

Wildlife Improvement for Backyard Woodlots

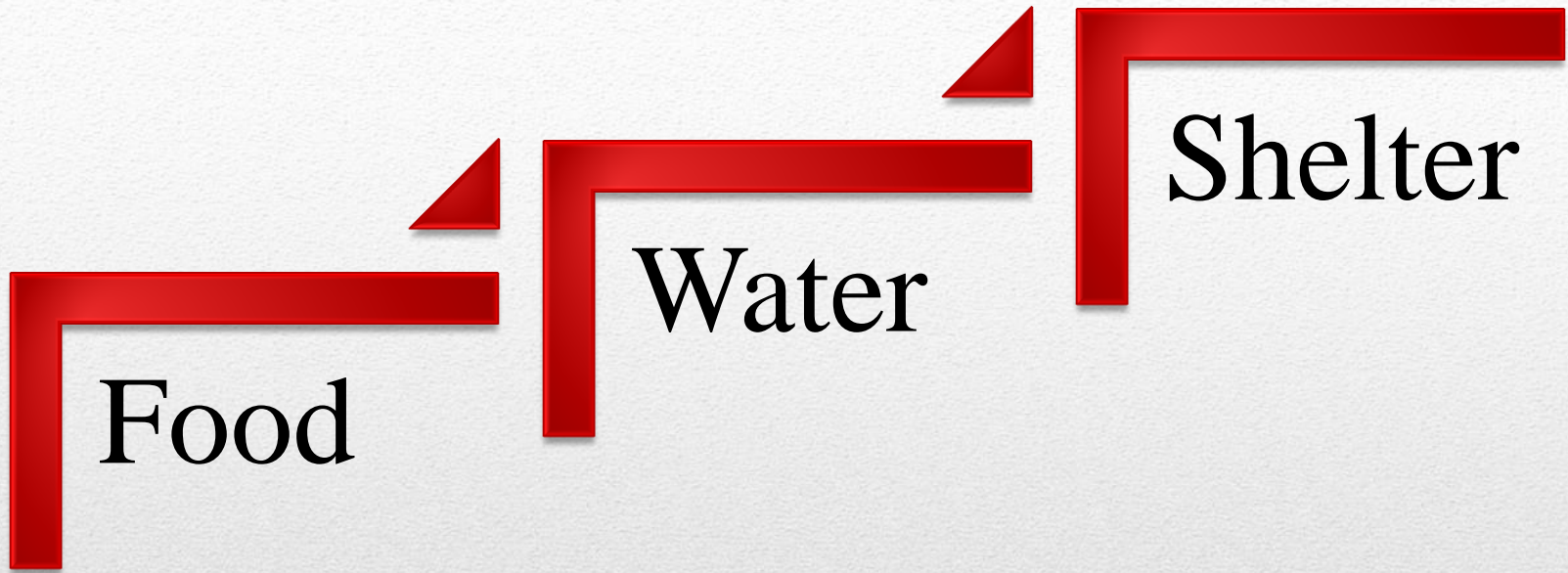
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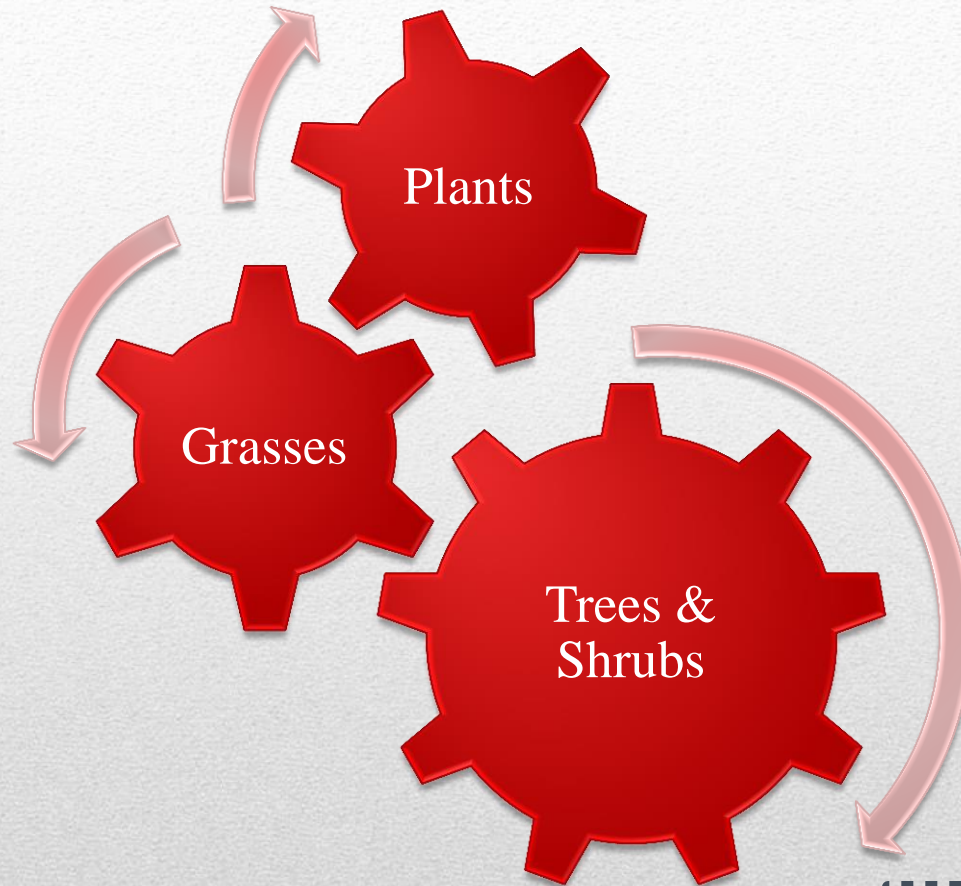
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3 Major Components to Attract Wildlife

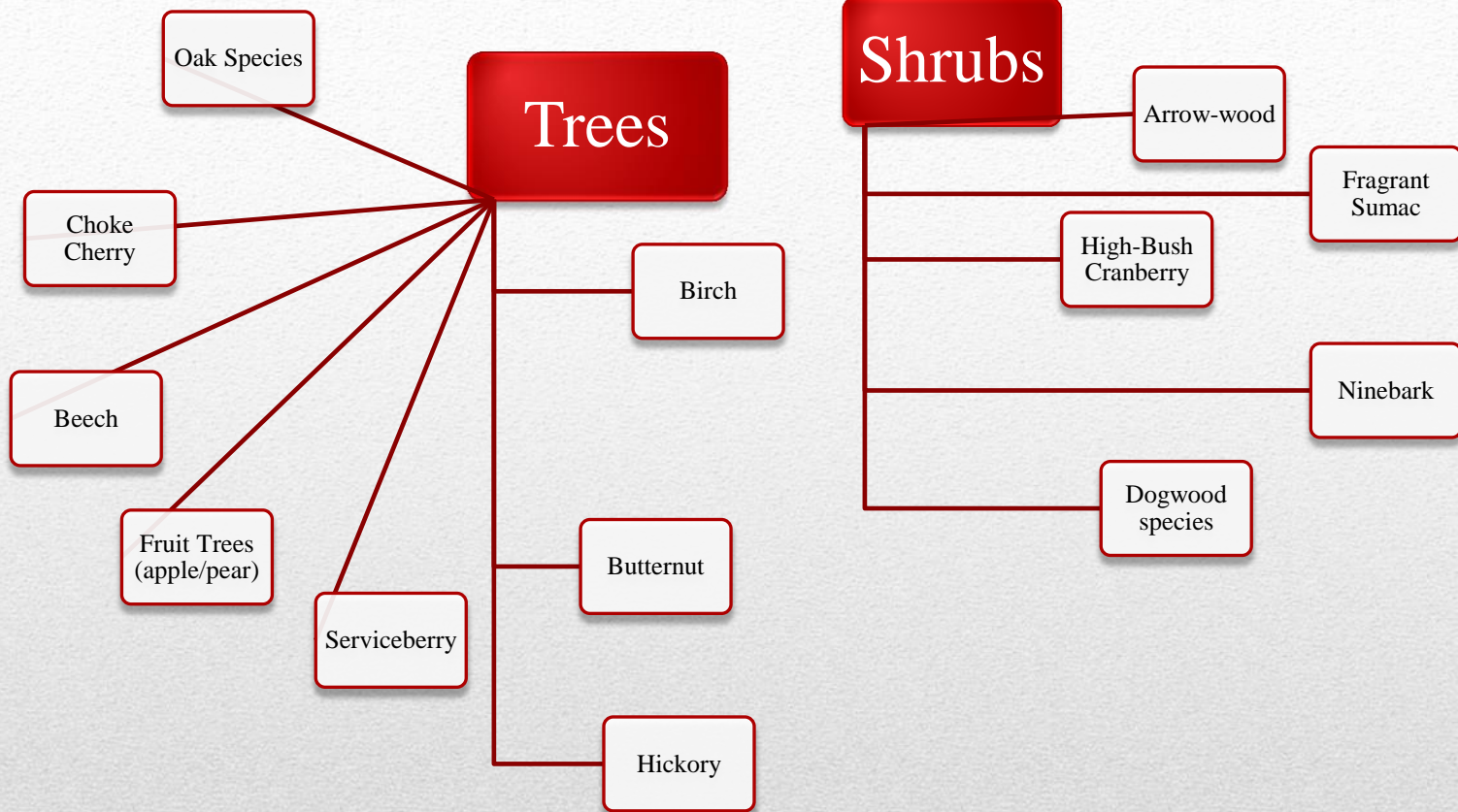


Food



- Different tree and shrub species provide different benefits to wildlife
- Nut producing trees, oaks, provide a food source for deer, squirrels, birds, rabbits, raccoons, turkeys and even wood ducks during warm months and cold months.
- Fruit producing trees/shrubs provide a wide range of winter and summer food supply for all walks of wildlife.

Trees & Shrubs



Trees & Shrubs for MI as a Food Source for Wildlife

- If you lack any of the following, you can always plant a small garden of species outside the woodlot or use artificial ways of feeding such as bird feeders
- Grasses- various grasses can be enjoyed by some wildlife as well as serve as habitat.
- Mushrooms as a food source
- Flowering Plants- to bring in various pollinating wildlife and insects
 - Humming birds, moths, bees, bats, other various bird species, butterflies, beetles

Food



- If a water source is present around your wooded lot- then upkeep is your main goal with Water Source.
- Providing a clean water source is important for over all quality of property as well as more appealing to wildlife, for bathing and drinking
- Prevent erosion with native plants/grasses along edges of ponds, lakes, streams, marshes to keep pollution and other sediments out of the water
- If no water source is available providing a bird bath or water fountain is a great way to enhance the property.

Water



