-friendly planting and other practices in your community by using the Beesponsible toolkit. These materials help in outreach to municipal and community leaders and include a template for a local proclamation to encourage citizens to Beesponsible.

Chapter 4 : How to Create a Wildlife Habitat: 13 Steps (with Pictures)

When you plant the native plant species that wildlife depend on, you create habitat and begin to restore your local environment. Adding water sources, nesting boxes, and other habitat features enhances the habitat value of your garden to wildlife.

This entry was posted on 10th December by admin. Submerged plants under the water: Necessary for pond health and submerged cover for wildlife. Surface cover and rafting plants: Look at the ultimate spread of each category of waterlily to find the most suitable for your size of pond. Supplement waterlily and surface cover spread using horizontally growing rafting plants Emergent marginal pond shelf plants: The wider the shelf the more space for plants and the more natural the finished look when you group the plant baskets in clusters. For a larger pond buy 3 of a kind of each plant and a contour mesh basket and put all 3 in the contour together. Fill the remaining space with gravel and you have an instant clump effect and weight at the base to help keep tall plants upright. See the Tips and Advice page. A pond designed for wildlife with shallow sides and plant cover around the outside of the water Planting schemes: This provides oxygenating plants, decorative marginal plants for the different depth shelf areas and a surface cover plant for the deeper section in Planting Scheme Sizes Both rafting plants for spawning and emergent uprights for attracting airborne pollinators are included. A Planting scheme would spread the interest across the seasons. Pond plant scale and size? Some marginal plants are more suited to garden wildlife ponds, others to larger lake situations. Be careful if you are choosing your own plants. *Typha latifolia* is a vigorous rafting plant but *Typha minima* is a smaller clumping variety. The same is true for Iris. The Native is the Yellow Flag Iris "Iris pseudacorus which can grow to 5ft tall and spreads quickly into a solid clump. Ideal for a large pond or a lake. The choice of colours then include blues, purples, whites and black.

Chapter 5 : Habitats Of The World | Free Lesson Plans | Teachers

Once planted, you can create a site that will overcome this urban ailment, as plant roots are key to maintaining healthy soil structure. STEP 3 - Design the Space You may choose to plant species that are all herbaceous and/or include low shrubs, and perhaps even a street tree.

These natural visitors add appeal to our landscapes, help control pests, and seed and pollinate our gardens. According to the National Audubon Society, the 20 birds on the Common Birds in Decline list have lost at least half of their populations in just four decades due to residential and industrial development. This summerâ€™with skyrocketing fuel prices putting the squeeze on your vacation plansâ€™instead of going to visit nature, why not bring nature to you? Encourage birds and butterflies to come to your place and stay awhile with these easy habitat gardening tips. All that lawn eats up 67 million pounds of synthetic pesticides annually, contaminating wildlife food sources. Lawns are also water wasters. According to The Handbook of Water Use and Conservation, roughly 2 trillion gallons of water are used on lawns annually. Half of that is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or run-off caused by overwatering. Finally, lawnspace provides none of the cover, fruiting and seeding plants, or nesting sites that birds and other wildlife require. A wild-life friendly habitat garden replaces manicured lawn with plants that attract native and migratory birds, butterflies, and other wildlife seeking food and cover. Habitat gardening essentially replicates pre-development land conditions. What plants were here before this house was built? Ask for specific forest type or dominant habitats to mimic in your backyard. You should also eliminate the use of wildlife-harming chemical pesticides and fertilizers, and employ organic gardening solutions instead. Birds eat insects, and insects eat plants," explains Saffier. Invite some of them with birdscaping. Nesting and cover sites, food, and water are all that birds need to thrive. Replacing lawn with native trees, shrubs, and other plants provides nesting, cover and food. Add water with a birdbath or garden pond. Follow these additional guidelines to create a truly bird-friendly yard: Consult your local Audubon chapter to learn more about common birds in your area. Then research native varieties of the nut-, fruit-, and seed-bearing plants they prefer. See our Plants for Backyard Birds to start. In addition to replacing lawn with native plants, reconsider the removal of dead trees from your property. The hollow cavities are valuable nesting sites for birds. See suggested feeders, along with other backyard bird accessories, in our Wildlife-Friendly Yard gallery. Keep unsupervised pets indoors. House cats, in particular, are responsible for killing millions of birds every year. Further, about 1 billion birds die each year due to fatal window collisions. This can be prevented by drawing curtains on windows that reflect habitat or appear to be transparent to birds. Window decals create a visual interference to warn birds of solid surfaces, and bug screens also reduce window glass transparency, while providing a "bouncy" barrier to reduce the harm of impact. To invite some of the North American butterfly species identified by the Audubon Society, consider replacing at least some of your lawn with nectar-rich plants. Here are some things to keep in mind as you create your garden: Research plants that will attract butterflies in your region. Get started with our Butterfly Garden gallery. Since some butterflies are world travelers, their favorite plants may be considered invasive to your region. Consider the native plant suggestions in the American Beauties butterfly garden plan. But, if you want to encourage habitation, you need to grow plants suitable for larval stages, too. A small patch of wet soil will attract butterflies seeking minerals. Butterflies will visit the dish to take in trace minerals from the water. Untreated tap works fine here, as chlorine dissipates into the air after 24 hours. A garden pond lined with flat rocks is a permanent alternative. Essentially, birds and butterflies require food, water, nesting, and cover sites. A great way to welcome wildlife to your yardâ€™and save on your water and lawn care billsâ€™is to replace some of your grass with a bird or butterfly garden featuring native growers. As a finishing touch, you can put your beautiful new habitat gardenâ€™and your commitment to wildlifeâ€™on display with a Certified Wildlife Habitat yard sign from the National Wildlife Federation.

