

Why:

Butterflies are well-known for their beauty and watching them has become a popular and enjoyable pastime. They serve as pollinators for some plants and are a food source for certain animals. Urbanization that diminishes butterfly habitat can also create new homes for these insects.

Location:

Butterflies prefer a warm and sunny site that is sheltered from the wind. It should be located where it can be seen and enjoyed.

Desirables:

Include a flat, light-colored rock for the butterflies to sun bathe on. Provide a thin film water puddle or two for drinking. A container filled with gravel and water works well. An occasional treat of rotting fruit will keep the butterflies happy.

Mud puddles are used by male butterflies to replenish chemical elements needed for reproduction.

Predators:

Birds prey on butterflies and their larval stage. Keep birdbaths and bird feeders at a distance. You may need to use scare tactics.



Plants:

Using a wide variety of plants will entice several species of butterflies. Butterflies are strongly attracted to the color purple and to gold. They have two different eating habits, vegetation for their caterpillar stage and nectar for their adult stage.



Caterpillar (Larval) Plants Herbaceous

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Aster | Marigold |
| Baptisia | Milkweed |
| Broccoli, Cabbage | Nasturtium |
| Burdock | Nettle |
| Clover | Sunflower |
| Dill, Fennel | Sweet William |
| Grass | Thistle |
| Hollyhock | Violet |
| Mallow | |

Woody Ornamentals

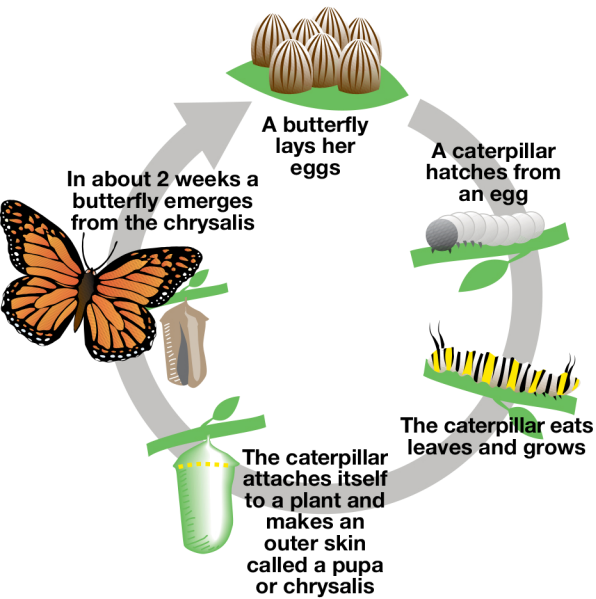
- Apple
- Birch
- Cherry
- Elm
- Hackberry
- Oak
- Tulip Poplar
- Willow

Butterfly (Adult) Plants Herbaceous

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Ageratum | Joe-Pye Weed |
| Aster | Lantana |
| Bee Balm | Lavender |
| Butterfly Bush | Liatriis |
| Butterfly Weed | Marigold |
| Candytuft | Mexican Sunflower |
| Caryopteris | Penta |
| Catnip | Phlox |
| Coneflower | Rudbeckia |
| Coreopsis | Scabiosa |
| Daisy | Yarrow |
| Gaillardia | Zinnia |



The Butterfly Life Cycle



Riley County Extension
110 Courthouse Plaza
Manhattan, KS 66502-0111
(785) 537-6350
www.riley.ksu.edu

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Save the Monarch Butterfly!

Plant Milkweed!!!



WHY ?

- Monarch butterflies are disappearing due to **the loss of habitat.**
- **Milkweed** is the exclusive food source for Monarch caterpillars.
- **Without a major effort to restore milkweed** to as many locations as possible, **the monarch population is certain to decline to extremely low levels.**

Find more information on the Monarch Butterfly at
www.Monarchwatch.org

BUTTERFLY GARDEN HABITAT



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