- It is important for wildlife to have trees that provide cover from the sun and for warmth in the winter months of Michigan. The cover provided in woodlots also provides nesting sites for species as well as places to hide from predators. Recognizing this can help bring in a lot more wildlife diversity on your woodlot. Cover is not just trees, but can be left behind snag (dead) trees to provide roosting/nesting or dens in the holes of trees, it can be brush piles that provide habitat for rabbits and other small wildlife.

Shelter/Cover -- Habitat

White
Pine

Red Pine

Cedars

Spruces

Balsam
Fir

Great Cover Trees

Brush Piles

Tree Snags

Conifers for
nesting

Conifers for
thermal cover

Grasses for
nesting and
cover

Rock Piles

Bird and Bat
Houses

Habitat Cover/Shelter

- Different stages/ages of forest cover attract different wildlife species.
- Young aspen forests bring in deer, grouse, woodcock, and rabbits. Where as old aspen stands are more attractive for black bear and squirrels.
- Oaks, they don't start seed production till about 20 years of age- so the benefits for wildlife are more in older aged stands
- Pine forests benefit turkey, deer, and song birds as well as other species for thermal cover and food source

Successional Stages

- Know your woodlot- keep up to date and informed on diseases and insects that can harm your forests, plants, and shrubs.
- When planting make sure you know what soils you have and the specifics on what your planting. (Flowering Plants, shrubs, trees, grasses, ect.)
 - Amount of sunlight
 - Soil type
 - Amount of water required

Do Your Research...

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Questions???
