

THE WOODSIDE
BACKYARD HABITAT
PROGRAM WAS
DESIGNED BY THE
TOWN'S OPEN SPACE
COMMITTEE TO
RECOGNIZE RESIDENTS
WHO HAVE MADE
AN EFFORT TO PRE-
SERVE OR RE-CREATE
THE NATURAL SPACES
THAT ALLOW OUR
NATIVE FLORA AND
FAUNA TO THRIVE.



WOODSIDE BACKYARD HABITAT

THE WOODSIDE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE acknowledges honorees with a gift of a three-foot tall forged metal sign. This award is designed to be displayed near the entrance to the chosen property.

Properties are evaluated only after an application is submitted to the Woodside Open Space Committee by the property owner. If you are interested in receiving this award or nominating a neighbor, further information and an application form are available at Town Hall or at woodsideside.org/backyardhabitat. Our team will be happy to visit your property and help brainstorm ways in which you can create an optimal habitat.



THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE'S
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

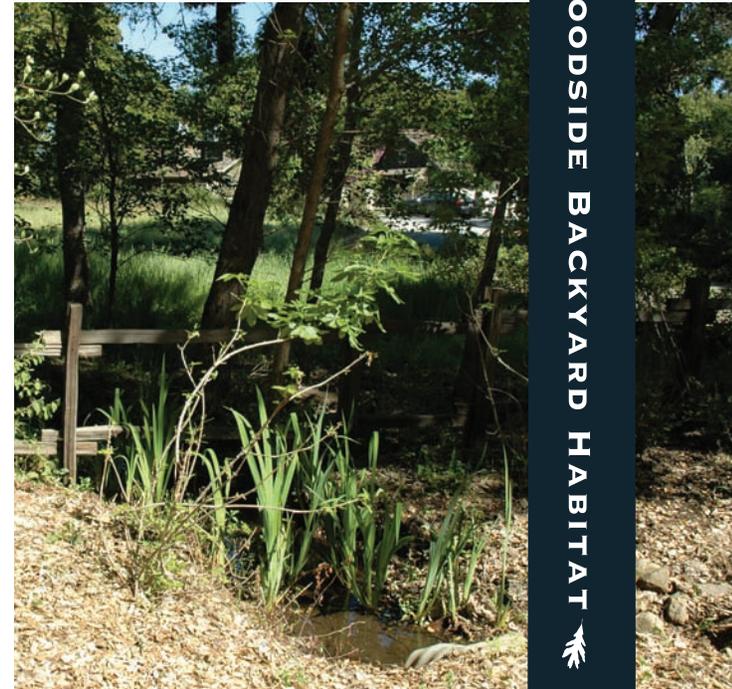
woodsideside.org/backyardhabitat

Graphics by Watt Foug Design

KEEP THE WOODS
IN WOODSIDE



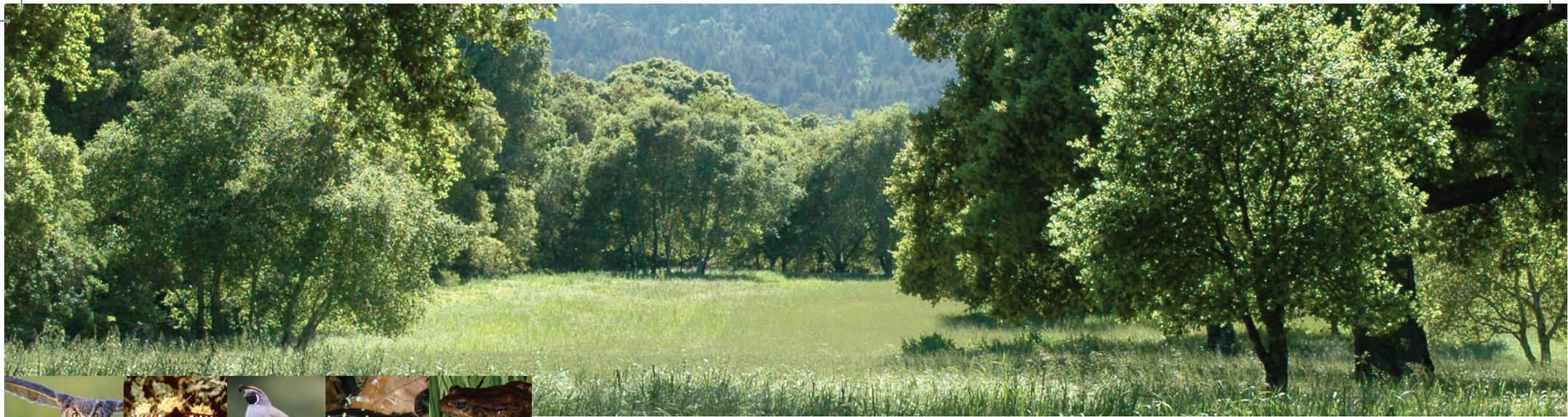
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THE TOWN OF WOODSIDE'S
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WOODSIDE BACKYARD HABITAT

The Town of Woodside is home to some of the most diverse flora and fauna in the world. Our open-space tracts support hundreds of species of plants and wildlife, some of which are endangered. In this world of ever-shrinking habitat, Woodside residents have the opportunity to protect both an ecosystem and its creatures. Keeping as much of our property as possible in a natural state, and making it accessible to wildlife, can vastly expand the ability of our native fauna to thrive. The benefit derives to us all, both from the pleasure residents and visitors get from this magnificent community, and from the sanctuaries we provide for wildlife.

Fully fenced properties, unless the fences are wildlife-friendly, push Woodside wildlife onto roadways, putting us and all the animals in danger. Our aim is to encourage residents to leave open spaces on their property for animals to use when traversing our community.

EASY STEPS TOWARD CREATING A BACKYARD HABITAT

- Landscape with Bay Area native plants.
- Let little-used areas of the property revert to a natural state. Keep activity closer to the house and concentrate gardening activities there.
- Reassess your perimeter fencing needs—Wildlife-friendly fencing can also be beautiful and practical.
- Make sure streambeds remain unobstructed and with all natural riparian vegetation intact.
- Leave low-growing native shrubbery and brush piles at some distance from the house to provide cover for small creatures.
- Work with your neighbors to create adjoining bands of open space, fostering ease of travel from one property to the next.
- Try to eradicate invasive nonnative vegetation including Scotch and French Broom, Pampas Grass, Vinca, ivy, Slender False Brome, Star and Italian Thistles, and Bermuda Grass.
- Follow the lead of other Woodsiders who have planted beautiful meadows in place of lawns.
- Reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers, cleaning products, and other poisons.

HOW TO WIN AN AWARD

- The portion of the property under consideration should be maintained in a natural state, dominated by native vegetation and free of nonnative invasives.
- This part of the property should be unfenced or have wildlife-friendly fencing such as open post and rail.
- Streams (including ephemeral streams), stream corridors, ponds, and marshes should remain in an open, natural condition, accessible to wildlife.
- Where applicable the habitat area should abut designated open space or similar natural areas on neighboring properties.
- Highest value is applied to the opportunity to establish habitat connectivity and access to natural water sources, along with the expression of the rural aesthetic of the Town of Woodside.

Open Space means many things to many people and has many scales and many forms. It can be a wooded mountainside, rolling grass-covered oak-studded hills, streamside areas, a local park, a scenic road, or the intimate open spaces of one's "own backyard"

—Woodside General Plan, Open Space Element