

Provide Perches for Basking in the Sun

Butterflies, like other insects, are cold blooded and need the warmth of the sun to raise their body temperature to a level where they can fly, especially on cool mornings to warm up early in the day. Strategically placing a few large flat rocks or stepping stones in sunny areas of the garden will give the butterflies a place to perch and bask in the warm sun. Slate, granite, or other darker flat rocks work well for the cool weather of spring and fall.



Offer a Little Shelter from the Wind

Butterflies thrive in a garden that is sheltered from strong winds. Tall shrubs, vines and trees around the perimeter of the garden, most importantly on the north side, will provide windbreaks. Houses, garages, wood fences, and stone walls also serve as windbreaks.



Overwintering butterflies need shelter too. Standing dry grasses and leaf litter on the ground provide winter shelter for larvae and pupae. Most adult butterflies live only one or two weeks, but some species hibernate during the winter. Since species may overwinter in any of the four stages, a variety of cover is ideal.



Make Some Puddles

In addition to nectar, most butterfly species need mineral salts that are naturally available in organic matter. Place a shallow saucer on the ground in your butterfly garden. Fill it nearly to the rim with sand, and then with water. This creates a mud-like mix that can attract groups of butterflies, allowing them to gather on the exposed sand to get the additional nutrients they need. Occasionally adding a small piece of over-ripe fruit, or a tablespoon of composted cow manure or leaf compost to the puddle will provide the additional nutrients.

Put Up a Butterfly Feeder

The recommended solution for butterfly nectar, is eight parts of water to one part of sugar. Clean and refill your feeder every 5 to 6 days, more often in hot weather. Add treats of over-ripe fruit, such as bananas, pears, plums, apricots, peaches, watermelon, cantaloupe and grapes.



Friends of the Garden volunteers and Master Gardeners of Greene County are working together so you can see many of these host and nectar plants. Witness

the four stages of butterfly metamorphosis when you visit the **Dr. Bill Roston Butterfly House**, the largest native Missouri butterfly house in the state, sponsored by *Friends of the Garden*. Volunteers donate their time to the Butterfly House and by creating and maintaining the gardens at Nathanael Greene|Close Memorial Park.

Visit Our Butterfly House

Dr. Bill Roston Butterfly House
2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield MO, 65807

Open mid-May thru September:

Saturday & Sunday 10-6

Tuesday & Wednesday evenings 5 till dusk

For more information call 417.891.1515



Friends of the Garden is your source for garden related events and news in this area. You'll find new information every day at friendsofthegarden.org. Find us on Facebook, and visit our calendar which is filled with garden events. Join our email list here: news@friendsofthegarden.org.

Grow with us by becoming a member of *Friends of the Garden*, a non-profit volunteer group that supports the Botanical Center and Gardens in its mission to provide outstanding botanical, horticultural and environmental education opportunities for people of all ages. Anyone with an interest or appreciation of nature who wishes to support the progress of the Gardens is encouraged to join. As a member, you're a partner in the future of the gardens.



Butterfly & Butterfly Gardening Resources:

butterfliesandmoths.org, monarchwatch.org, gardenswithwings.com

The Life Cycles of Butterflies by Judy Burris, ISBN: 1580176178

Where Butterflies Grow by Joanne Ryder, ISBN: 0525672842

Butterflies & Moths of Missouri by Richard & Joan Heitzman,

Stokes Butterfly Book: The Complete Guide to Butterfly Gardening

by Donald Stokes, ISBN: 0316817805

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Attract Flying Flowers:

How to Create Your Own Butterfly Garden



brought to you by *Friends of the Garden*



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Few sights lift a gardener's heart more than a butterfly floating from bloom to bloom. These beautiful insects are often referred to as *flying flowers*. It's hard to think of butterflies as insects, a term bringing to mind some of the undesirable garden pests we despise. Butterflies are more than attractive, they help pollinate plants while searching for nectar, ensuring seeds for future generations.



