

RESCAPE CALIFORNIA: CREATE HABITAT

ReScape California is a non-profit organization that educates about and advocates for a whole-systems approach to landscaping that works in harmony with the natural world and addresses the changing environment. ReScape's landscaping practices are based on 8 regenerative principles which foster soil health, sequester carbon, conserve water and protect habitat and valuable resources while reducing waste and preventing pollution in our communities and watersheds.



Our **Create Habitat** principle acknowledges that biodiversity is crucial to the health and resiliency of the local landscape. Plant and animal diversity is one of the many factors that make the Sacramento River watershed unique and beautiful. More than 1,000 local plant species bloom during the year, supporting hundreds of native pollinators, beneficial insects and other organisms that contribute to a healthy landscape. The population of the Greater Sacramento Region is expected to keep growing, and new development often negatively impacts wildlife habitat. ReScape's landscaping practices can help create wildlife habitat.

SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATE & PROTECT WILDLIFE HABITAT

- 1. Diversify your plant palette.** Include annuals, biennials and perennials of different sizes, shapes and colors. Plant evergreen and deciduous trees and shrubs that bloom at different times.
- 2. Choose California native plant species first.** Many native plants flourish in the Sacramento area, often with less water and maintenance.
- 3. Provide food and water.** Select plants that will provide food in a variety of ways—from berries to nuts to nectar. Let some plants go to seed. Be sure to change water in birdbaths every few days to avoid creating breeding sites for mosquitoes.
- 4. Create shelter and safe places for raising young.** Shelter allows wildlife a safe place from predators and also from extreme weather, like Sacramento's hot summers. Cover can be provided by a dry-laid rock wall, roosting box, pond, boulders, or native vegetation.
- 5. Eliminate the use of pesticides.** Pesticides do not kill only the targeted pest species. Birds, bees, butterflies and beneficial insects are also vulnerable.

CREATING & PROTECTING WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTS OUR WATERSHED

- Attracting beneficial insects helps control pests without the use of pesticides.
- Selecting native plants prevents the spread of exotic invasive plants.
- Providing food, water and shelter enhances local habitat and increases biodiversity.

Need Help?

Hire a landscape professional trained in ReScape's 8 Principles. Visit our ReScape Qualified Landscape Professional Directory at www.rescapeca.org

Join ReScape!

Be a part of California's regenerative landscape community by becoming a ReScape member. More details at www.rescapeca.org

Resources:

Calscape Native Plant Nursery Directory. www.calscape.org
National Wildlife Federation Certified Wildlife Habitat. www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife
Our Water Our World Eco-Friendly Product Locator. www.ourwaterourworld.org
Regional Water Authority. www.bewaterSMART.org
Sacramento Area Beekeepers Association. www.sacbeekeepers.org

