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PRESS INQUIRIES
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FAQ

What is the Backyard Wildlife Festival?

The Backyard Wildlife Festival is a free, all-day event to educate and inspire people to welcome wildlife - such as birds, butterflies, and other wildlife - into their backyards, gardens and communities. The event hosts a variety of activities and educational opportunities on how to attract and support wildlife through garden and landscape practices, and creating and preserving wildlife habitat in our region.

Who usually comes to the Backyard Wildlife Festival?

People from all over the Puget Sound attend the Backyard Wildlife Festival. In the past, festival-goers have traveled from Olympia and Bellingham, the islands and all communities in between to the Backyard Wildlife Festival to celebrate nature and wildlife. The festival is family friendly with plenty of engaging activities for kids and adults from arts and crafts, expert workshops, a guided birding tour, live music and more.

Why is the festival at the Tukwila Community Center?

The city of Tukwila was the first community in Washington State and the fourth in the national to be certified as an official Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. With the Duwamish River meandering through the heart of the city, wildlife habitats abound in Tukwila. The Tukwila Community Center offers stunning architecture and beautiful grounds right on the river to spot wildlife such as birds and water-life.

What is a Certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat?

Chances are you probably already provide many habitat resources for wildlife in your own backyard. The basic elements of a wildlife habitat are food, water, cover and places to raise young. It's not hard and it doesn't matter where you live or how much space you have to get certified as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat. As long as you follow the basic rules, you can get certified by visiting www.nwf.org/backyard whether you have several acres or only a small apartment balcony to utilize.

What is the Certified Garden Tour?

The self-guided garden tour allows you to view several amazing gardens within the Tukwila community that are prime examples of how to incorporate wildlife-friendly practices into your gardens. Meet the gardeners, ask questions, take in ideas or just enjoy the beautiful gardens on the tour.

What is the Procession of the Species Parade?

The Procession of the Species Parade at the Backyard Wildlife Festival is a homegrown version of the hugely popular springtime parade that takes place annually in Olympia. Participants are asked to come dressed as their favorite Northwest animal or participate in the costume making workshop preceding the parade to make their unique masks, hats, wings, etc. The parade is intended to be a celebration of awareness of all those with whom we share our fragile environment. To learn more about the parade please visit www.backyardwildlifefair.org/parade

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