Chapter 6 : Create a Habitat for your Chameleon

Create a wildlife friendly yard with birdhouses, feeders, native plants, water, and a butterfly garden. Don't forget to collision-proof your windows and keep domestic cats indoors to protect native birds.

Habitat can be defined as the natural environment of an organism, the type of place in which it is natural for it to live and grow. Generally speaking, animal communities are reliant on specific types of plant communities. The small white butterfly *Pieris rapae* for example is found on all the continents of the world apart from Antarctica. Its larvae feed on a wide range of Brassicas and various other plant species, and it thrives in any open location with diverse plant associations. In the absence of disturbance, a climax vegetation cover develops that prevents the establishment of other species. Wildflower meadows are sometimes created by conservationists but most of the flowering plants used are either annuals or biennials and disappear after a few years in the absence of patches of bare ground on which their seedlings can grow. Another cause of disturbance is when an area may be overwhelmed by an invasive introduced species which is not kept under control by natural enemies in its new habitat. Within these broad biomes are more specific habitats with varying climate types, temperature regimes, soils, altitudes and vegetation types. Many of these habitats grade into each other and each one has its own typical communities of plants and animals. A habitat may suit a particular species well, but its presence or absence at any particular location depends to some extent on chance, on its dispersal abilities and its efficiency as a coloniser. The water velocity, its temperature and oxygen saturation are important factors, but in river systems, there are fast and slow sections, pools, bayous and backwaters which provide a range of habitats. Similarly, aquatic plants can be floating, semi-submerged, submerged or grow in permanently or temporarily saturated soils besides bodies of water. Marginal plants provide important habitat for both invertebrates and vertebrates, and submerged plants provide oxygenation of the water, absorb nutrients and play a part in the reduction of pollution. The benthic zone or seabed provides a home for both static organisms, anchored to the substrate, and for a large range of organisms crawling on or burrowing into the surface. Some creatures float among the waves on the surface of the water, or raft on floating debris, others swim at a range of depths, including organisms in the demersal zone close to the seabed, and myriads of organisms drift with the currents and form the plankton. Nevertheless, some frogs live in deserts, creating moist habitats underground and hibernating while conditions are adverse. Vernal pools are ephemeral ponds that form in the rainy season and dry up afterwards. They have their specially-adapted characteristic flora, mainly consisting of annuals, the seeds of which survive the drought, but also some uniquely adapted perennials. These can survive in a dormant state for as long as fifteen years. Rats and mice have followed man around the globe, pigeons, peregrines, sparrows, swallows and house martins use the buildings for nesting, bats use roof space for roosting, foxes visit the garbage bins and squirrels, coyotes, raccoons and skunks roam the streets. About 2, coyotes are thought to live in and around Chicago. Every habitat includes large numbers of microhabitats with subtly different exposure to light, humidity, temperature, air movement, and other factors. The lichens that grow on the north face of a boulder are different to those that grow on the south face, from those on the level top and those that grow on the ground nearby; the lichens growing in the grooves and on the raised surfaces are different from those growing on the veins of quartz. Lurking among these miniature "forests" are the microfauna, each species of invertebrate with its own specific habitat requirements. A range of tree species with individual specimens of varying sizes and ages, and a range of features such as streams, level areas, slopes, tracks, clearings and felled areas will provide suitable conditions for an enormous number of biodiverse plants and animals. For example, in Britain it has been estimated that various types of rotting wood are home to over species of invertebrate. The life cycle of some parasites involves several different host species, as well as free-living life stages, sometimes providing vastly different microhabitats. Its first intermediate host is a snail and the second, a glass shrimp. The final host is the waterfowl or mammal that consumes the shrimp. Extremophile An Antarctic rock split apart to show an endolithic lifeform showing as a green layer a few millimetres thick Although the vast majority of life on Earth lives in mesophyllic moderate environments, a few organisms, most of them microbes, have managed

