



Night Nature Alliance

Gardening for Nocturnal Wildlife

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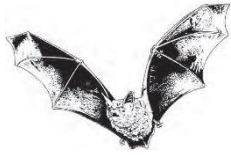


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 Night Nature Alliance

 night_nature

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BATS IN YOUR GARDEN

Bats are excellent friends to gardeners, as they consume thousands of insect pests each evening, and they leave great fertilizer behind!

Bat guano is composed of loads of nitrogen rich insect parts that many plants find desirable. This guano has been found to have a N:P:K ratio of 10:3:1

To help attract bats, you should have a water source and attract the insects that they prefer to eat.

Plants with pale colored flowers have a good chance of catching the eye of nocturnal insects. Some great night-bloomers include **datura, moonflower, four-o'clock, yucca, evening primrose, night-blooming water lily, night-blooming jessamine, cleome, and nicotiana.** Also try planting **dahlia, French marigold, nicotiana, thyme, raspberry, or honeysuckle**-the stronger scents of these plants can draw in night insects as well.

BENEFITS OF OTHER NOCTURNAL WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN

Owls can help your garden by hunting not just mice & rats, but Screech Owls also eat some insect pests and even an occasional snail!

The best way to attract Screech Owls to your yard is to provide them with a water source and an owl house that replicates a hollow tree.

Skunks can benefit farmers and gardeners because they eat common pests like field mice, moles and insects, particularly grasshoppers and grubs.

They also do a bit of gardening themselves, by spreading berry seeds and plants through their scat.



Opossums chow down on snails, grubs, beetles, rats, mice and gophers that might otherwise chow down on your crops or lawn.

They also eat ticks, preventing Lyme Disease. The National Wildlife Federation reported in [Give Opossums a Break](#): a study calculated “a single opossum might kill an astonishing 4,000 ticks in a week.”

That said, opossums might take the occasional bite of your tomatoes or corn, and they do have a tendency to eat out of the compost heap. Usually they tend to seek decayed or overripe fruit. By eating this overripe fruit, they become important seed dispersers for the Pawpaw & Persimmon trees.

Contact us!

www.nightnature.org

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