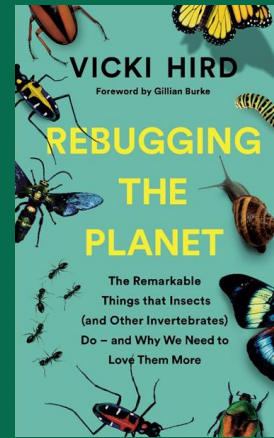




Space for food and nature Hicki Hird The Wildlife Trusts

Policies that support urban food growing and greening – Vital for nature
Public, business and institutional engagement
Coronation gardens



Why is it important?



- With nearly 5% of England covered by residential gardens*, restoring these to wildlife-friendly spaces would make a significant contribution to The Wildlife Trusts' vision of 30% of land connected and protected for nature's recovery.
 - **Source: gov.uk: Land use statistics: England, 2022*
- 74% of adults are worried about climate change, the second biggest concern behind the rising cost of living.
 - *Source: ONS Opinions & Lifestyle Survey, 2022*
- Eight million households lack access to greenspace, with more than 1 in 10 neighbourhoods, over 90% of the population have no access to nature within 10 mins' walk.
 - *Source: Wildlife & Countryside LINK, 2021*
- 1% of advertising spend goes towards fruit and vegetables, and we need to eat 30% more F&V
 - *Source: Food Foundation, 2023*



Programme messaging

Through the delivery of Coronation Gardens we would like to see **communities inspired to come together to take local action** that collectively has a positive impact – increasing nature in and around the places we live, and improving the health and wellbeing of the UK population.

Headline messages:

Nature gives us our food – from the worms that keep our soils healthy, to the bees that pollinate our fruit trees and tomato plants, we need nature. We can all do our bit to help our wildlife recover and continue to play its vital role in our lives.

Healthy food production goes hand-in-hand with healthy nature – opportunity to bring this to life.



Biodiversity and nature in food gardens



Apples © Ross Hoddinott/2020VISION

Fruit trees are the ultimate double-duty plant, providing food for you, for birds and insects as well as plenty of places to shelter and nest, writes Alice Whitehead from Garden Organic.

15 reasons to plant a fruit tree

Clare Gibbs, principal ecologist at Surrey Wildlife Trust, shares her passion for wildlife gardening, why it is pivotal to reviving biodiversity and her 5 top tips for how you can help.

Read more



Clare Gibbs



The five features of a Coronation Garden for food and nature

We've identified five key steps to creating a garden that's great for you and for wildlife. If you'd like to take part, here are the things you need to do:

1. Grow healthy food to eat - this could range from herbs and salads, through to vegetables and fruit trees depending on the space you have.



2. Plant pollinator-friendly blooms - butterflies, moths, bees and hoverflies all need sources of nectar and pollen to thrive. As they travel from flower to flower, they also pollinate them, enabling plants to set seed or bear fruit.

3. Create a water feature - it could be as simple as a submerged dish or as involved as digging a pond, lining it and oxygenating it using native plants such as hornwort.



4. Leave a patch of long grass or pile of logs - this low maintenance step is the perfect way to create shelter for wildlife, including natural predators such as hedgehogs and frogs.

5. Go chemical and peat free - avoid using pesticides, weedkillers and peat!



Coronation Gardens in progress





Partnership/resources



Phase One

- Focus will be on **individuals and families**
- Brand new website providing advice to help get people started – which we'll expand over the coming months
- People are being asked to **pledge** their involvement
- On pledging, people will be encouraged to grow something to eat in **peat-free** soil, plant pollinator-friendly plants and **avoid all pesticides and weedkillers**.





The website: mycoronationgarden.org

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Coronation Gardens for Food and Nature

Welcome to Coronation Gardens!

Kate Bradbury

Kate Bradbury, garden writer and author, shares her enthusiasm for the new initiative helping people to grow food alongside nature.

“

Even the smallest of outdoor spaces can be used to grow wildflowers alongside salads and herbs – it’s all about getting creative and thinking outside the box. I love seeing imaginative growing ideas on balconies and window ledges and I hope that people everywhere will get behind this project, using outdoor areas of all shapes and sizes.

Arit Anderson, garden writer, designer and presenter

ROOT VEGETABLES

These grow underground

Dig in

SEASONAL TIPS

What to grow this month

Sow some seeds

SEASONAL TIPS

What to grow this month

Sow some seeds

GARDEN ORGANIC

How to grow rosemary

Rosemary is easy to grow, attracts insects, is a great brassica companion plant, has many health benefits and is a delicious aromatic herb.



Pledge and 'five features' of a Coronation Garden

- Grow healthy food to eat
- Plant pollinator-friendly blooms
- Create a water feature
- Leave a patch of long grass or pile of logs
- Go chemical and peat-free

& raising local understanding and share updates and pics on social media using #MyCoronationGarden



Coronation Gardens in progress

Join our green-fingered community taking action for nature by growing some food today!

[Pledge to create your own](#)

of gardens, window boxes and balconies blossoming...

2461

Research and evaluation

- Number and location of “Coronation Gardens”.
- User research to find most effective ways to help people take action for nature.
- Evaluation of community organising approaches through a nature and food lens, contributing to our Team Wilder body of evidence.
- Shared approaches and learning with our partners.
- Attitudes and behaviour change.