to colonise extreme environments that are unsuitable for most higher life forms. There are bacteria, for example, living in Lake Whillans, half a mile below the ice of Antarctica; in the absence of sunlight, they must rely on organic material from elsewhere, perhaps decaying matter from glacier melt water or minerals from the underlying rock. These communities have been little studied, but may be an important part of the global carbon cycle. These metabolic reactions allow life to exist in places with no oxygen or light, an environment that had previously been thought to be devoid of life. Some organisms are pelagic, swimming or drifting in mid-ocean, while others are benthic, living on or near the seabed. Their growth rates and metabolisms tend to be slow, their eyes may be very large to detect what little illumination there is, or they may be blind and rely on other sensory inputs. A number of deep sea creatures are bioluminescent; this serves a variety of functions including predation, protection and social recognition. There are also unsaturated fats in their membranes which prevent them from solidifying at low temperatures. About species of organism, dominated by molluscs, polychaete worms and crustaceans, had been discovered around hydrothermal vents by the end of the twentieth century, most of them being new to science and endemic to these habitats. There are metabolically active microbes present that actively reproduce and spend their whole existence airborne, with hundreds of thousands of individual organisms estimated to be present in a cubic metre of air. The airborne microbial community may be as diverse as that found in soil or other terrestrial environments, however these organisms are not evenly distributed, their densities varying spatially with altitude and environmental conditions. Aerobiology has been little studied, but there is evidence of nitrogen fixation in clouds, and less clear evidence of carbon cycling, both facilitated by microbial activity. Habitat conservation

