

To:
Canadian Wildlife Federation,
Backyard Habitat Certification,
350 Michael Cowpland Drive,
Kanata ON K2M 2W1

*Request for
Wildlife Habitat
Certification*

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The Walled Garden - Plan



Garden surrounded with a 6 foot Brick Wall, provides a unique micro-climate

Native Plantings

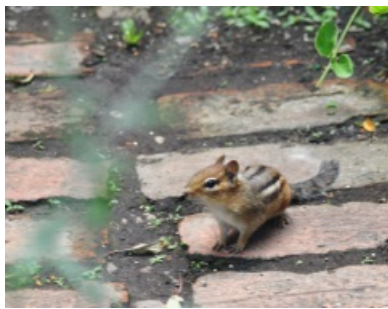
- A Columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
- B Coneflower *Echinacea*
- C Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*
- D Trillium *Trillium erectum*
- E Sage *Salvia*
- F Jack in the Pulpit *Arisaema triphyllum*
- G Bloodroot *Sanguinaria canadensis*
- H Wild Ginger *Asarum canadense*
- I Spearmint *Mentha spicata*
- J Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris*

For a complete list of garden plantings, please see the final pages of this report.

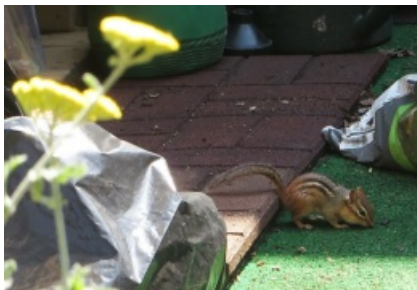
It's impossible to sit in our garden to read a book. Within minutes the various activities of our natural visitors takes over. Cheeky chipmunks chase each other through the fernery and between the potted herbs, birds constantly come and go between the two water baths and the hanging feeder ... or forage for berries among the ivy on top of our walls. Sometimes an adult bird will bring a fledgling and lovingly feed it as it patiently waits in the garden below. Fish glide through the pond's quite waters and seem to enjoy a chasing game through the marsh planting areas.

As said, it's impossible to concentrate on a book, nature is displaying its greatest show all around our tiny garden.

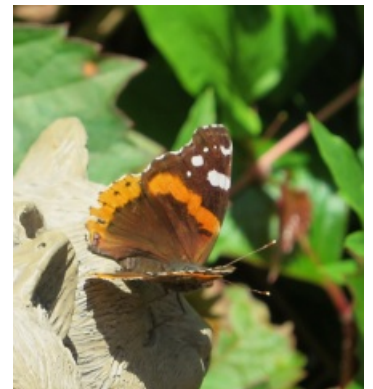
The Walled Garden



The neighbourhood family of *Chipmunks* love our garden. They can be seen constantly running and chasing each other. The ***Broken Pottery Area*** beneath the ferns just inside the gate is a favourite hiding spot as is the ***Fernery Garden***. In fact, we believe they may have built a nest in the corner of the ***Fernery*** since this seems to be a favourite “bolt-hole” for them.



They can often be seen foraging for food on the ground beneath the hanging bird feeder.



Right - Butterflies are encouraged to visit, as are bees.



This Spring, we installed an *Armstrong and Blackberry Pollen Bees' Nest* (left) in the Boston Ivy of the north wall to encourage pollenating bees to stay.

According to the vendor, it provides a safe nesting place for female bees. Each round tube is surrounded with ground volcanic rock to act as a desiccant during the winter months. The entire structure is waterproof.

Visit www.pollenbeesnest.com for more information.

Here, a cheeky *Racoon* has climbed to the balcony above the ***Walled Garden*** to peer into our bedroom window.



The Walled Garden - continued:



If the *Raccoon* on the previous page had turned around, here is the view of the **Walled Garden** he would have seen from his perch.

In the foreground, is our **Patio Area** with its black wrought iron table and two chairs; to the left is a **Wall Fountain**. The black BBQ to the right has been moved and this position is now occupied by a potting bench.



On the brick path to the left is a second **Fountain and Bird Bath**. Both the wall fountain, bird bath and pond at the far end of the garden are very popular with our bird visitors - more on this later.

