



Conservation@Home Certification Checklist

This is a list of suggestions to guide you in transforming your yard into an environmentally friendly property. If your goal is to be certified, aim for 8-10 items overall and at least one item in each category. Some items may not apply to your property.

We're happy to help you along the way to earning your certification. Contact us at DeepRoots@theconservationfoundation.org with any questions you may have.

Native Vegetation

- Incorporate native plants into existing flowerbeds
- Create native gardens (butterfly garden, rain garden, shade garden)
- Add plant diversity – forbs, grasses, trees, shrubs
- Control invasive species/management evident
- Create and maintain a well-vegetated shoreline/streambank buffer

Stormwater Management

- Direct downspouts to vegetated areas
- Install a rain barrel
- Plant a native vegetation border around property to slow runoff
- Build a rain garden

Yard Management

- Use a mulching mower
- Compost yard and food waste
- Add mulched leaves to garden beds
- Minimize use of synthetic fertilizers and herbicides
- Spot use only for pesticides
- Provide paths and access for weeding

Wildlife Habitat

- Bird feeders – regularly cleaned (seed, nectar, or suet)
- Bird house
- Water sources – bird bath, stream, pond
- Brush piles, logs, snags



Be a Conservation@Home Hero in Your Neighborhood - Bonus

While these steps are not necessary for certification, these actions have the potential to greatly boost the impact of Conservation@Home in your neighborhood.

- Recommend a neighbor for a C@Home site visit
- Mentor a neighbor on sustainable landscaping practices
- Share plants from your garden with neighbors and friends
- Work with us to host a tour of your property for other C@Home participants