Twenty five years after the devastating eruption at Mount St. Helens, United States, pioneer species have moved in. Whether from natural processes or the activities of man, landscapes and their associated habitats change over time. There are the slow geomorphological changes associated with the geologic processes that cause tectonic uplift and subsidence, and the more rapid changes associated with earthquakes, landslides, storms, flooding, wildfires, coastal erosion, deforestation and changes in land use. If an island on which an endemic organism lives becomes uninhabitable for some reason, the species will become extinct. Any type of habitat surrounded by a different habitat is in a similar situation to an island. If a forest is divided into parts by logging, with strips of cleared land separating woodland blocks, and the distances between the remaining fragments exceeds the distance an individual animal is able to travel, that species becomes especially vulnerable. Small populations generally lack genetic diversity and may be threatened by increased predation, increased competition, disease and unexpected catastrophe. The birds that nest in their crevices, the epiphytes that hang from their branches and the invertebrates in the leaf litter are all adversely affected and biodiversity is reduced. These can be a river, ditch, strip of trees, hedgerow or even an underpass to a highway. Without the corridors, seeds cannot disperse and animals, especially small ones, cannot travel through the hostile territory, putting populations at greater risk of local extinction. *Bromus tectorum* is a vigorous grass from Europe which has been introduced to the United States where it has become invasive. It is highly adapted to fire, producing large amounts of flammable detritus and increasing the frequency and intensity of wildfires. In areas where it has become established, it has altered the local fire regimen to such an extent that native plants cannot survive the frequent fires, allowing it to become even more dominant. What was previously a kelp forest becomes an urchin barren that may last for years and this can have a profound effect on the food chain. Removal of the sea urchins, by disease for example, can result in the seaweed returning, with an over-abundance of fast-growing kelp. Many countries have enacted legislation to protect their wildlife. This may take the form of the setting up of national parks, forest reserves and wildlife reserves, or it may restrict the activities of humans with the objective of benefiting wildlife. The laws may be designed to protect a particular species or group of species, or the legislation may prohibit such activities as the collecting of bird eggs, the hunting of animals or the removal of plants. A general law on the protection of habitats may be more difficult to implement than a site specific requirement. A concept introduced in the United States involves protecting the critical habitat of endangered species, and a similar concept has been incorporated into some Australian legislation. Another international agreement, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, protects animals that migrate across the globe and need protection in more than one country. Even where legislation

protects the environment, a lack of enforcement often prevents effective protection. Faced with food shortage, a farmer is likely to plough up a level patch of ground despite it being the last suitable habitat for an endangered species such as the San Quintin kangaroo rat , and even kill the animal as a pest. An example would be sugarcane; this is planted, burnt and harvested, with herbicides killing weeds and pesticides controlling invertebrates. A dominant colonization can occur from retardant chemicals exuded, nutrient monopolization, or from lack of natural controls such as herbivores or climate, that keep them in balance with their native habitats. Aquatic habitats, such as exotic Hydrilla beds, support a similarly rich fauna of macroinvertebrates to a more varied habitat, but the creatures present may differ between the two, affecting small fish and other animals higher up the food chain.

Chapter 7 : Creating Pollinator Habitat - - ExtensionExtension

Enhancing growth diversity, trees create an environment that allows the growth of plants that otherwise would not be there. Flowers, fruits, leaves, buds and woody parts of trees are used by many different species.

