

CONTAINER GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE APPLICATION

When it comes to container gardening, as a rule the larger the container the better. The soil in larger containers does not dry out as quickly as soil in smaller containers do. In addition, larger containers promote better root development. With that in mind, it is recommended that you use at least 15-gallon containers.

Types of Containers Used: Large Pot Small Pot

Window Box Other (explain) _____

Locations of Containers: Deck Patio Along Walkway

Along Driveway Garden Other (explain) _____

How Many Containers Used: 1 2-5 6 or more

Species of Wildlife Seen Using the Plants Growing In Your

Containers: Butterflies Moths Bees Wasps Other Insects

Frogs Lizards Hummingbirds Other Birds Other Wildlife

Types of Plants Used: Annuals Biennials Perennials Vines

Shrubs Trees

Plants Used: Natives Only Ornamentals Only Both

List Native Plants Growing in Your Containers:

List Wildlife-Friendly Ornamentals Growing in your Containers:

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

Most wild plants grow well in containers. One group of plants that sometimes struggle in pots is those that have long roots.

Not all ornamentals are wildlife-friendly. Many either produce little or no nectar or the shape of their flowers makes it difficult to pollinators to reach their pollen and nectar.

Make sure that when purchasing native plants, you buy them from reputable native dealers.

SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE

If any of your plants work extremely well in your yard, please share your success stories with others. In that way we can all expand our knowledge of this form of wildlife gardening.

Also, please share your pictures of your container wildlife efforts that capture the beauty of the plants and the wildlife they have attracted. These photographs will be used to promote container gardening as well as provide ideas other gardeners can use in their yards.

District: _____ **Garden Club:** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

If you have any questions about your application, contact: Melissa Hayes at Melissa.Hayes@dnr.ga.gov

Questions regarding plants and wildlife contact Terry Johnson at tjwoodduck@bellsouth.net

SOURCES OF NATIVE PLANTS

You are urged to obtain native plants from reputable native plant nurseries. They should be collected from the wild only when the habitat where they are grown is facing an imminent threat of destruction.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON CONTAINER GARDENING

The University of Georgia has produced one of the best sources for information regarding gardening in containers. It is Circular 787 (*Gardening in Containers*). The circular is available online @ Gardening in Containers – UGA Cooperative Extension Circular 787.

INFORMATION REGARDING THIS PROJECT CONTACT:

Melissa Hayes, Georgia DNR - Wildlife Conservation Section -- (478) 994-1438 or email melissa.hayes@dnr.ga.gov; Terry Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, tjwoodduck@bellsouth.net

INFORMATION REGARDING BACKYARD WILDLIFE

Check out the blog [backyardwildlifeconnection](http://backyardwildlifeconnection.com) (sponsored by TERN).

HELP REQUESTED

Many ornamentals and most native plants of value to wildlife will grow in containers; only a few were listed here. With that in mind, if you have enjoyed success in planting any of the native plants of value to wildlife listed here, or others, please share your experiences. It would be great if you would send along photos of your plantings. Since this is a relatively new form of wildlife gardening your information will help expand our knowledge of which plants work best in containers here in the Peach State.

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