

NATIVE PLANTS AREN'T THAT DIFFICULT

Native plants may seem like an insurmountable solution for some people, but not so. More and more big box stores are carrying them, add the internet search, and look around at what's available locally, you may be surprised. What grows best in your area is best for you. And how 'bout weeds?

When one reader discovered the yellow birds, they were first attracted to a small sunflower seed bird mix hanging feeder. Then the bird was seen harvesting coneflowers -- from there it went to the large sundrop weeds in an adjoining pasture. Now a whole row of tall sundrops are planted for the yellow birds. Cost: Free seed for the gathering.



And how 'bout butterflies? They, too, like native plants. Our local NC Cooperative Service and the Forest Service (together) have a great booklet, "Butterflies In Your Backyard." The state university has another, a .pdf entitled, "Landscaping for Wildlife with Native



Plants," www.ncsu.edu/goingnative/ag636_03.pdf.

Native plants have a range, so you should access native plants for your area and state. For help, you can contact local botanical gardens, individual clubs or societies plus there are lists provided by those interested in birds, or butterflies, or whatever.. If we can be of any help to you, don't hesitate to contact us at the **SUBMIT** button on the Home Page.

It was found that once a family decides what's important to them, and goes about providing these things naturally, or through efforts, of their own, everyone, and everything benefits. Especially, when it comes to gardens -- gardens for the birds, hummingbirds, and pollinators (which seem to prefer native plants.) Others, like basic gardening -- but all benefits from whatever you plant, so please see Natural Gardening under "Good Things for Home," or Good Things for Neighborhoods on the Home Page.



Or let us know what you think . . . **SUBMIT** button on the Home Page.