

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The Wildlife Friendly Development Certification program is an innovative new green-growth collaboration among the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, the North Carolina Wildlife Federation and the North Carolina chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

This voluntary program recognizes residential developers who meet high standards for wildlife and habitat conservation during all phases of site development. Developers who want to have their sites certified as wildlife friendly must meet a sufficient number of criteria that address various aspects of habitat conservation from planning through construction. Criteria for certification were designed to ensure that sufficient measures are taken to minimize impacts and conserve wildlife habitat.

Each development is unique, so not all criteria for certification are applicable for every site. Sites that vary in size and have diverse conditions can be evaluated for certification.

The Wildlife Friendly Development Certification program implements strategies outlined in the N.C. Wildlife Action Plan and expands upon green building standards that are becoming normal components of building practices. Proceeds from the program support N.C. Wildlife Action Plan projects. Visit www.ncwildcertify.org for more information on supported projects.

MARKET YOUR DEVELOPMENT AS WILDLIFE FRIENDLY

Residential developers can use this voluntary program to market their sites as wildlife friendly to homeowners who value the conservation of natural resources. Qualifying sites can be marketed as Certified Wildlife Friendly Developments with access to promotional marketing materials, such as news releases issued at the time of certification.

In addition, sites certified as wildlife friendly have the exclusive right to advertise and display the registered Certified Wildlife Friendly Development logo.

A list of certified locations and developments pursuing certification will be maintained on www.ncwildcertify.org.



MORE INFORMATION

Find information about the Wildlife Friendly Development Certification program by visiting www.ncwildcertify.org where the Wildlife Friendly Development Handbook is available for download as a PDF.

This handbook leads you through the steps to certify a site as wildlife friendly. It serves as a guide to the Criteria Form, a Microsoft® Excel® file that tracks the progress of a development toward certification.

The handbook also gives an overview of how the program is administered and describes each of the criteria in detail.

www.ncwildcertify.org



All photos are property of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission unless otherwise noted; illustration by Cindie Brunner.

1,500 copies of this document were printed for \$352 or \$.23 each.
Printed on recycled paper. 

Wildlife Friendly Development

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

Marketable Green Development Opportunities for North Carolina Residential Developers



Black-capped chickadee Photo: USFWS

WILDLIFE FRIENDLY DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Applicants interested in certifying their developments as wildlife friendly can work closely with staff from the North Carolina Wildlife Federation and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission throughout the certification process.

The first step for anyone interested in certification is to obtain the most recent version of the criteria form, a Microsoft® Excel® spreadsheet. In addition to describing in detail the criteria required to become a Certified Wildlife Friendly Development, the form lets applicants monitor their progress toward certification and make necessary adjustments to ensure sufficient points are earned.

Once the applicant gathers and submits information about the natural resources on the site, a review team, consisting of N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission and North Carolina Wildlife Federation staff, will set up an initial consultation. The team will provide recommendations to help the applicant achieve certification. Applicants must earn sufficient points from criteria that evaluate the planning and construction phases. A score summary worksheet indicates the number of criteria points required and whether sufficient points have been accumulated to continue the certification process. Once sufficient points are earned, the applicant becomes fully certified and has legal rights to use specific registered promotional materials.



FEE STRUCTURE

Fees are required for certification. A nonrefundable consultation fee is due before the initial consultation. This fee is the same for all applicants regardless of development size.

The second fee, an application fee, must be paid before applicants can begin marketing their developments as wildlife friendly. An annual renewal fee is also required to ensure continued compliance. Both the application fee and the annual renewal fee are scaled based on the size of development.

Maintaining forested areas along streams protects important wildlife habitat. Photo: David Cox



Effective fences can protect natural areas from sedimentation and erosion problems during land-clearing activities. Photo: Marla Chambers

HOW REVENUES ARE USED

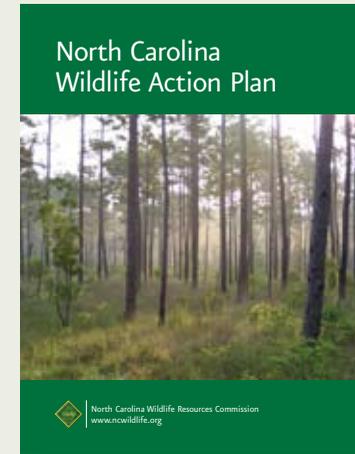
Consultation and annual renewal fees will be used to offset expenses incurred when reviewing applications, meeting for initial consultations, and conducting annual reviews. Application fees will be used by the North Carolina Wildlife Federation and the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission to implement N.C. Wildlife Action Plan projects. These projects may include the purchase of conservation lands, active habitat enhancement and management, public education or rare species studies.



Eastern box turtle



Deep Gap Creek



Black-eyed susan Photo: USFWS



Common mudpuppy Photo: T.R. Russ



Longleaf pine stand Photo: Jeff Hall

EXISTING DEVELOPMENTS

The intent of the Wildlife Friendly Development Certification program is to collaborate from the start with residential developers to conserve wildlife habitat. However, some existing sites may also qualify for certification. To recognize existing sites that have taken measures to conserve wildlife habitat and reduce environmental impacts, the review team will initially accept applications from these developers.