

Through this program we are:

**Building community** by engaging community members in educational workshops, installing wildlife-friendly gardens at home and in the community and leading volunteer events such as habitat restoration projects or tree planting events.

**Engaging residents** to take action to make their communities healthier, sustainable and wildlife-friendly.

Implementing **wildlife conservation strategies** equitably across our community by creating corridors for wildlife, increasing the use of native plants and reducing chemicals.

**Beautifying our community** by creating habitat for wildlife with native wildflowers, trees and shrubs; adding water features where possible; and welcoming wildlife such as butterflies and birds.



## Community Wildlife Habitat ®

Help Elm Grove be the  
**FIRST** in the **STATE** to  
attain certification!

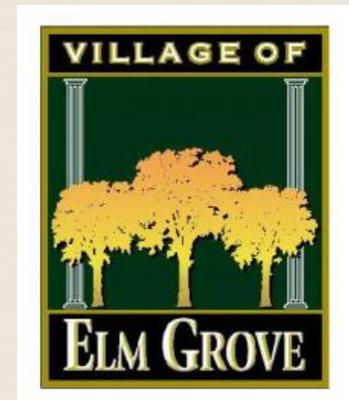
Our community is now registered in the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program. To support these efforts, certify your habitat today! Visit [nwf.org/certify](http://nwf.org/certify).

Each certified site within the community provides the four basic elements that all wildlife need: **food, water, cover and places for wildlife to raise their young**, while integrating **sustainable gardening practices**. To learn more, visit [nwf.org/garden](http://nwf.org/garden).

---

# Certify Your Property As A

---



**Healthy habitats and  
healthy communities  
go hand-in-hand**



# HOW TO CERTIFY YOUR PROPERTY

Once you complete the checklist, apply online at:

[www.nwf.org/garden](http://www.nwf.org/garden)

When you certify, your \$20 application fee supports the National Wildlife Federation's programs to inspire others to make a difference and address the issues leading to declining habitat for wildlife nationwide. If you have questions about this program or general environmentally based questions, please contact any of our NWF Habitat Team members, which can be found on the Village's website page.

Elm Grove is committed to making a difference! The Village Forester has recently certified our very own Elm Grove Park as a Wildlife Habitat. Elm Grove is currently working on becoming a certified "Community Wildlife Habitat," but we need your help to reach that goal. Part of the process is obtaining a total of **150** points in habitats. The only way to receive points in this area is by certifying habitats in the community to include, but not limited to homes, properties, gardens, etc., as a wildlife friendly environment. The Village receives 1 point for every personal space certified and 3 points for every common area. Please consider joining us in the pursuit of making our community part of the solution for replenishing resources for wildlife by certifying your personal space today!

## GARDEN CERTIFICATION WALK-THROUGH CHECKLIST

**FOOD:** Your habitat needs **THREE** of the following types of plants or supplemental feeders:

- |   |                                 |   |
|---|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seeds from a plant | <input type="checkbox"/> Suet   | <input type="checkbox"/> Foliage/Twigs      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nectar             | <input type="checkbox"/> Sap    | <input type="checkbox"/> Bird Feeder        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Berries            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit  | <input type="checkbox"/> Hummingbird Feeder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nuts               | <input type="checkbox"/> Pollen | <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Feeder   |

**WATER:** Your habitat needs **ONE** of the following sources to provide clean water for wildlife to drink and bathe:

- |  |                                    |                                       |  |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birdbath      | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring    | <input type="checkbox"/> River/Stream | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain Garden             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal pool | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake/Pond | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Puddling Area |

**COVER:** Wildlife needs at least **TWO** places to find shelter from the weather and predators:

- |  |                                      |                                       |  |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wooded area   | <input type="checkbox"/> Groundcover | <input type="checkbox"/> Roosting Box | <input type="checkbox"/> Brush or log pile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bramble patch | <input type="checkbox"/> Cave        | <input type="checkbox"/> Evergreens   | <input type="checkbox"/> Burrow            |
|  |                                      |                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow/Prairie    |

**PLACES TO RAISE YOUNG:** You need at least **TWO** places for wildlife to engage in courtship behavior, mate and then bear and raise their young:

- |  |                                  |   |   |
|--|----------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mature trees      | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland | <input type="checkbox"/> Dead trees or snags          | <input type="checkbox"/> Dense shrubs/thicket |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meadow or prairie | <input type="checkbox"/> Cave    | <input type="checkbox"/> Host plants for caterpillars | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Garden or Pond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nesting Box       | <input type="checkbox"/> Burrow  |   |   |

**SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES:** You need to employ at least **TWO** of the three categories below to help manage your habitat in a sustainable way-to better help wildlife, we advocate employing one or more practices from each category:

- |   |  |                                 |                                       |                      |            |
|---|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Soil and Water Conservation</b> | • Riparian Buffer  | *Reduce Erosion                 | * Use Natural Mulch                   | * Capture Rain Water | *Xeriscape |
|   | • Drip or Soaker Hoses for Irrigation                                | *Limit Water Use                |                                       | *Rain Garden         |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Controlling Exotic Species</b>  | • Use Native Plants  | *Reduce Lawn Areas              | *Practice Integrative Pest Management |                      |            |
|   | • Remove non-native plants and animals (keeping cats as indoor pets) |                                 |                                       |                      |            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Organic Practices</b>           | • Eliminate Chemical Pesticides                                      | *Eliminate Chemical Fertilizers | *Compost                              |                      |            |