

Colchester is certified as a **Community Wildlife Habitat** through the National Wildlife Federation since 2010; the first community in CT with this certification

Do you care about Wildlife locally to help Colchester remain certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat by certifying your own property through the National Wildlife Federation?

Cost: \$20 application fee complete online application
<https://www.nwf.org/certifiedwildlifehabitat> or to request a paper application, email colchestergardenclub@yahoo.com



Colchester Garden Club is a partner organization in the Community Wildlife Habitat of Colchester initiative

Components of a Wildlife Habitat:

Food, Water, Cover, Place to Raise Young, Sustainable Practices

Garden for Wildlife Tip



Add a native or cultivar Winterberry (Ilex Verticillata) to your home landscape to feed the birds naturally in winter and have a source of berries for holiday decorating

Landscape Use

- in native plantings
- for fruit display in fall and winter
- useful in wet soils or along water
- in mass planting
- shrub border

Habitat

- Native to the eastern and central U.S.
- Often found at edge of woods or in swamps

Culture

- Full sun to partial shade; more sun means more fruit on females
- Easily transplanted from containers or B&B
- Prefers moist, acidic soils, tolerant of poorly-drained soils

For more information and 18 cultivars and varieties:
<https://plantdatabase.uconn.edu/detail.php?pid=221>

Photo by Stan Malcolm

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/stanmalcolm/albums>

To view more photos by Stan Malcolm

<https://www.performance-vision.com/airline/index.htm>

Benefits to NWF Wildlife Habitat Certification

When you certify you will become a member of the National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife™ community and receive the following benefits:

- Personalized certificate
- A one-year membership in the National Wildlife Federation and subscription to *National Wildlife*® magazine
- 10% off the National Wildlife Federation catalog merchandise, including nesting boxes, feeders, birdbaths, and other items to enhance your wildlife garden
- Subscription to monthly Garden for Wildlife e-newsletter with gardening tips, wildlife stories, and other resources
- Exclusive option to purchase attractive garden signs designating your garden as a Certified Wildlife Habitat® with the National Wildlife Federation

For Parents: Encourage your children to spend time outdoors in nature every day; the National Wildlife Federation's Green Hour has an abundance of activity suggestions.

<https://thegreenhour.org/>