

10 Things You Can Do at Home to Protect Endangered Species

We have a responsibility to protect our nation's wildlife, birds, fish and plants on the brink of extinction. We pledge to do these 10 things at home to protect endangered species. Pick one or two to start with today and do the rest throughout the year!

1) Learn about endangered species in your area

Teach your friends and family about the wonderful wildlife, birds, fish and plants that live near you.

2) Visit a national wildlife refuge, park or other open space

These protected lands provide habitat to many native wildlife, birds, fish and plants.

3) Make your home wildlife friendly

Secure garbage in shelters or cans with locking lids, feed pets indoors and lock pet doors at night to avoid attracting wild animals into your home.

4) Provide habitat for wildlife by planting native vegetation in your yard

Native plants provide food and shelter for native wildlife. Attracting native insects like bees and butterflies can help pollinate your plants.

5) Minimize use of herbicides and pesticides

Herbicides and pesticides may keep yards looking nice but they are in fact hazardous pollutants that affect wildlife at many levels.

6) Slow down when driving

Many animals live in developed areas and this means they must navigate a landscape full of human hazards.

7) Recycle and buy sustainable products

Buy recycled paper, sustainable products like bamboo and Forest Stewardship Council wood products to protect species that live in forests.

8) Never purchase products made from threatened or endangered species

Overseas trips can be exciting and fun, and everyone wants a souvenir. But sometimes the souvenirs are made from species nearing extinction.

9) Report any harassment or shooting of threatened and endangered species

Harassing wildlife is cruel and illegal. Shooting, trapping, or forcing a threatened or endangered animal into captivity is also illegal and can lead to their extinction.

10) Protect wildlife habitat

Perhaps the greatest threat that faces many species is the widespread destruction of habitat.

Scientists tell us the best way to protect endangered species is to protect the special places where they live.

For more information, visit our website at www.stopextinction.org

