

Butterfly

GARDENS

There is nothing more enjoyable than a yard full of butterflies on a warm summer day! There are several things to keep in mind to have a successful butterfly garden. A warm sunny location, a variety of host plants, as well as a variety of nectar plants. Pesticide use is not recommended.



HOW TO ATTRACT BUTTERFLIES TO YOUR GARDEN.

Growing plants to serve as food for caterpillars is the most important aspect of a real butterfly garden. I know the idea of this is not overly appealing but if you want butterflies, then there must be host plants for their caterpillars. If not in your garden, then at least near-by. Monarch butterflies renowned for their beauty and prodigious seasonal migrations, feed exclusively on milkweeds. Here is a listing of plants that can serve as host plants and the type of butterfly they will attract.

PLANTS THAT BUTTERFLY LIKE TO FEED ON.

Perennials

Black Eyed Susan, Purple Coneflower, Thistle, Coreopsis, Milkweed, Phlox, Shasta Daisy, Sedum & Liatris

Annuals

Heliotrope, Zinnia, Aster, Sunflower, Verbena, Salvia, Lantana, Cosmos, Zinnias, Ageratum, Nasturtium, Morning Glory, Marigolds & Cosmos.

Shrubs & Trees

Lilac, Honeysuckle, Apple Trees & Blueberry

FIND A SUNNY SPOT

Your butterfly nectar source plants should be in an area with full sun at least half the day. