

Welcome amphibians in to our gardens

Providing shelter for amphibians

Allow a wilderness area in the garden, for instance, a bramble thicket, coarse long grass and nettle patches.

Create a log pile for amphibians to shelter under. It doesn't have to be big. Even a dense pile of small sticks will do!

Create a wildlife pond. If you don't have room for a pond even a small water feature will be of benefit.

Create a moist, boggy area and keep it damp all year.

During hot and dry months dot shallow dishes of water around your garden (plant pot saucers work very well).

Swimming Pools and Amphibians – Helping them out

If you own a swimming pool this simple measure will prevent any amphibians from drowning.

Use old tea towels and place one in each corner of the pool. Allow the rags to hang into the water and fix them in position with a weight. The towels act as ladders that allow any amphibians that have fallen into the pool, to climb back out.

If there is a pump cover with holes where juveniles can fall in, place stones or similar to cover over the holes.

What else can I do to make my garden welcoming to toads and other amphibians?

Avoid using slug pellets, pesticides and weedkillers.

Be very careful when digging the ground as there might be toads in the earth!

Cut the grass less frequently so that it provides more insects.

Consider not cutting the grass at all during toadlet season (June to September).

Allow leaf litter to accumulate under shrubs and hedges - this will provide food as well as shelter.

Amphibians only eat live, moving invertebrates such as slugs, worms and all sorts of bugs and flies.