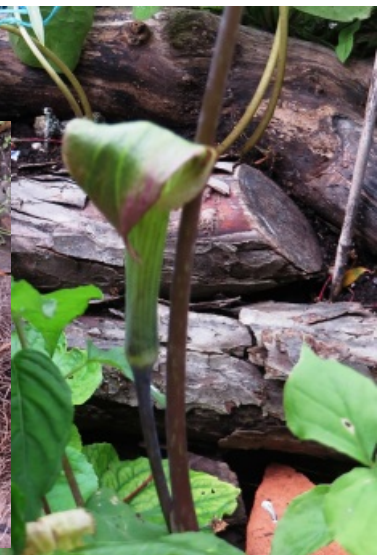
A **Sundial** sits in the middle of the picture and just behind it is the **Stumpery** and **Herb Garden**. Just to the left of the tree is the **Fernery**.

Out of sight to the right and just inside the wrought iron gate is the broken **Pottery and Fern Area**. A darker part of the garden nestled on the north side of the south wall, where small animals love to play.



The **Stumpery** is an important part of our garden since it not only provides a “wild” place for some of our native plantings, but also provides a “hotel” for insects. The following photos show

closeups in this special garden. *Jack-in-the-Pulpit*, *Wild Ginger* and *Bloodroot* grow among the logs.



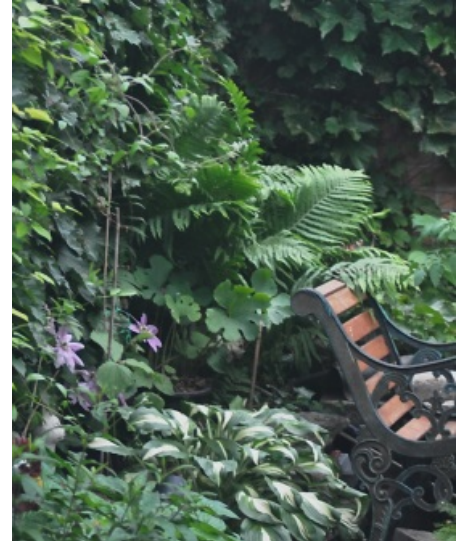
The Walled Garden - continued:

And now we come to the **Fernery** in the top left side of the photo.

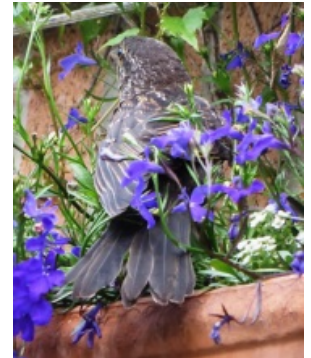
This dense area of *Boston Ivy* covered walls fronted by *Ostrich Ferns* and plantings of *Trillium*, *Bloodroot*, *Columbine* and *Hosta* create a wonderful habitat for small animals and we believe, one family of nesting birds. Sitting in the chair close to pond does not seem to deter them.



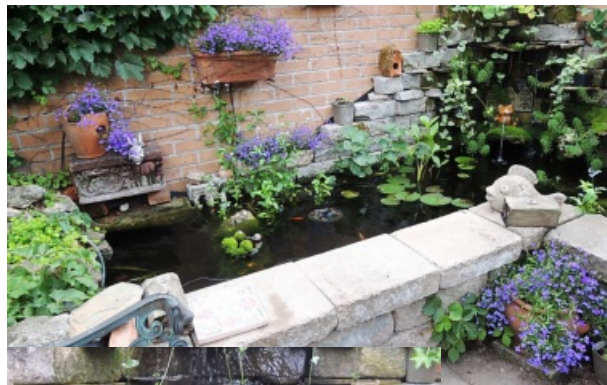
Mentioned earlier, our *Chipmunk* family seems to spend much time in this corner ... they are often seen running up the paths into these “woods” and often spend much time there before re-appearing.



A young *bird* is often seen sitting on top of the wall close to the same corner and has been observed scrambling into the *Ivy* with an adult. The same two have been seen with the adult visiting the hanging feeder and then feeding the youngster which tends to sit on top of a nearby pot of blue *Lobelia* waiting for a regurgitated meal.



