

Landowners Taking Action: What you can do to help wildlife in New Hampshire!

Emma Carcagno, UNH Cooperative Extension



Do you own land in New Hampshire? Have you ever considered improving your property for wildlife? Perhaps your town owns land that could be managed for wildlife habitat? The resources available to you on the new [Taking Action for Wildlife](#) website will help you begin to look at your property or your town lands with wildlife in mind. The Taking Action for Wildlife website provides a wealth of [tools for landowners](#) to learn what they can do.

More than 70% of land in New Hampshire is privately owned. The actions landowners take on their own properties are instrumental in protecting and maintaining valuable wildlife habitats throughout the state.

You might start by learning how to identify the various types of [habitats](#) on your property. Do you have [grasslands](#) or [shrublands](#)? Ever wonder whether that puddle in the woods is actually a [vernal pool](#)? Maybe your property is mostly forested, but you want to know what kind of [forest](#) it is? Being able to identify the habitats on your property is a great first step in taking action for wildlife on your land.

Once you know what habitats you have on your property, you can learn more about the various [species of wildlife](#) that use these habitats. Are there [bobolinks](#) nesting in your grasslands? Is that an [American woodcock](#) doing a mating display near those wet shrublands on your property? Are you likely to see a [white-tailed deer](#) in an Appalachian Oak Pine forest? You can even learn how to [inventory and monitor](#) the species of wildlife found on your property.

There are also many tools available to landowners who are ready to start making [habitat improvements](#) for wildlife on their property. Did you know that you can have a wildlife biologist or county forester [visit your property](#) and provide recommendations on how to manage habitat for wildlife for free? Whether you are thinking about how you can [mow your hay field](#) while still providing opportunities for birds to nest there, or how to [increase the amount of shrubland habitat](#) on your property; how to [manage your forests for both timber and wildlife](#), or how to [improve habitat for hunting](#), you can find all this information and more on the Landowners Taking Action section of the website. Once you've used these tools, you'll be ready to take action for wildlife!

