

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 2, 2014

Media contact: Jeff Fink, CWA President: 704-794-3080



## Introducing the Concord Wildlife Alliance

Concord is home to the newest local chapter of the [North Carolina Wildlife Federation](#) (NCWF), the Concord Wildlife Alliance (CWA).

Approximately one year ago, the Concord City Council established a goal to certify Concord as a [Certified Community Wildlife Habitat](#) through the National Wildlife Federation. A citizen committee that includes local NCWF members was formed to achieve this goal, with establishing CWA as their first step towards Community Wildlife Habitat certification.

CWA officers are Jeff Fink (President), Lynn Tesh (Vice President), Rose Rummel-Eury (Secretary), Ian Prince (Treasurer), Glenda Steel, and Gary Elderbroom (Board Members at Large).

### Certify your back yard

"The citizens of Concord have, without a doubt, the biggest role in CWA's first project," said CWA President, Jeff Fink. "In addition to a few administrative and educational requirements for certification, we need Concord citizens to get their back yards certified through NWF. When Concord registered with the Community Wildlife Habitat program, we learned over a hundred back yards had already been certified in the city. We still need at least 99 additional private property certifications, and that is the biggest way citizens can help with this project," Fink said.

The quickest way to get started is visiting [nwf.org/gardenforwildlife](http://nwf.org/gardenforwildlife). Citizens may also request a hard copy of the certification from the City of Concord or any CWA officer.

### Join the Concord Wildlife Alliance

"We are proud to introduce the CWA to the citizens of Concord, and we want everyone to get involved with our Community Wildlife Habitat project as well as the other projects and activities the CWA has planned," said Fink.

As an added bonus, the local chapter with the most new members through the month of August will receive a donation from NCWF. Half of every membership donation remains with the chapter to help fund projects that support CWA's mission, which is "to protect and enhance the natural resources and wildlife habitats of the City of Concord."

While both are simple and easy, joining CWA and certifying your back yard are two separate processes. To join CWA, visit [ncwf.org/support/ncwf-membership](http://ncwf.org/support/ncwf-membership), where a link to the membership form is available. Be sure to select Concord Wildlife Alliance from the "Join a chapter" list.

### CWA's first public meeting

The Concord Wildlife Alliance invites everyone who is interested in wildlife and natural resource conservation to attend the first public meeting on Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30 p.m. at McGill Baptist Church located at the intersection of Poplar Tent Road and George W. Liles Parkway. A speaker from the NCWF will talk and answer questions about gardening for wildlife and back yard certification. CWA plans to hold public meetings at this time and location the first Tuesday of every month.