

BACT | Barrington Area Conservation Trust



C@H Certification Checklist

This checklist is the basis for Barrington Area Conservation Trust's Conservation @Home certification program, which has been carefully designed to recognize yards that are being conscientiously improved for wildlife and humanity.

1. Native plants, trees, and shrubs (COMPLETE 3)*

(*Locally grown native plants that have been purchased from businesses listed on BACT's "recommended native plants sources" or other reputable sources)

Incorporates a variety of native flowers and grasses into existing landscape*

Incorporates a variety of trees and shrubs into existing landscape*

Creates or restores native woodland, wetland or prairie

Has at least one native oak tree on the property (three oaks if over one acre)

Manages property for invasive species

TOTAL

2. Wildlife habitat offering food, shelter and water (COMPLETE 4)

Provides bird feeders

Provides bird bath, pond, or other water features

Leaves native plants standing in fall to provide wildlife food and shelter

Landscapes with native plants that attract birds or butterflies

Offers bird or bat houses

Retains brush piles, dead trees (where safely possible), and logs

TOTAL

3. Water stewardship (COMPLETE 3)

Uses a rain barrel to gather and conserve rainwater

Reduces runoff with a rain permeable patio, walk, or driveway

Uses native vegetation border around property to slow runoff

Directs water from downspouts to areas vegetated with native plants (including rain gardens and bioswales) to help retain and filter water

Directs downspouts to a bed of rocks to slow the flow of water

Provides effective shoreline buffer to filter water and minimize erosion

TOTAL

4. Property Maintenance (COMPLETE 4)

- _____ Leaves grass clippings in place (unless composted)
- _____ Uses no Phosphorus in lawn fertilizer [N-P-K] P=0
- _____ Does not use lawn chemical (inorganic) herbicides to remove weeds, or conducts minimal spot treatments
- _____ Prevents lawn weed seed germination using organic pre-emergent like cornmeal gluten
- _____ Uses autumn leaves to mulch trees, shrubs, or flowerbed
- _____ Uses a non-petroleum lawnmower (such as an electric, propane, or reel)
- _____ Does not seal driveway/uses asphalt sealant only (no coal tar)
- _____ Lawn takes up less than 50% of available landscaping
- _____ Maintains a compost bin or pile
- _____ Grows organic (sustainable) vegetables and herbs
- _____ **TOTAL**

5. Nature Champion (OPTIONAL)

Put a "bug" in your neighbors' ears!!

- ☺ Recruit 2 or more neighbors for Conservation@Home consultations
- ☺ Mentor 2 or more neighbors on sustainable landscaping practices
- ☺ Host a group tour of your property's eco-features or host a Conservation@Home presentation