Because most of them are arboreal living in plants or trees , they need large plants to climb. Some require high humidity. Many like to be occasionally misted with water, and all need a regular source of dripping water to drink. Like bearded dragons, chameleons also need access to natural sunlight or a light fixture that provides intense, warm, full-spectrum light. Photo by Rex Lee Searcey With relatively simple modifications such as adding some appropriate plants , the right type of room can become a great home for a large chameleon. There are various types of enclosures on the market that can be used to house chameleons. Keeping a large chameleon in a room of its own. If you have a room in your house that meets the requirements described here, this can be fun for you and pleasant for the chameleon. This arrangement provides the chameleon with a level of mental stimulation and exercise that is hard to match in a typical cage. The owner is also able to interact more positively with the chameleon and often observe more natural and interesting behaviors than would be seen in a cage. A setup like this is a good housing option for most of the big chameleons. Check the particular needs of the species you intend to keep for any special requirements. You might be tempted to think that because they would have the run of an entire room, you could keep two or more chameleons together. Be aware that most chameleons are so territorial and aggressive that, even in a large room, there would probably be conflict and stress. The Room The room should have a large window; several windows or a bank of windows would be even better. An east-facing window would be ideal, because it would allow the chameleon to enjoy the warmth of the morning sun. Next best would be a west-facing window, which would get afternoon sun. Afternoon sun can be hotter, so more care is needed to provide a cool, sheltered retreat for the chameleon. Northern exposures are not recommended because direct sunlight does not usually enter through a north-facing window. Southern exposures, on the other hand, are nice and sunny, but can create a very hot room. If you are careful to keep the room cool and have a planted area where the chameleon can retreat from the sun, a southern-exposed room can still be used, however. Such disturbances could cause a chameleon to feel threatened or uneasy. The chameleon has an enhanced feeling of height and security. The room should be one that can be kept closed off from the rest of the house to keep the chameleon contained and keep out other pets or unsupervised children. The chosen room should be used for a purpose that is compatible with the presence of a free-roaming chameleon. Avoid using rooms that are high-traffic, high usage areas, or that contain appliances or machinery that could prove dangerous to a chameleon. Appropriate rooms include home offices, rarely used guest bedrooms, sunrooms, enclosed porches and extra rooms currently used for storage that can be cleaned out and put to better use. Remove, isolate or enclose any machinery, equipment or other fixtures that might pose a hazard to the chameleon. Certain fixtures may be potentially hazardous only when in use. Check carefully for the whereabouts of the chameleon before using such items. These include things like office equipment with moving parts, exercise equipment, reclining chairs, etc. It serves as a walk-in closet, dressing area, morning room for having coffee and reading, TV room and exercise room. I designed this room to accommodate a chameleon. The room is very bright, especially in the morning when sunlight streams through the east-facing window. Although chameleon waste is not usually a problem, all surfaces are of materials that are easily cleaned. Clothes drawers are plastic. Tabletops are Formica or smooth, hard bamboo. Metal blinds are used instead of curtains. The carpet is an attractive but tough, commercial grade berber. The sofa is upholstered in a stain-resistant fabric, and the pillow covers can be removed for washing. Plants I included numerous plants for the chameleon to use, and they help create a fresh, tropical atmosphere. The chameleon sunbathes on the weeping fig *Ficus benjamina* on the sofa table in front of the window. The fig is pruned and trained for this purpose and for a sculptural effect. The bamboo palms *Chamaedorea elegans* flanking the sofa are used as additional perches and as avenues to other parts of the room. The heartleaf philodendrons *Philodendron scandens* provide an elevated pathway and acrobatic opportunities for the chameleon, as well as create an appealing frame for the window. An umbrella tree *Schefflera pueckleri* is

where the chameleon usually sleeps and hides when it does not want to be seen or disturbed. Additional plants include bromeliads Vriesea, Guzmania and Neoregelia and a moth orchid Phalaenopsis. Lighting Some people worry that standard glass windows do not transmit enough ultraviolet light for basking lizards such as chameleons. However, I have used ultraviolet detectors, which indicate that quite a bit of ultraviolet light does actually come through. Just to be on the safe side, however, the owner takes the chameleon to an outside wire cage a couple of times a week on nice days to get extra, unfiltered sunlight. Shower There are products on the market specifically for chameleons that provide a constant source of dripping water for drinking. These are not used in the room described here, however. Next to this room is a bathroom, in which another small weeping fig is kept. Every two days, the chameleon is placed on the weeping fig and both tree and lizard are placed in the shower. During the shower, the chameleon drinks and, almost always, defecates making waste management very easy. Feeding The chameleon is fed a variety of insect prey, both commercial crickets, cockroaches, mealworms, silkworms, etc.

Chapter 8 : Trees Provide Habitat for Wildlife

Bringing Wildlife into Every Day. To share our passion for animal, plant and habitat conservation, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo developed a program for creating wildlife habitats throughout the city. It will enable you to practice, and benefit from, conservation actions in your daily life.