Witness the Transformation

Butterfly gardening is a labor of love requiring smart planning and a little knowledge of the butterfly's life cycle. Butterflies undergo a remarkable transformation called metamorphosis, usually within six weeks. It's a complete cycle with four distinct stages: egg, caterpillar (larva), chrysalis (pupa), and adult.

Just a Few Key Elements Will Get You Started

Butterfly gardens can be large or small, traditional or informal, or even in a pot. Choose what works for you.

Planting a butterfly garden includes planting the two types of plants butterflies need. First are nectar plants which provide nourishment for the adults. Second are host plants where the eggs are laid and which provide food for the caterpillars.

The best butterfly garden is one that combines both nectar and host plants, encouraging butterflies to spend more time in your garden.



Learn About the Native Butterflies

Each butterfly has favorite host and nectar plants. Native butterflies will be looking for native plants which require less maintenance because they're naturally adapted to the region in which they live. You can provide a nice mix of plants to make your garden a popular hangout.

Plant Your Butterfly Garden in Full Sun

Flowering plants need sun to make food for themselves and nectar for butterflies. Sunny locations not only maximize the length of time available for feeding, but plants will also bloom longer. Plan for blossoms from spring to fall.

Attract Butterflies with Nectar Plants

Butterflies are attracted to flowers with strong scents and bright colors where they drink sweet, energy-rich nectar. Clusters of flowers can have lots of nectar, and broad petals make good perches. Native plants will attract native butterflies. Many of the new, showy hybrid plants are bred for color or flower size, resulting in very little nectar.

Feed the Caterpillars with Host Plants

Butterflies lay their eggs on host plants that the emerging caterpillars will eat. The sight of a butterfly emerging from a chrysalis will more than make up for the chewed leaves. No Caterpillars = No Butterflies.



Healthy Soil Yields Healthy Plants

Breaking Ground? Save time and money in the long run on soil amendments by getting your soil tested. The MO Extension offers soil testing for a fraction of the cost of a private lab. They'll tell you exactly what you need to know. For more information call: 417-881-8909.

Don't Use Pesticides or Herbicides

Holes in the leaves of plants in a butterfly garden indicate a healthy habitat. Even products labeled as organic can kill butterflies, caterpillars, and beneficial insects. Try planting marigolds, petunias, mint, and other herbs that naturally repel pests. Encourage ladybugs and dragonflies to dine in your garden. Wash identified pests away with a strong jet of water or insecticidal soap.

Butterfly Friendly Watering

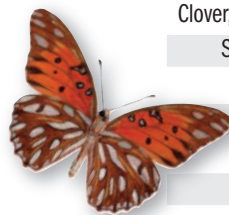
It is our experience that butterflies often enjoy a gentle spray of overhead watering. Droplets form on the plants providing butterflies plenty of opportunities to land and rehydrate themselves.



Sit Back and Enjoy!

You've set the stage, now watch the show. You'll be rewarded with the sight of these lovely "flying flowers" floating through your garden on warm summer days.

Butterflies see more colors than humans do. They seem to prefer purple, dark pink, yellow, white, red, and orange. A large, colorful garden, planted in mass, makes it easy for butterflies to find and encourages them to stay longer.



It's important to provide a good quantity of host plants for the butterflies.

These larval food plants lure females into the garden to lay their eggs.

Butterflies typically lay their eggs in late spring and hatch 3-6 days after they're laid. It takes 3-4 weeks for a caterpillar to pupate and 9-14 days to emerge as an adult.



