

What Can I do?

Contact us with any questions or recommendations for books and field guides: anne@hvfarmhub.org , claudia@hawthornevalleyfarm.org , conrad@hawthornevalleyfarm.org

Make observations at home about the creatures you see in your backyard. This doesn't have to be fancy, simply commit to spending 5-10 minutes watching some flowers or vegetables and see what you observe. The iNaturalist app for your smart phone can be very helpful with identifying organisms.

Join our mailing lists to find out about upcoming events on this topic at:

<https://hvfarmhub.org/newsletters/> & <https://hvfarmscape.org/join-our-email-list>.

Check out the Woodstock Land Conservancy website at <https://www.woodstocklandconservancy.org/> for upcoming talks and events, and join our mailing list.

Become part of Woodstock Pollinator Pathway. Go to woodstocknypollinatorpathway.org. Also check out upcoming events.

Attend natural history lectures such as those by Eagle Hill, the North Branch Nature Center and the Northern Forest Atlas Project; subscribe to Northern Woodlands at

<https://northernwoodlands.org/shop/subscriptions> .

Learn more about farming practices used to produce your food(visit farms, talk to farmers, look at product labels etc.)

Learn how to identify turtles and learn about the habitats they use and how to consider mowing/not mowing along forest edges for their conservation. [The Amphibians and Reptiles of New York State](#) by Gibbs, Bresch, Ducey, et al. can be helpful in identification, and in understanding habitat and natural history.

Watch the presentation by the Farmscape Ecology Research Collaborative for more information about our work at: <https://hvfarmhub.org/perspectives-on-farming-with-nature/>.

Consider building nest boxes. Identify if you have good bluebird or kestrel habitat at your home or in your community and consider building nest boxes on your land to provide nesting habitat.

Learn to identify both pests and beneficials in your garden or farm and learn about their role in the ecosystem. Xerces "farming with beneficial insects is just one example of a resource

<https://www.xerces.org/publications/books/farming-with-native-beneficial-insects>

Find some group of organisms that you connect with – butterflies, mosses, wildflowers, birds, crayfish... and follow your passion. It doesn't really matter where you start tugging on the strings of ecology so long as you do start tugging.

Read books on this topic such as *Bringing Nature Home* by Doug Tallamy. We are happy to recommend others!

Get involved in your local Cornell Master Gardeners program here:

<http://ulster.cce.cornell.edu/gardening/master-gardener-program>