water hole fo life is delightful bonu

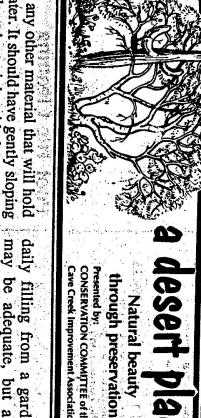
by Marshall J. Fancher

maintain a water hole. One of the best ways to enhance wildlife whose habitat we share. observe at close hand, the abundant the desert is the opportunity to this opportunity is to provide and One of the pleasures of living in

to have a water hole at all. one is not willing or able to accept maintenance, it would be better not the responsibility and provide the responsibility and maintenance. If disadvantages. It also involves as it may seem. Providing water for wildlife has both advantages and But this is not as simple a matter

lives for a drink for predators are birds and small animals to risk their To place it out in the open is to ask tree, shrub, or other ground cover. should be placed under or near a be placed where it can be viewed is important. It should, of course, from inside the house if possible. It The placement of the water hole

dish of pottery, clay, tile, concrete, The water hole may be a shallow



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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE of the Cave Creek Improvement Association

while our house was being built sides. A straight sided container dabs of surplus concrete and stones animals drowning. We made ours of may result in young quail or water. It should have gently sloping or any other material that will hold

will quickly perish. known source of water, and if the are brought by their parents to a summer. Baby quail, for example, hole and attracted birds and animals expected water is not available, they time, particularly in the hot days of necessary to keep it filled all the dependent on the water hole, so it is their lives. They quickly become to it, he has altered the pattern of Once one has established a water

If one is home all the time, a

a constant supply of water. provision should be made to insure solution. When one is gone, some automatically may be a better dripping hose or pipe, or a bubbler may be adequate, but a slowly such as is used for watering plants daily filling from a garden hose

many nocturnal visitors we do not see. Once we even saw a bobcat stop briefly for a drink. rabbits, chipmunks, and probably as well as coyotes, squirrels, different creatures the water hole will attract. We regularly have deer, It is surprising how many

and refilled our water hole one day, animals will make a nuisance of themselves. After I had just cleaned Occasionally, however, some

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wallowed in the rest and left a dirty They drank most of the water, mud puddle. I guess they have their we were visited by nine javelina. needs too.

can turn the water hole an unsightly Algae grows quickly here too and contaminate it and spread disease. water they drink and a great number water hole. We are delighted to have using one water hole problem. Birds bathe in the same them, but this causes another Many kinds of birds frequent our

will kill the algae and disinfect the water hole. pool. I just swish it around with a in a cup or two of household bleach water out occasionally and dumping proom and then rinse and refill the I have found that sweeping the

indigenous to this area. enjoyment to be had in observing The small effort it takes to amply rewarded by the hours of the wide variety of wildlife that is regularly care for the water hole is