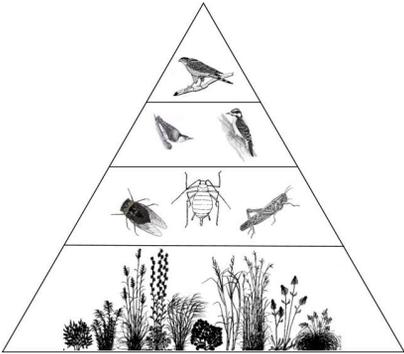


# Wildlife in your Native Garden



**Fast fact: It takes a lot of native plants to support native ecosystems!**

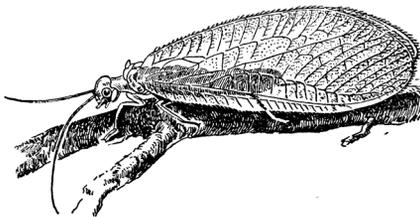
Plants convert sunlight into energy usable by other organisms. At each level, energy is lost: a single hawk may eat several songbirds which have dined on scores of insects which have eaten acres of plant-based food.

***The more natives you plant, the more diverse your backyard habitat.***

**Fast fact: Food, water and shelter are necessities for wildlife.**

Native plants can provide food in the form of vegetation, nectar, pollen and seeds. They also provide shelter, as can any number of constructed shelters. Providing water can be as simple as setting up a birdbath or as complex as creating a backyard pond.

***Sun-loving-native Cup Plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*) does all three!***



**Fast fact: The more diverse your plantings, the less pests will be a problem.**

Native plants attract numerous insect predators, such as the Green Lacewing. You can decrease your use of pesticides by going native!

- Herbaceous plants for butterflies and moths: <http://bit.ly/AuPjIQ>
- Woody plants for mid-Atlantic butterflies and moths: <http://bit.ly/wh4dEM>
- Conserving Pollinators: A Primer for Gardeners: <http://bit.ly/yQGXI5>
- Monarch Watch (University of Kansas): <http://www.monarchwatch.org/>
- Rain Garden and Wildlife Ponds: <http://bit.ly/zko8gh>
- Built Shelters for wildlife: <http://bit.ly/yvoKjN>
- Backyard Habitats: <http://bit.ly/A1pDkX>

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