

## HABITAT HAVEN

### Certification Levels and Criteria

#### *Silver*

Native Plants: Naturescape > 5% of property with locally native plants - at least 3 out of 5 vegetation layers. 50% of plants native to Willamette Valley.

Wildlife Stewardship: Pick three items from below.

Stormwater Management: Pick one item from below.

Pesticides Reduction\*\*: No use of RED zone chemicals. Use IPM (Integrated Pest Management) strategy with YELLOW zone chemicals only as a last resort. Plants must be Neonics free.

Invasive Species: Within the space designated for naturescaping, remove and control (a) invasive trees and large woody plants that have individual trunk/stem diameters up to 6" and a plant height up to 12' and (b) all smaller invasive plants.

#### *Gold*

Native Plants: Naturescape > 15% of property with locally native plants -- at least 4 out of 5 vegetation layers.

Wildlife Stewardship: Pick at least four items from below. If you have a cat, create a plan to reduce its wildlife impacts.

Stormwater Management: Pick at least two items from below.

Education and Volunteerism: Pick one from below.

Pesticides Reduction\*\*: No RED or YELLOW zone chemicals. Always use IPM strategy.

Invasive Species:

Within the space designated for naturescaping, remove and control invasive plants of all sizes (trees to small plants).

Within the entire yard, remove and control invasive trees and large woody plants that have individual trunk/stem diameters up to 6" and a plant height up to 12'.

#### *Platinum*

Native Plants: Naturescape > 50% of property with locally native plants -- 5 vegetation layers.

Wildlife Stewardship: Pick at least five items from below. Cats kept inside or in outdoor enclosures 100% of the time.

Stormwater Management: Pick at least three items from below.

Education and Volunteerism: Pick two items from below.

Pesticides Reduction\*\*: No use of RED or YELLOW zone chemicals. Always use IPM strategy. Take a ["No Pesticides" Pledge](#):

Invasive Species: Within the entire yard, remove and control invasive plants of all sizes (trees to small plants).

# Categories for Certification

## I. Naturescaping

### Vegetation Layers

1. Ground layer: i.e. Inside-out flower (Vancouveria hexandra), Western Red Columbine (Aquilegia Formosa), kinnikinnick (Arctostaphylos uva-ursi).
2. Small/Medium Shrub layer (<5 ft.): i.e. Salal (Gaultheria shallon), native ferns.
3. Large Shrub layer (5-20ft): i.e. Indian Plum (Oemleria cerasiformis), Mock orange (Philadelphus lewisii).
4. Understory tree canopy (<30 ft.): i.e. Vine maple (Acer circinatum), Cascara (Rhamnus purshiana). Serviceberry (Amelanchier)
5. Overstory tree canopy (>30ft): i.e. Oregon White Oak (Quercus garryana), Western Redcedar (Thuja plicata) Ponderosa pine (Pinus ponderosus)etc....

## II. Wildlife Stewardship

*Even if you have not chosen these items for your certification, please learn about how unnecessary and overly bright lighting, window collisions, and outdoor cats can be dangerous to wildlife.*

- Wildlife Water Feature: natural source, maintained bird/bug bath, etc.
- Cats Indoors: or in an outdoor enclosure
- Bird/bat nest boxes: appropriate for native species, clean annually
- Nesting Habitat for Pollinators, Beneficial Insects, Native Lizards and Others: small brush/ rock piles, bundles of stems and branches, mason bee house, leaf piles.
- Snags and Nurse logs: provide dead wood onsite, >5ft long
- Reduce Outdoor Lighting: outdoor lights off during migration; Mar-May, Sept-Nov. Lights should face downward. Use motion sensors or timers so lights are on only when necessary.
- Reduce Bird/Window Collisions: assess problem windows, treat to reduce strikes
- Native Pollinator area: native wildflowers which bloom through the growing season, Spring, Summer and Fall.

### III. Stormwater Management

- Large canopy tree: over 30ft, (cannot be nuisance species)
- Disconnect downspouts: where appropriate, see resource list
- Rain Gardens: manage stormwater onsite, where appropriate
- Remove impervious surfaces such concrete, or grass: more than 500ft<sup>2</sup>
- Ecoroof: according to City specs
- Increase Naturescaping: to 10% higher than your certification level requirement
- Restore Soils: leave the leaves, add compost, worm bin,
- Water Conservation: Eliminate lawn irrigation, water in morning and evening only
- Adopt eco-friendly maintenance practices: petroleum-free yard care, responsible, organic fertilizer use, and/or use landscapers from HH Landscaper Directory - If lawn, mow to keep grass 3" or taller. Apply clippings as mulch.

### IV. Education & Volunteerism

- Recruit 2 neighbors to sign up!
- Allow site/yard to be showcased in yard tours.
- Volunteer for the Habitat Haven Program.
- Attend continuing education classes, e.g. through UWSWCD, OSU extension office, Audubon or [pollinator.org](http://pollinator.org).
- Participate in OSU Extension Master Naturalist or Master Gardener Programs.
- Volunteer for City of Eugene Native plant nursery, Mount Pisgah, Hendrick's park, etc. See links.

### V. Pesticides Reduction

See resources for information on how to garden without pesticides.

For Red and Yellow Zone rated chemicals, see Grow Smart Grow

Safe:

<https://www.growsmartgrowsafe.org/Products?pesticideTypeId=12>

Take the No Pesticides Pledge:

[https://www.pesticide.org/pesticide\\_free\\_pledge#:~:text=%22To%20help%20protect%20the%20environment,home%2C%20yard%20and%20garden.%22](https://www.pesticide.org/pesticide_free_pledge#:~:text=%22To%20help%20protect%20the%20environment,home%2C%20yard%20and%20garden.%22)

## V. Invasive Plant Removal

### Common invasive trees and large woody plants:

- Norway maple (*Acer platanoides*)
- Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
- English Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)
- English/Portugal laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus* and *P. lusitanica*)
- Thundercloud plum (*Prunus cerasifera*)
- Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*)
- Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

### Common smaller invasive plants

- Ivy (*Hedera helix* and *H. hibernica*)
- Herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*)
- Periwinkle/vinca (*Vinca minor* and *V. major*)
- Nipplewort (*Lapsana communis*)
- Field bindweed and Hedge bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis* and *Calystegia sepium*)
- Lemon balm (*Melissa officinalis*)
- Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- Shiny geranium (*Geranium lucidum*)