



# Gardening for Wildlife Workshops

with NJ Audubon's Nature Center of Cape May

1600 Delaware Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204; (609) 427-3045

[www.njaudubon.org/Centers/NCCM/](http://www.njaudubon.org/Centers/NCCM/)

## 2017 WORKSHOPS

### GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE WITH NATIVE PLANTS

with Pat Sutton (a backyard habitat educator for over 30 years!)

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Saturday, March 11, 2017 – How to Create a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife**

**Sunday, March 12, 2017 – Lose the Lawn, Create a Wildflower Meadow Instead**

(from small "Pocket Meadow" up to sizable meadows)

**Saturday, March 18, 2017 – How to Create a Pollinator Garden**

(to benefit Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Moths, Bees, & More)

**Sunday, March 19, 2017 – Plant Wars: How to Recognize and Deal With Invasive**

**Nonnative Plant Species**

**Saturday, March 25, 2017 -- How to Create a No-Fuss Wildlife Pond**

**Sunday, March 26, 2017 – How to Make Messy Look Good (Maintenance Tips & Advice)**

**& Shade Gardening (2 **NEW** topics packed into one session)**

**Saturday, April 1, 2017 – Landscape Design With Wildlife In Mind**

Pat Sutton has keenly studied the natural world for over thirty years. As an experienced naturalist and educator she will share her wildlife gardening expertise in this series of seven workshops for property owners. *These in-depth, all-day, fact-filled, and enlightening workshops will be site-specific to your own situation.* Native plants and wildlife-friendly practices are the key and will be emphasized and detailed throughout. Valuable handouts will be shared. These workshops have been scheduled for early spring, the perfect time to shake off winter and begin planning and planting (or enhancing) wildlife gardens. The first workshop is the backbone of the series (try not to miss it) and will supply a good foundation for the following sessions. The last workshop (Landscape Design) builds on the foundation of the other six workshops (so is best taken in conjunction with them). Each workshop will build on the last (but can also stand alone) and will include question-and-answer sessions, a working lunch where participants will have the opportunity to discuss their own property, and a site visit to a nearby backyard habitat (Sutton's garden and others) to reinforce wildlife friendly practices and design and plant selection options. *For full write-ups on each workshop see reverse side and visit: [www.patsuttonwildlifegarden.com](http://www.patsuttonwildlifegarden.com)*

**Where:** The workshops will be held in Goshen at NJ Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory Center for Research and Education (600 Route 47 North, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210).

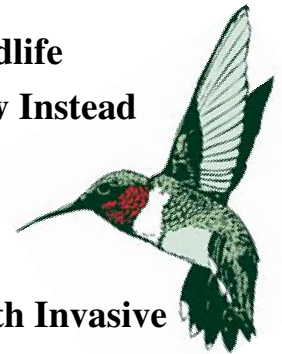
**Limit:** 20 participants; **preregistration required** (through Nature Center of Cape May, 1600 Delaware Ave., Cape May, NJ 08204; 609-427-3045; *if you reach the message machine, leave a message – your call will be returned*).

**Cost/workshop:** \$40 member of NJ Audubon Society, \$50 nonmember (includes handouts).

**Sign up for three or more workshops for a discount:** \$30 each (member), \$40 each (nonmember).

**Sign up for five or more workshops** and receive a FREE ticket to visit Sutton's garden during peak blooming (dates to be set).

-- OVER for additional details --



## 2017 Workshops: GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE WITH NATIVE PLANTS with Pat Sutton

through NJ Audubon's Nature Center of Cape May, 1600 Delaware Ave, Cape May, NJ 08204 (609-427-3045)

**WHERE:** all workshops will be held at NJ Audubon's CMBO CRE, 600 Rt. 47 N, CMCH, NJ 08210

Patricia Sutton, Backyard Habitat educator for over 30 years: [www.patsuttonwildlifegarden.com](http://www.patsuttonwildlifegarden.com)

### **Saturday, March 11 – How to Create a Backyard Habitat for Wildlife – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

In the “Go Green” movement, all too often yards are forgotten; in fact, many yards are the antithesis of green. The first and most important step is to “Go Native,” to favor native plants and wildlife-friendly practices. Pat Sutton will showcase native trees, shrubs, vines, wildflowers, and even weeds that are most beneficial to birds and other wildlife. From the perspective of a life-long naturalist intimate with the workings of the natural world, Sutton will share countless common-sense garden maintenance techniques that will help property owners avoid common practices that actually harm rather than benefit wildlife. *(This workshop is the backbone of the series; try not to miss it).*

### **Sunday, March 12 – Lose the Lawn, Create a Wildflower Meadow Instead (from small "Pocket Meadow" up to sizable meadows) – 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Learn how to enhance your landscaping for wildlife by creating a wildflower meadow. Many areas have lost their meadows to subdivisions and corporate headquarters landscaped with acres and acres of sod lawn – monocultures that are green deserts for wildlife, offering no cover, no food (nectar, seeds, etc.), and no beauty (blooming wildflowers and lovely native grasses). Clouds of butterflies and nesting bluebirds can still be found where meadows abound. If you (or your corporate headquarters) have more lawn than you need and mowing gobbles up precious time and expensive gas, consider turning some of this lawn into a wildflower meadow. Even a small meadow will make a big difference to wildlife. A meadow can be simple to create and Pat Sutton will share the basics. Learn how to convert lawn to meadow, how to maintain your meadow in a simple fashion over time, and how to make it acceptable and attractive to neighbors and visitors.