Fun Tip: *Keep a pair of binoculars handy along with a pad and pencil near the best viewing window. Encourage your children to keep a record of sightings and observations. Review this journal with your children, and acknowledge their interest and enthusiasm.*

HOST PLANTS	BUTTERFLY SPECIES	NECTAR PLANTS
caterpillar food		butterfly food
Clover, Peas, Alfalfa, Vetch	Alfalfa Sulphur	Black-Eyed Susan, Lantana
Dusty Miller, Pussytoes, Everlastings	American Painted Lady	Aster, Milkweed, Cosmos, Buttonbush
Dill, Parsley, Fennel, Rue, Carrot	Black Swallowtail	Aster, Buddleia, Joe Pye Weed, Cosmos
Snapdragon, Sedum, Plantain	Buckeye	Lantana, Lavender, Dame's Rocket
Cabbage, Mustards	Cabbage White	Aster, Grape Hyacinth, Marigold, Phlox
Clover, Pea Family, Marigolds, Beans	Clouded Sulphur	Goldenrod, Grape Hyacinth, Marigold
Senna, Legumes, Partridge Pea	Cloudless Sulphur	Zinnia, Butterfly Bush, Cosmos
Pigweed, Lamb's Quarters	Common Sootywing	Globe Amaranth, Mist Flower
Native Grasses	Common Wood Nymph	Purple Coneflower
False Indigo Bush, Clover	Dog Face	Garlic Chives, Privet
Elm, Hop, Gooseberry, Nettles	Eastern Comma	Heath Aster, Mist Flower, Oregano
Clover, Peas, Alfalfa, Vetch	Eastern Tailed Blue	Cinquefoils, Asters, Garlic Chives
Prickly/Wafer Ash, Hop Tree, Rue	Giant Swallowtail	Lantana, Azalea, Dame's Rocket
Goatweed	Goatweed Leafwing	Sap, Rotting Fruit
Mallow, Clover, Legumes, Oak, Mints	Gray Hairstreak	Thistle, Ice Plant, Mint
Violets	Great Spangled Fritillary	Black-Eyed Susan, Milkweed, Ironweed
Passionvine	Gulf & Variegated Fritillary	Brazilian Verbena, Globe Amaranth
Hackberry	Hackberry Emperor	Sap, Rotting Fruit
Northern Sea Oats, Grasses	Little Wood Satyr	Sap, Rotting Fruit
Partridge Pea, Cassia, Clover	Little Yellow	Asters, Goldenrod, Clover
Milkweed	Monarch	Buddleia, Cosmos, Lantana, Tithonia
Elm, Hackberry, Willow	Mourning Cloak	Tree sap, Rotting Fruit, Milkweed
Daisy, Hollyhock, Thistle	Painted Lady	Aster, Zinnia, Cosmos, Grape Hyacinth
Aster	Pearl Crescent	Globe Amaranth, Heath Aster, Marigold
Dutchman's Pipevine	Pipevine Swallowtail	Butterfly Bush
Hackberry, Elm, Nettle	Question Mark	Aster, Milkweed, Sweet Pepperbush
Nettle, False Nettle	Red Admiral	Stonecrop, Red Clover, Aster, Mallow
Hickory, Oak, Walnut	Red Banded Hairstreak	Heath Aster, Joe-Pye Weed, Coneflower
Wild Cherry, Tulip Poplar, Willow, Apple	Red Spotted Purple	Privet, Poplar
Honey/Black Locust, False Indigo	Silver Spotted Skipper	Privet, Clover, Zinnia, Lilac
Sunflower, Purple Coneflower, Aster	Silvery Checkerspot	Cosmos, Blanket Flower, Zinnia
Grasses	Skippers	Mexican Heather, Verbena
Hackberry	Snout	Verbena, Joe Pye Weed
Sassafras, Spicebush	Spicebush Swallowtail	Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia
Dogwood, Viburnum, Redbud	Spring/Summer Azure	Heliotrope, Forget-Me-Not, Milkweed
Hackberry	Tawny Emperor	Tree Sap, Rotting Fruit
Hop Tree, Prickly-Ash, Lilac, Willow	Tiger Swallowtail	Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia
Poplar, Wild Cherry	Viceroy	Thistles, Asters, Goldenrod, Milkweed
Pawpaw	Zebra Swallowtail	Lilac, Joe Pye Weed, Buddleia, Verbena

