

# DIG INTO CONSERVATION



JUNE 2025



With the long, hot days of summer quickly approaching, the conservation committee encourages you to take the time to reflect on how you can make a difference in conserving our earth. On July 28th, World Nature Conservation Day is celebrated to bring awareness to the importance of protecting our natural resources. There are many ways we can do this. Be mindful of your energy and water consumption during the hot summer months, try bird friendly coffee or learn to make a seed bomb and create a small pollinator garden for all to enjoy! As Jane Goodall so aptly said, "What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make".

## SAVING ENERGY DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS

Did you know that the amount of energy used by the average American household during the summer months has nearly doubled since 1973? As summers have become hotter there has been an increased dependency on the use of air conditioners. Air conditioners use a large amount of electricity and emit potent greenhouse gases. The majority of electricity is still provided through the use of non-renewable sources like coal or gas. While it is difficult to avoid the use of air conditioning during the extreme heat, be mindful of other ways to reduce your energy consumption this summer.

[Energy Saving Tips](#)

## WATER YOUR GARDEN WISELY

Water consumption is another area that has been impacted by climate change and the hot, dry summers we experience. The average American family uses about 400 gallons of water per day of which almost 30% is for outdoor use. Plants require 1-2 inches of water per week depending on temperature and location. It is common for people to overwater their gardens. Water plants early in the morning to avoid excessive evaporation. Consider adding more drought tolerant plants to your gardens. A good rule of thumb is *water deeply not daily*. Click on the link below to learn more tips about watering wisely from the Chicago Botanic Gardens.

[Watering Tips](#)



Do you have more questions about Climate Science? Have you wondered where to fact check information? Are you looking to be part of the solution but don't know where to start? Dr. Katherine Hayhoe, Chief Scientist of The Nature Conservancy answers these questions and more!

[FAQS ABOUT CLIMATE SCIENCE](#)



## NATIVE GARDENS AND PLANTS

Native gardens large or small work collectively to help sustain a habitat for birds and wildlife. Are you looking for resources to help with your native gardens or just some classes to help build a habitat garden? Here are a few sites and classes to peruse.

[Brandywine Native Garden Hub](#)

### *Upcoming Programs*

6/8 [Habitat Gardens In Action - Weavers Way](#)

6/18 [Gardening for Native Wildlife - Morris Arboretum](#)

7/23 [Designing with Natives in the Garden and Vase - PHS/Chanticleer](#)

## NEWS FROM NAL

AT OUR APRIL MEETING, BJ JOHNSON INFORMED US OF MANY EXCITING TOPICS THAT SHE LEARNED ABOUT AT NAL. IN CASE YOU MISSED IT, A FEW HIGHLIGHTS ARE OUTLINED BELOW.

### NEONICS: WHY SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?

NEONICOTINOIDS OR NEONICS FOR SHORT ARE A CLASS OF POWERFUL SYNTHETIC INSECTICIDES. THEY ARE THE SINGLE MOST POPULAR CLASS OF INSECTICIDES USED ON CROPS, LAWNS, GARDENS AND GOLF COURSES. THEY ARE NON-SELECTIVE INSECTICIDES WHICH MEANS THEY NOT ONLY KILL ANNOYING "PESTS" BUT ALSO BEES, BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER ESSENTIAL WILDLIFE. PLANT NEONIC FREE NATIVES IN YOUR GARDEN. CHECK OUT [GARDEN FOR WILDLIFE](#) TO FIND PLACES TO PURCHASE NEONIC FREE PLANTS AND MORE!

## BIRD FRIENDLY COFFEE

- THE US CONSUMES ABOUT 1.62 BILLION POUNDS OF COFFEE A YEAR.
- 75% OF THE WORLD'S COFFEE IS FARMED IN PRACTICES THAT LEAVE NO ROOM FOR BIRDS.
- BIRD FRIENDLY COFFEE FARMS MIX COFFEE SHRUBS WITH TREE STANDS CREATING MORE CANOPY COVER AND QUALITY BIRD HABITATS!
- PURCHASE BIRD FRIENDLY COFFEE AT A LOCAL ROASTER OR ONLINE [HERE](#)!

LOOKING FOR A FUN WAY TO PLANT WILDFLOWERS AND ADD COLOR TO THE GARDEN? MAKE A SEED BOMB AND SUPPORT WILDLIFE!

**HOW TO MAKE A SEED BOMB**