

Mayor Dennis McBride
City of Wauwatosa
7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

October 1, 2025

Re: ***Endorsement of National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat City Certification***

Honorable Mayor McBride:

The Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee (WSC) offers its endorsement of the “*National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat City Certification program (NWF)*”.

The NWF program partners with cities, towns, and counties to become healthier, sustainable, and more wildlife friendly. Through voluntary participation in the program, communities enhance and restore wildlife habitat in urban and suburban areas across the country, while also assisting with urban forestry, water conservation, beautification, climate and community resiliency initiatives. Nearby communities working toward certification are Greenfield, Brookfield, Pewaukee, Menomonee Falls, New Berlin, and Elm Grove.

250 gardens (residences, schools, churches or businesses) are required for the certification. A garden qualifies by providing food, water, cover and places to raise young for wildlife.

Since 2023, a grassroots effort led by Tosa Wildlife Habitat has promoted the program at local clubs, schools, Tosa Night Out, Monarch Trail Butterfly Migration, Tosa Farmers Market, and other outreach and educational events. As a result, 151 gardens have already been certified including Outpost Natural Foods, Ronald McDonald House, Kneeland Walker House and Lincoln Elementary School.

This initiative aligns with your 2024 proclamation declaring May as Garden for Wildlife Month, and it supports WSC’s mission to promote environmentally sound practices that enhance the city’s long-term livability and economic vitality.

The WSC respectfully requests the City’s support in promoting the NWF program to encourage the additional 99 gardens required to reach the certification goal.

Sincerely,

Rob Zimmerman
Chair, Wauwatosa Sustainability Committee

Cc: Megan Conway, Sustainability Manager City of Wauwatosa