

## A Patch for the Wild

For decades, lawns have been a symbol of neatness and control, but they don't have to stay that way. Imagine trading just a little of that unused green space for something wilder, richer, and full of life. Native flowers like coneflowers, milkweed, and goldenrod don't just look beautiful—they feed pollinators who, in turn, sustain the world around us. A simple patch of clover or a cluster of wild strawberries can be the difference between a sterile yard and one humming with life.

The best part? Nature does most of the work. Once established, native plants thrive with little watering, no chemicals, and less mowing. Success isn't measured in uniformity, but in surprises: the first hummingbird nesting in your shrubs, fireflies flickering at dusk, or bees buzzing lazily from bloom to bloom.



Now imagine if every yard, every balcony planter, every community garden added just a little more food and shelter for wildlife. Together, these small acts would create a vast, living network, one that helps balance our ecosystems in ways we're only beginning to understand.

Your lawn doesn't have to disappear, just evolve. Keep the space you love for play and picnics, but carve out a corner for life. However small, it matters. Because when we work with nature, rather than against it, everyone—including us—wins.

Why not start this year? A single native plant, a bare patch of earth turned into a pollinator pitstop, or even just leaving the dandelions for the bees. Tiny steps, but together, they grow into something extraordinary.

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