The **Pond Area** to the right of the **Fernery** provides an entirely different wildlife habitat to our garden. The “L” shaped pond is stocked with common *Goldfish* which hibernate at the bottom each winter.



We keep the pond in ecological balance by using a number of natural means. *Watersnails* assist in cleaning the bottom. They are prolific layers of jelly snail egg spawn which can often be found underneath water lily leaves and other floating surfaces; our water snail colony grows each year. *Pond bacteria* are used to control nitrates and nitrites; pond plantings also help keep the environment under control. A pond filter also runs continuously feeding clean water back into the **Bog Garden** across a bed of *Water Cress*.



In the south east corner of the pond is a **Water Wall**, which allows oxygenated water to cascade down a rock wall; a natural place for *mosses* and other plants to grow.

Oxygenating water plants such as *Vallisneria* and *Elodea* assist in maintaining essential oxygen levels within the pond.



The Walled Garden - continued:

At the far end of the pond is a **Bog Garden** with plantings of *Arrowhead*, *Bog Bean*, *Cardinal Flower*, *Water Iris*, *Golden Creeping Jenny*, *Marsh Marigold* and *Water Cress*. A small island and natural bridge in the body of the pond provides small animal access to the waters and birds will often be seen bathing in its waters, preferring the pond to the bird bath and wall fountain at the other end of the garden.

You will note some *Hosta* in the foreground. Usually a moist soil plant, we have been experimenting by introducing the garden variety to the pond as a *bog plant* - an experiment in hydroponics.



Leaving the Pond area, let's talk about our *Bird Visitors*, of which we have many.

We use two *hanging bird feeders* and give them the best of a seed, fruit and nut diet. The birds love our garden and sometimes its a fight to see how many can hang on to our small feeders at the same time.

As mentioned earlier, *bath water* is provided by two fountains and the pond. Here are some captioned photos of bird life in our **Wildlife Habitat**:



Above

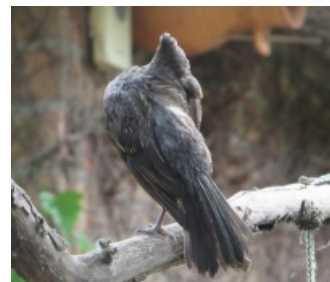
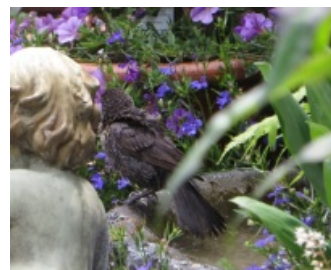
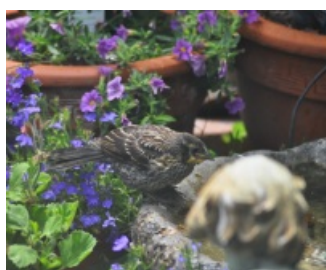
Left: *Bathing in the wall fountain.*

Centre: *These guys prefer the main fountain bird bath.*

Right: *Hey, when is it my turn?*

Below

Left to Right: *1. Shall I have a bath?; 2. That was great; 3. Time to dry off and preen; 4. Now ready for a night on the town.*



The Walled Garden - continued:

While visiting *Williamsburgh, Virginia*, a number of years ago, we purchased several of these 18th Century style **Birdhouses** and installed them beneath the eaves of our roof, overlooking the walled garden.



In subsequent years, we have seen several bird families select them as their breeding nests. Why not? With nesting material, food and water only a few wing beats away, why would they go elsewhere?



Above, a bird gathers nesting material near our **Stumpery**. He did not stay in our garden but we noticed he flew back many times gathering more material.



Right, a parent bird feeds three babies in one of our birdhouses, probably after visiting our nearby **hanging bird feeder**.

Left, birds enjoy our hanging bird feeder's millet, fruit and nut wildbird seed mix.

