



27 June 2023

Coronation Gardens for Food and Nature

The NFWI have joined in partnership with The Wildlife Trusts, Incredible Edible, and Garden Organic, to pay tribute to His Majesty, King Charles III's long-standing commitment to the natural world and the environment. Coronation Gardens for Food and Nature is a three-year programme which hopes to enthuse millions of people and communities across the United Kingdom to live sustainably and help wildlife recover by growing food and creating space for nature in gardens, on balconies and in shared greenspaces. This will include providing advice and resources and encouraging people to pledge their garden or greenspaces on a map.

In pledging to take part in Coronation Gardens for Food and Nature, WI members and others are being encouraged to:

- **Grow healthy food to eat** – this could range from herbs and salads, through to vegetables and fruit trees depending on the space you have.
- **Plant pollinator-friendly blooms** – butterflies, moths, bees and hoverflies all need sources of nectar and pollen to thrive. As they travel from flower to flower, they also pollinate them, enabling plants to set seed or bear fruit.
- **Create a water feature**, which could be as simple as a submerged dish or as involved as digging a pond, lining it and oxygenating it using native plants such as hornwort.
- **Leave a patch of long grass or pile of logs** to create shelter for wildlife and natural predators such as hedgehogs and frogs.
- **Go chemical and peat-free** – avoid using pesticides, weedkillers and peat!
- **Sign up for regular ideas and tips** - we want to encourage people to share their efforts and inspire others to take part, in turn helping the initiative grow. Through the pledge mechanism, individuals can sign up to receive regular advice through emails, helping to build confidence and knowledge in food growing and wildlife-friendly gardening.
- **Share efforts on social media to create a living “map” of activity** - participants are encouraged to share their activity on social media using #MyCoronationGarden. We'd like to encourage people to influence others to get involved and become part of a group or community of people acting for nature and growing food.

You can find out more information including resources and advice on the Coronation Gardens for Food and Nature website here: <https://mycoronationgarden.org/>

You can also get involved by pledging to create a Coronation Garden for Food and Nature here: <https://mycoronationgarden.org/get-involved>