



At Home With Nature

Nature-friendly practices you can adopt for your yard



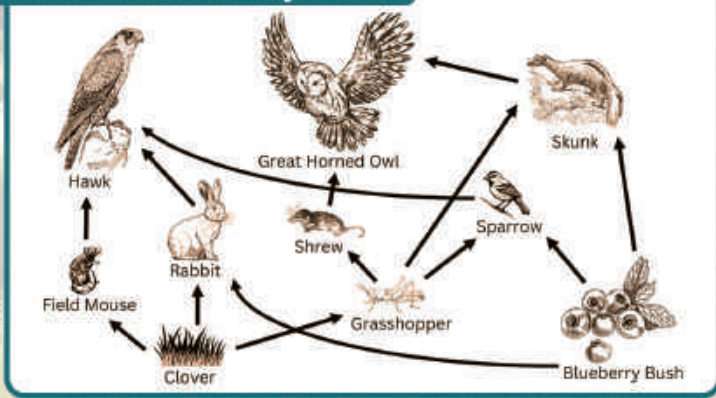
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

For more than 50 years, Orleans Conservation Trust has preserved and managed properties in ways that emphasize native plants and create biodiverse habitats. But we only control 600 acres: most of the land in Orleans is in private hands – your hands.

Sharing what we've learned, OCT's "At Home with Nature" initiative gives homeowners information and tools to practice nature-friendly landscaping. You'll learn about native plants—a vital component of healthy home landscapes that provide food and nesting habitats for our beautiful local birds and critters. By cultivating native trees, shrubs, and perennials, and removing invasive, non-native species, we can avoid using pesticides and help pollinators thrive. Smaller lawns that can be mowed and watered less often are also part of the solution.

All these practices will help you save time and money and reduce the use of water—our most precious shared resource.

Woodland Ecosystem



DID YOU KNOW?

You can start by removing invasives and planting native plants in just one area of your property, or by asking your landscaper to help you grow native.

Bees and butterflies aren't the only pollinators. Pollinator-friendly native plants attract moths, beetles, hummingbirds, and more.

Native plants require less water and less work from you!

Invasive plants often outcompete natives, sometimes even with the help of chemicals they release to suppress nearby competitors.

By planting native pollinators, you can become a proud member of the Pollinator Pathway of Cape Cod. Add your property to the map!

Changing your mowing schedule from once a week to once every two or three weeks will attract native pollinators by allowing clover and violets to flower before being mowed.

Conventional home landscaping practices and products have contributed to insect loss, put our waters at risk, reduced bird populations, and allowed invasive plants to run rampant!

You can create vegetation layers with native plants that reach different heights and bloom at different times to keep your yard beautiful from spring to fall.

Common Invasives You Might Find in Your Yard



Shrub honeysuckle
(*Lonicera* spp.)



Privet
(*Ligustrum* spp.)



Oriental Bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



Multiflora rose
(*Rosa multiflora*)



English ivy
(*Hedera helix*)



Bearberry
(*Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*)



White oak
(*Quercus alba*)



Arrowwood viburnum
(*Viburnum dentatum*)



Butterfly milkweed
(*Asclepias tuberosa*)






Little bluestem
(*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Popular Native Plants



FIND OUT MORE

- What does **At Home with Nature** mean?
-  Why are **invasive plants** a threat?
- How do **native plants** help?
- What makes good **pollinator/wildlife** habitat?
- Can I still have my **lawn**? 
- What about **ticks and mosquitos**?
-  How much **time/money** will this take?
- What are my **next steps**?

GET YOUR ANSWERS AT:

orleansconservationtrust.org/at-home-with-nature



OrleansConservationTrust.org

"Everyone has their own aesthetic tastes. The good news is that landscaping for wildlife can be every bit as beautiful as traditional landscaping." -- Steve O'Grady, OCT Executive Director