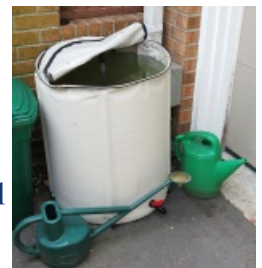
Front Garden



Our walled **Wildlife Habitat** garden is very private to us (note the wrought iron gate in the upper centre of this photo) but since we live in a Condominium development, we must follow the corporation rules in terms of what we do in our highly visible front garden. We therefore have planted rose and other ornamentals but do try and follow WFC recommendations as much as possible.



For example, here you will find our **Rainwater Tank** connected to the down pipe from our roof. It is a flexible tub since under Condo rules, it must be portable. We of course use the water collected for all watering of the plantings within the walled garden.



We do not use chemicals or pesticides in any of our gardens but do release **Ladybugs** every late spring to control the **Aphid** population as it starts to try and take over the rose stems and buds.

Finally, we do attract wildlife to the **Front Garden**. The **Rabbit** in the photo to the right lives elsewhere in the development but does seem to enjoy our front lawn from time to time.



List of Plantings and Resources

Walled Garden Plantings

Alyssium *Alysson maritima*
Bloodroot *Sanguinaria canadensis*
Calibrachoa *Calitastic red*
Clematis Golden Tiara *Clematis serratifolia*
Clematis Hagley Hybrid Pink *Clematis hagley*
Clematis Mauve *Clematis galore*
Clematis Pink *Clematis abilene*
Coleus *Labiatae*
Columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
Coneflower *Echinacea*
Creeping Thyme *Thymus praecox coccineus*
Feather Reed Grass *Calamagrostis x acutifora*
Forget-Me-Not *Myosotis*
Hosta *Hostas*
Jack in the Pulpit *Arisaema triphyllum*

Lily of the Valley *Convallaria majalis*
Lobelia Regatta Midnight Blue
Morning Glory *Ipomoea*
Mosses *Ceratodon purpureus*
Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris*
Ostrich Fern *Matteuccia struthiopteris*
Penny Royal *Mentha pulegium*
Sage *Salvia*
Sedum Red *Sedum spurium*
Spearmint *Mentha spicata*
Sweet William *Dianthus barbatus*
Trillium *Trillium erectum*
Vinca *Vinca major*
Violet *Viola papilionacea*

Pond and Bog Garden

Arrowhead *Sagittaria latifolia*
Bog Bean *Menyanthes trifoliata*
Cardinal Flower *Lobelia cardinalis*
Elodea *Elodea Canadensis*
Floating Heart *Nymphoides peltata*
Golden Creeping Jenny *Lysimachia nummularia*

Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
Vallisneria *Vallisneen sp.*
Water Cress *Radicula nasturtium aquaicum*
Water Iris Yellow *Iris pseudacorus*
Water Lily Hardy *Nyphaea "Barbara Dobbins"*
Water Snails *Melantho*

Herbs

Basil *Ocimum basilicum*
Chives *Allium schoenoprasum*
Corriander *Corriandrum sativum*
Dill *Anethum graveolens*
Fennel *Foeniculum vulgare*
Lavender *Lavendula augustifolia*
Oregano *Origanum onites*

Parsley *Petroselinum crispum*
Rosemary *Rosmarius officinalis*
Sage *Salvia officinalis*
Spearmint *Mentha spicata*
Tarragon *Artemisia dracunculoides var. sativa*
Thyme *Thymus vulgaris*

Resources

Scotts Wild Bird Food - Fruit & Nuts. Endorsed by the Toronto Zoo. Contains *white millet, peanuts, corn, sunflower chips, oilseed, red millet, raisins, walnuts, pineapple and cranberry.*
Pollen Bee Nest - Armstrong & Blackberry
Flexible Water Tub - Lee Valley
Ladybugs *Hippodamia convergens* - Sheridan Nurseries



CANADIAN WILDLIFE
FEDERATION



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

CERTIFIED WILDLIFE FRIENDLY HABITAT

Canadian Wildlife Federation, in partnership with
Parks Canada, would like to recognize

Dave and Kathy Hunter

for outstanding effort in helping
wildlife through the creation of habitat

Rick Bates

CEO and Executive Vice-President

June 27th 2017

DATE