

The Wildlife Gardens Awards include three levels of Award:

- Bronze : four or more wildlife garden features, including at least one from each category
- Silver : eight or more wildlife garden features, including at least two from each category
- Gold : 12 or more wildlife garden features, including at least three from each category and all features marked with an asterisk (*)

All entrants who qualify will receive a certificate and every entrant will be acknowledged. Please note you may not be contacted until after the awards close at the end of September. The Wildlife Gardens Awards is a self-certification scheme, however some gardens from each level of Award may be visited, by arrangement.

What food features does your garden have?

* Nectar-rich flowers or pollen-rich flowers (e.g. cosmos, foxgloves, buddleia) *

Bird-feeding station (sited away from any nesting boxes)

Fruit trees or berry-bearing shrubs

Some perennials left uncut until spring

Vegetable patch/container

Herb garden or growing herbs

What shelter features does your garden have?

* One or more of the following of any size: dead wood pile ; log pile ; stone pile ; or an area of at least 1 square metre left undisturbed *

Climbing plants (e.g. ivy, honeysuckle, clematis), or living wall or green roof

Mixed native hedge (e.g. oak, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn)

Mature tree(s)

Some lawn left to grow long

Wildflower patch

Bird, bat, or hedgehog box

Bee or insect hotel

What water features does your garden have?

* Bird bath *

Wildlife pond of any size, including a bucket or bowl (best without fish)

Bog or permanent wet area

Drought-resistant plants (e.g. lavender, rosemary, sedums)

How do you manage your garden?

* No use of pesticides or toxic slug pellets *

* Avoid chemical weed killers *

* All compost used is peat-free *

Compost bin, compost heap, or wormery

Water butt or tank to save water

Hedgehog access and/or transit through garden boundaries

The Awards are open from 1 April to 30 September each year. To enter the awards please visit <https://wildlifegardensawards.org/>