

## Tending My Wild Garden + Nature Cures!

Our cat Louie was so sick in February 2016, I took him to the emergency vet. The vet gave him **2-3 days** to live. He had always been an indoor cat, but wanted to be outside. Since he was no longer the predator he had once been, I started bring him to hang out in our backyard.

At first just he sniffed the grasses and eventually started nibbling on them and drinking from the pond. He would walk a few feet and need to rest. After a week he was noticeably better and started eating and drinking more. This pattern of taking him outside has continued and Louie has continued to get stronger. And while I was hanging out with him my garden was getting attention! After four weeks he started acting like his old self! And my yard was in better shape. It was a healing environment for both of us. I didn't know I too had been suffering from nature deficit! We had another 8 precious months with him. And yes, we hung out together in the backyard often!



Louie was saying something like 'you need to tend the deer grass!' He was always a talker but I didn't usually know what he was saying!

And because I was hanging out with Louie in the backyard, I witnessed this newly emerged Pipevine Swallowtail Butterfly.

