



GO WILD IN YOUR GARDEN



With an estimated 24 million gardens in the UK, the way they are cared for can make a big difference to the natural world.

Large or small, your garden can be a haven for Wildlife and there are some simple things we can all do to get closer to nature.

Planting for pollinators



Fill your garden with pollinator friendly plants.

Grow a range of plants for year-round flowering.



Avoid plants with double or multi-petalled flowers.

Never use pesticides on plants in flower.



Provide nest sites for Wild Bees.

Nectar giving plants

Spring

Primrose
Aubretia
Sweet rocket
Field maple
Cherry

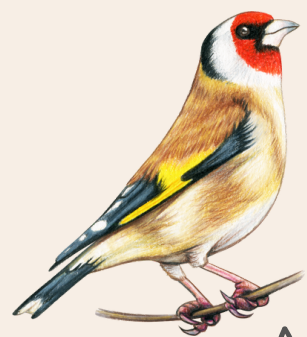
Summer

Lavender, Cat mint
Thyme, Heliotrope
Red valerian
Hebe, Buddleia

Autumn

Michaelmas daisy
Sweet scabious
hyssop
Ice-plant
Common Ivy





CREATE A SPACE FOR NATURE



A small space is not a barrier to gardening for wildlife; small changes can have a big impact.



Make imaginative use of walls, roofs and windowsills.

Even the smallest of ponds are valuable- old sinks and buckets can thrive with wildlife.



Plant a window box or container with pollinator friendly plants such as lavender or marjoram or night-scented stocks or tobacco plants for moths.



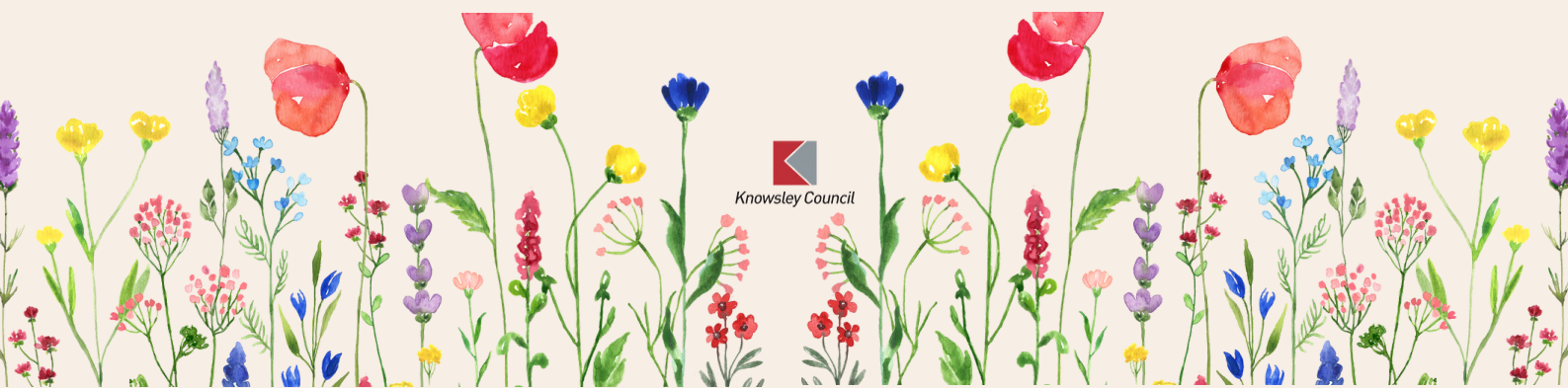
Make a small gravel garden planted with nectar providing plants such as scabious or place pots sewn with wildflower seeds in a paved area.

Bird boxes and feeders

Attracting birds to your garden is easy, provide bird food in a feeder to support feeding throughout the year.

Please place feeders off the ground or try hanging food from a feeder in a tree or on a Bird table. Try to clean up any spilt food at regular intervals to discourage pests.

As natural nesting sites are in decline nest boxes in gardens can make a real difference for breeding birds.





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Insect hotel

Build an insect hotel to provide the right habitat for the thousands of species living in your garden.

Wildlife pond

Even a small sink or tub pond with a few aquatic plants can make a great wildlife habitat.

Bottle pots

Try putting up a window box outside your window. You can even make them out of upcycled plastic bottles and some rope.

Log piles

Logs provide shelter for wildlife such as insects, frogs, toads and Hedgehogs.

Welly planting

Try filling an old welly with soil and scattering a few wildflower seeds in there. Don't forget to make a small hole in the bottom to let out water.

Pallet planter

Pallets are a great way of gaining some height in a small space as they allow you to hang pots in rows.



CREATE AN ECO-FRIENDLY DRIVEWAY

Hard paved gardens increase your risk of flooding.

Make a difference and avoid paving over sections of your gardens.



Replace hard surfaces with grass and plants.

Pebbles and stones are better than concrete or slabs as they provide some drainage.



Permeable paving Or laying down grids on top of grassy drive to prevent it getting muddy.



You can also plant up a drive or walkway with shrubs and grasses that will withstand a bit of impact. For example Thyme, creeping jenny, bugle and grape hyacinths.



If you need a solid surface, gravel can be a more wildlife-friendly option.



Plant a Hedge, not a fence. Hedges are a better choice of boundary for wildlife as they absorb water, heat and CO². They also allow wildlife to move between gardens and other spaces and provide feeding and breeding opportunities.

Cool your home

Currently around 20% of homes are at significant risk of overheating.

- Plant more greenery around your house. Shrubs and trees have a great cooling effect.
- Grow a mini meadow. Mow less often over the summer. Longer grass is fantastic for wildlife and cooling down the garden.
- Grow plants up walls. Climbers such as roses, ivy, clematis, jasmine and honeysuckle are great for cooling down external walls.

