

COMO Wild Yards Program Certification Criteria

Silver	Gold	Platinum
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● remove 50% of invasive bush honeysuckle and 100% of Silver Level invasive plants on property ● Use native plants to landscape 25% of available property ● provide 2 of 4 canopy levels ● Complete 3 wildlife stewardship items ● 1 stormwater management item ● 1 education and volunteerism item 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● remove 75% of invasive bush honeysuckle and 100% of Silver and Gold Level invasive species on property ● Use native plants to landscape 50% of available property ● provide 3 of 4 canopy levels ● Complete 4 wildlife stewardship items ● 3 stormwater management items ● 2 education and volunteerism items 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● remove 100% of all invasive species on property ● Use native plants to landscape 100% of available property ● provide 4 of 4 canopy levels ● Complete 6 wildlife stewardship items ● 5 stormwater management items ● 4 education and volunteerism items

Canopy Levels: wildflowers/grasses, shrubs, understory trees, canopy trees.

Wildlife Stewardship Action Items	Check
Plant a butterfly garden in full sun with at least 10 different native wildflower, shrub or tree species that furnish nectar for adults (5 plants) and leaves for caterpillars (5 plants)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plant a woodland wildflower garden with at least 6 different native wildflower species adapted to shade	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plant a songbird garden with at least 3 different species of native shrubs and/or trees that provide fruits for residential or migrating songbirds	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plant a hummingbird garden with at least 4 different species of native wildflowers, shrubs and/or trees	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plant a pollinator garden with at least 6 different native wildflower, shrub or tree species that provide food and shelter	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install one bird house and monitor to keep out non-native birds (i.e. starlings, English house sparrows, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install a wildlife water feature (includes a bird bath)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Convert outdoor cats to strictly indoor cats or use an outdoor enclosure	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implement a plan to reduce bird/window collisions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install one bat house	<input type="checkbox"/>
Install a bee hotel to encourage native bees to inhabit your yard	<input type="checkbox"/>

Stormwater Management Action Items	Check
Eliminate all chemical pesticides & fertilizers (except for application of herbicides to eradicate invasive plants)	
Reduce and maintain the amount of manicured turf grass and impervious surfaces (cement, asphalt, etc.) to less than 10% of property (minus the footprint of house)	
Install a 50-gallon rain barrel to the guttering system and use rainwater around your home	
Plant 2 large, native trees to absorb rainwater or stabilize slopes	
Actively participate in planning or installing a large-scale rain garden on non-residential grounds	
Install a “green ecoroof” that helps to detain or retain stormwater	
Install a rain garden on your lot or another residential lot	
Install a swale to mitigate the effects of stormwater runoff	

Education and Volunteerism Action Items	Check
Volunteer your property, and get accepted, to be showcased in native plant/wildlife garden tours	
Recruit two other participants into the CWY	
Mentor others in participation in the COMO Wild Yards program	
Participate in wildlife-oriented citizen science program (i.e. Project FeederWatch, NestWatch, etc.)	
Attend a conservation workshop (composting, native plants, pollinator workshop, etc.)	
Coordinate a neighborhood invasive species removal and replanting event	
Adopt-a- Spot, Trail, or Rain garden in Columbia	
Volunteer regularly with City of Columbia conservation volunteer programs or a partner group	

Silver Level

Bush Honeysuckle (50%)
 White Sweet Clover
 Yellow Sweet Clover
 Common Teasel
 Garlic Mustard
 Purple Loosestrife
 Star-of-Bethlehem
 Canada Thistle
 Musk Thistle
 Wintercreeper (from vertical surfaces)

Gold Level

Bush Honeysuckle (75%)
 Autumn Olive
 Burning Bush
 English Ivy
 Field Bindweed
 Golden Rain Tree
 Kudzu
 Oriental Bittersweet
 Siberian Elm
 Spotted Knapweed
 Tree of Heaven

Platinum Level

Bush Honeysuckle (100%)
 Bradford/Callery Pear
 Crown Vetch
 Japanese Honeysuckle
 Japanese Hops
 Johnson Grass
 Mimosa
 Privets (all species)
 Sericea lespedeza
 Wintercreeper (100%)