

## What Category Does Your Habitat Hero Garden Fall Into?

	<i>Bronze</i>	<i>Silver</i>	<i>Gold</i>
<b>Native plants for birds - Food</b>	Habitat includes native plants that provide and <b>at least 2 of the 5 food categories</b> (caterpillars, nectar, grain, nuts, fruit)	Habitat includes native plants that provide and <b>at least 3 of the 5 food categories</b> (caterpillars, nectar, grain, nuts, fruit)	Habitat includes native plants that provide and <b>at least 4 of the 5 food categories</b> (caterpillars, nectar, grain, nuts, fruit)
<b>Habitat structure</b>	Habitat contains <b>at least 2 of 3 vegetation layers</b> (understory, midstory, overstory)	Habitat contains <b>at least 2 of 3 vegetation layers</b> (understory, midstory, overstory)	Habitat <b>contains all 3 vegetation layers</b> (understory, midstory, overstory)
<b>Water</b>	Natural or artificial water source provided	Natural or artificial water source provided	Natural or artificial water source provided
<b>Invasive plants</b>	Habitat includes <b>no more than 20% invasive plants.</b>	Habitat includes <b>no more than 10% invasive plants.</b>	Habitat includes <b>no more than 5% invasive plants.</b>
<b>Reducing or eliminating pesticides</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whenever possible, use mechanical means to remove invasive plants.</li> <li>Choose native plants grown without pesticides (i.e. neonicotinoids).</li> <li>Pledge to reduce the use of pesticides.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whenever possible, use mechanical means to remove invasive plants.</li> <li>Choose native plants grown without pesticides (i.e. neonicotinoids).</li> <li>Pledge to eliminate the use of pesticides.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invasive plants removed by mechanical means.</li> <li>Choose native plants grown without pesticides (i.e. neonicotinoids).</li> <li>Maintain an organic, chemical-free yard.</li> </ul>
<b>Eliminating hazards</b>	<b>Choose 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Windows treated to reduce reflectivity &amp; transparency.</li> <li>Cats kept indoors at all times</li> <li>Outdoor lighting reduced</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Windows treated to reduce reflectivity &amp; transparency.</li> <li>Cats kept indoors at all times</li> <li>Outdoor lighting reduced</li> </ul>	<b>All 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Windows treated to reduce reflectivity &amp; transparency.</li> <li>Cats kept indoors at all times</li> <li>Outdoor lighting reduced</li> </ul>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a nest box for birds/bees/bats</li> <li>Adopt petroleum-free yard maintenance practices</li> <li>Adopt a fertilizer-free yard maintenance practices.</li> <li>Create a wildlife brush pile</li> <li>Leave leaf-litter</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a nest box for birds/bees/bats</li> <li>Adopt petroleum-free yard maintenance practices</li> <li>Adopt a fertilizer-free yard maintenance practices.</li> <li>Create a wildlife brush pile</li> <li>Leave leaf-litter</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a nest box for birds/bees/bats</li> <li>Adopt petroleum-free yard maintenance practices</li> <li>Adopt a fertilizer-free yard maintenance practices.</li> <li>Create a wildlife brush pile</li> <li>Leave leaf-litter</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch video or webinar about healthy yard habitat.</li> <li>Attend local Audubon habitat education program</li> <li>Read Audubon Guide to Creating a Bird Garden.</li> <li>Read <i>Bringing Nature Home</i> by Doug Tallamy</li> <li>Participate in Master Gardener Program</li> <li>Participate in Master Naturalist Program</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch video or webinar about healthy yard habitat.</li> <li>Attend local Audubon habitat education program</li> <li>Read Audubon Guide to Creating a Bird Garden.</li> <li>Read <i>Bringing Nature Home</i> by Doug Tallamy</li> <li>Participate in Master Gardener Program</li> <li>Participate in Master Naturalist Program</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch video or webinar about healthy yard habitat.</li> <li>Attend local Audubon habitat education program</li> <li>Read Audubon Guide to Creating a Bird Garden.</li> <li>Read <i>Bringing Nature Home</i> by Doug Tallamy</li> <li>Participate in Master Gardener Program</li> <li>Participate in Master Naturalist Program</li> </ul>
<b>Citizen Science</b>	<b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a list of birds and butterflies that visit your habitat patch.</li> <li>Contribute observations in your patch to eBird or Hummingbirds@Home</li> </ul>	<b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a list of birds and butterflies that visit your habitat patch.</li> <li>Contribute observations in your patch to eBird or Hummingbirds@Home</li> </ul>	<b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a list of birds and butterflies that visit your habitat patch.</li> <li>Contribute observations in your patch to eBird or Hummingbirds@Home</li> </ul>
<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Optional:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to help in your garden!</li> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to sign up!</li> <li>Allow your property to be showcased in garden tours</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Ambassador</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Gardener</li> <li>Give Audubon Habitat presentation to community group or neighborhood/homeowners association.</li> <li>Contact plant growers or sellers and encourage them to register as an Audubon Native Plant provider.</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 1:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to help in your garden!</li> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to sign up!</li> <li>Allow your property to be showcased in garden tours</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Ambassador</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Gardener</li> <li>Give Audubon Habitat presentation to community group or neighborhood/homeowners association.</li> <li>Contact plant growers or sellers and encourage them to register as an Audubon Native Plant provider.</li> </ul>	<b>Choose 2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to help in your garden!</li> <li>Recruit 2 neighbors or friends to sign up!</li> <li>Allow your property to be showcased in garden tours</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Ambassador</li> <li>Volunteer as an Audubon Habitat Gardener</li> <li>Give Audubon Habitat presentation to community group or neighborhood/homeowners association.</li> <li>Contact plant growers or sellers and encourage them to register as an Audubon Native Plant provider.</li> </ul>