To share our passion for animal, plant and habitat conservation, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo developed a program for creating wildlife habitats throughout the city. It will enable you to practice, and benefit from, conservation actions in your daily life. There are aesthetic, environmental, educational, economic, psychological and sociological benefits for all of us from creating these urban wildlife habitats. Increase the value of your property because of the wildlife present? All these things and more are possible if we create functional areas that support wildlife. To educate you on the needs of various types of wildlife. To help evaluate your site and situation to determine which aspects are present or absent. To develop together a plan of action to create a habitat. To expand on those efforts to unite neighborhoods and communities to create contiguous swathes of wildlife habitat called habitat corridors. It is important to realize that not everything overlaps, so we will make the distinction and discuss cover and a place to raise young as separate categories. Although different species will require various proportions, all four aspects must be present to sustain wildlife in your area. Food All creatures need food to survive. It seems like an obvious concept, but the details are sometimes missed. Think about your own eating habits. Are there times of the day or year that you eat more or less? Do you eat throughout the year? Do you prefer certain foods to others? Do you appreciate variety? Are there certain tools or set-ups that facilitate the consumption process? Do you like fresh food? Animals, including humans, would answer yes to most of these questions. Butterflies need abundant food supplies during the spring and summer months for the larval and adult phases of their life cycle. Large predators, like mountain lions, will feast on 20 to 30 pounds of meat after a kill, and then enter into a famine until another meal can be found sometimes weeks later. Bears feed regularly, and then gorge in the fall to store up for their long winter nap. Hibernation, for bears, reptiles, and bats and diapause, the similar state for insects is the exception, not the rule, as most other species of animals require food throughout the year. To offer food for wildlife, you can choose one of three approaches: Provide plants that produce food. Use our lists of plants that attract birds , hummingbirds , butterflies , and deer. It is best to provide plants in a variety of sizes, shapes, densities, arrangements, and maturity levels to suit the preferences of many different animals. Try to select plants from each of the five broad categories: Scrub Oak acorns and Douglas Fir cones are seed sources of preference for squirrels, while chipmunks prefer sunflower seeds. Set up a supplemental feeding station. When people think of supplemental food for birds they often think strictly of seeds, but did you realize that many species want additional nutrient sources like fruit, nectar, or peanut butter? You can find tips for supplemental feeding at your local WildBirds Unlimited or other wildlife supply store. Attract insects or small prey that are the food source. Attracting insects or smaller food sources will be the most difficult of your three options. The best way to accomplish this is by planting trees and shrubs native to your area. Native plants may support times more species of native wildlife, most of which are insects. Spraying pesticides will damage beneficial insects as readily as those we deem harmful. This includes chemicals that are applied to lawns that kill grubs, earthworms, and nightcrawlers. Snakes have a bad reputation, but are often times better friends than foes. They will take care of slugs and pesky rodents. Here are some final tips about food: Consider the location of the food source. Some animals feed from the ground; others prefer an elevated site. Make sure the food is close enough to cover that the animals feel safe while eating but not too near for a predator like your house cat to lie in wait for its next meal. Honey was formerly recommended but it can cause fungal growths in their throats. Remember nocturnal feeders such as deer mice, bats, owls and toads, and try to provide for them whenever possible. Finally, separate feeders so that territorial animals can comfortably eat. Water At your site, water may or may not be easy to provide. Animals need water for bathing, drinking, washing food, and completing their life cycle. Think about the wildlife you hope to draw and their specific needs. Water can be provided in several ways. Large sites may already have a stream or pond or have the room to accommodate one. With these you will be

able to attract fish, ducks, and geese. In smaller yards, use hardscapes like bird bathes, fountains, or other water features. Here are some tips concerning water: Avoid stagnant water, which is a magnet for mosquito larvae and bacteria. Keep water fresh and available year round. Put wood logs into a birdbath to help keep the water from freezing in the winter. During warmer months they will provide a landing pad for bees and other insects. Place water on the ground and in elevated positions so different animals gain access. Inexpensive options include reusing the lid of a trashcan or a saucer from a garden pot. Running water signifies a constant supply and will serve as a reminder that a source is nearby. To accomplish this you can easily add a pump or purchase a spitting birdbath. In shelter they find safe resting and roosting. Ideal hiding spots include:

Chapter 9 : How to Create Habitat for Beneficial Insects - Bonnie Plants

How to Create a Wildlife Habitat. Buy bushes to plant. If you want to make it fancy, create a pattern. For example, put trees in the middle, plant bushes around.