



## Have a picnic

Perhaps the best way to begin is to take a good look at your backyard. Have a picnic and survey the scene. Identify the resources in your yard, including soil, water, air, plants and wildlife. Think about how you can improve them. Be realistic and start small, so your family doesn't get discouraged.

## Fun Ideas and Activities for Your Family's Backyard

### START SMALL

It's easy to get started! Pick a simple project first. Even a small backyard improvement can have big results. For example, plant one tree. The tree will attract and provide habitat for wildlife, offer shade (when it matures) and help prevent water runoff.



### ONE WILD CORNER

Many native plants will grow just fine by themselves if they're allowed to do so. Make one small corner of your yard a wild corner. Simply leave it alone! Identify plants that grow there. You'll see flowers, shrubs, and if you leave it long enough, even trees. After several months, you may wish to trim or remove undesirable plants, but remember, any plant that grows there will usually be well-suited to that spot. Observe what wildlife is attracted your this corner.

