



**Seeding,
Weeding
and mulch
more**

For the avid gardener

Interest in wildlife has escalated into a national fascination during the past decade. According to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service survey, more than 80 million Americans — one in every three — are wildlife watchers, and enjoy at least one residential activity such as photographing, feeding or maintaining plants for wildlife on a regular basis. And 12.5 million Americans cultivate plants specifically to attract wildlife.

Last year, some 10,000 viewers requested information after Craig Tufts, director of Nongame/Urban Wildlife for the National Wildlife Federation appeared on several segments of "Victory Garden," a half-hour syndicated garden series on PBS.

To meet this increasing demand for contact, with wildlife, the National Wildlife Federation and the Planting Council of Bedford, Mass., have jointly developed a "Garden for Wildlife" campaign which was launched recently at a news briefing held in New York City.

"The 'Garden for Wildlife' campaign is an educational and attractive way to convey the value of wildlife to everyone," said Dr. Jay D. Hair, executive vice president of the Federation. "People will have the opportunity to appreciate the beauty of animals in their natural environment, and know the value of helping restore a dwindling natural resource. They'll also learn how easy it is to make an attractive garden environment and how gratifying it is to watch birds and other animals make it their home."

The National Wildlife Federation has led and nurtured this rapidly growing trend since the national conservation group originated its Backyard Wildlife Habitat Program in 1973. The nationwide program encourages "backyard naturalists" to plant gardens with vegetation that attracts wildlife by providing food, water, protective cover and nesting areas for birds and other animals.

The Federation helps interested wildlife watchers create their own habitats with a comprehensive Gardening with Wildlife Kit, and gives special certification to those who apply for and meet the criteria for planning and maintaining well-kept habitat areas. About 3,700 individuals and groups have been certified in the program to date.

Angus Auxiliary seeks scholarship applicants

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — College scholarships totaling \$7,000 will be awarded by the American Angus Auxiliary, this year to 10 high school graduating seniors. Five girl and five boy winners active in Angus projects, school, community and church activities will be selected from each of the respective state applications. Entry deadline is June 25.

Scholarship money in each group will be \$1,200 for first place, \$900 for second place, \$700 for third place, \$400 for fourth place and \$300 for fifth place.

The Miss American Angus contest will remain separate from the scholarship contest again this year. The top five girl applicants

The Planting Council, a non-profit corporation composed of lawn and garden industry groups, hopes to generate a greater appreciation among consumers for the plants and landscape plans that benefit wildlife.

By providing thousands of retailers across the country with merchandising aids such as in-store signs, plant identification tags, posters and accurate information about garden planning and equipment, the Council will make the "Garden with Wildlife" message and materials widely available — and easily accessible — to the public. Eye-catching "Garden For Wildlife" logos will help consumers choose appropriate plants, feeders, watering devices and other equipment which will attract wildlife that live in their region of the country.

"People may not realize that the trees and plants they see every day are ideal for attracting wildlife," said Tufts, who spends much of his time educating people about the wildlife around them. "Dogwood, for example, is really a berry-bearing shrub that is particularly appealing to thrushes, bluebirds, catbirds and other migrating songbirds in the fall. Dense evergreens can provide excellent cover from winter winds and snow, and adding trumpet creeper or fuschia is a sure-fire way to attract hummingbirds."

Interest in planning wildlife habitat is not limited to homeowners. Public, corporate and recreational building projects are responding to this growing trend and many are now incorporating habitat landscape into their facilities. Even land developers are getting into the act.

On a recent trip to Tucson, Az., Tufts discovered that land developers and condominium building contractors were using habitat landscaping to help increase property values and attract buyers as well as wildlife.

The Federation's "Gardening With Wildlife Kit," which contains a 64-page book, "Plant An Oasis For Wildlife," sample landscape plans and planning tools, guides to attracting and identifying birds, and a Wildlife Gardener's Journal will be available March 31, 1986 for \$16.95. For more information, call or write to: National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; (703) 790-4000

will be invited to the national Angus meeting at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville next November. Those choosing to participate will be interviewed, and Miss American Angus will be named during the show. Scholarship winners and queen candidates will be announced at the All-American Angus Breeders' Futurity in Louisville August 4, and 5.

For scholarship applications, contact Kathy Wise, Route 2, Box 2874, Spring Grove, Pa., or American Angus Auxiliary scholarship chairman, Mrs. James G. Smith, 2400 Bethel Rd., Nicholasville, Ky.

Extension offers gardener's shortcourse

NEWARK, Del. — The Delaware Cooperative Extension Service is offering a Home Vegetable Gardener's Shortcourse to be held on March 11, 18 and 25. Topics covered will include soils and fertility, pest control, planning for successive plantings, harvesting, storage and choosing quality plants.

"Many people want to save money by growing their own vegetables," says Glenn Layton,

Delaware State College extension agent. "Qualified extension agents and specialists from the University of Delaware and Delaware State College will teach the course, which is designed to help home gardeners."

The class will meet Tuesday evenings from 6:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. at the University of Delaware Research and Education Center (formerly the substation), on Rt. 9

in Georgetown.

Preregistration is requested. A fee of \$10 per family includes educational materials, refreshments and a garden soil fertility check. Make checks payable to Delaware State College, c/o Glenn Layton. For further information or to register contact Layton at the University of Delaware Research and Education Center, R.D. 2, Box 48, Georgetown, DE 19947 (856-7303).

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