### **Saturday, March 18 – How to Create a Pollinator Garden (to benefit Butterflies, Hummingbirds, Moths, Bees, & More) – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Pat Sutton will cover the basic “how to’s” for creating a pollinator-friendly garden and yard that will attract and benefit butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, bees and more! It is often as simple as planting NATIVES like Sweet Pepperbush instead of Crape Myrtle or planting Joe-pye-weed, Purple Coneflower, New England Aster, and Goldenrod rather than Impatiens and Hostas. Double the size of a parsley patch and be amazed by all the Black Swallowtails it attracts. Meet all the needs of hummingbirds and be dazzled by them in your gardens from late April through early October. The obvious, such as good nectar plants and their blooming periods, will be covered, along with the not so obvious, such as the caterpillar food plants butterflies and moths need for egg laying, “mud puddling,” and the importance of proper cover from wind and weather. The mystery of a butterfly’s life cycle and where and how butterflies and moths spend the winter will be explained. Where hummingbirds go in winter, why they leave us when our gardens are still in bloom, when to have your yard ready for them in spring, hummingbird feeder maintenance, and lots more will be shared. The program features eye-candy wildlife gardens in South Jersey that have successfully transformed ho-hum backyards into multi-dimensional gardens full of life.

### **Sunday, March 19 – Plant Wars: How to Deal With Invasive Nonnative Plant Species – 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Many people are surprised to learn that plants they'd assumed were native are in fact nonnative, problem plants. Many gardeners are unaware of the far-reaching damage they can do when they plant invasives like Periwinkle (*Vinca*), English Ivy, and bamboo. In a very short time these plants might invade the neighbor’s yard, properties down the street, and even nearby preserves. The invasion of nonnatives

has taken a big toll on butterflies and moths (that need to lay their eggs on native plants) and insect-eating birds looking for butterfly and moth caterpillars. Sadly, most nurseries contribute heavily to this problem by continuing to sell many known culprits, even plants that are outlawed in surrounding states and plants that the State of New Jersey is spending enormous amounts of money to control and remove from natural areas (Purple Loosestrife is just one example). Most shoppers assume that nurseries are acting responsibly, but the wise gardener needs to be educated to recognize invasives because the nursery trade has a deep-rooted love affair with exotic plants. This program will address key invasive plants, help you learn how to identify them, offer suggestions on how to control or remove them if they find their way into your garden, and showcase lovely native alternatives.

### **Saturday, March 25 – How to Create a No-Fuss Wildlife Pond – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Frogs, toads, and dragonflies all need freshwater ponds for egg laying to create future generations. Even a tiny pond will attract and support them. Learn what a true wildlife pond is and how simple it is to create – with no need for running water, filters, fish, and all the fuss. How to create a wildlife pond and, even more importantly, how to maintain it so that wildlife benefits will be showcased. Learn which native plants to add to the pond (and which problem plants to avoid). Don't make the same mistake that others have made by creating a pond for exotic fish that supports little else. In a true wildlife pond, expect to attract and watch the amazing life cycle of huge Green Darner dragonflies or count a growing population of Leopard Frogs and Green Frogs that find your pond as if by magic. Create it and they will come!

### **Sunday, March 26 – 2 *NEW* Topics: (1) How to Make Messy Look Good, (2) Shade Gardening – 10 am to 3 pm**

**(1) How to Make Messy Look Good:** Is your wildlife garden not living up to your expectations? Are you afraid of what the neighbors think? Are some of your plants misbehaving? Confused by what’s what: weed or treasured native? This workshop includes tips and advice based on 30+ years of wildlife gardening experience.

**(2) Shade Gardening:** Do you struggle to grow grass under trees? Instead extend your wildlife habitat offering by learning how to create layered landscapes of natives in shady parts of your yard. Many shade-loving natives have stunning flowers and beautiful fruits that benefit butterflies, moths, birds, turtles, and so much more.

### **Saturday, April 1 – Landscape Design With Wildlife in Mind – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Sutton will emphasize designs that work with nature, not at odds with nature. Choosing the right plant for the right spot (and the right site for key elements of a wildlife habitat) is pivotal. The program will showcase multi-dimensional, diverse, layered, and interesting-to-the-eye natural landscapes that benefit wildlife, emphasizing to “let nature be the guide.” Typical landscaping (lawn and uniform park-like plantings) will pale in comparison. *(This workshop is the last in the series of Sutton’s in-depth, content-filled gardening for wildlife workshops and builds on the foundation of the other workshops.)*

**Limit/workshop:** 20 participants; **Preregistration is required**

**Cost/workshop:** \$40 member of NJ Audubon Society

\$50 nonmember (includes handouts).

**Sign up for 3 or more workshops for a discount:**

\$30 each (member), \$40 each (nonmember)

**All workshops include** a site visit to a nearby wildlife garden (Sutton's garden and others).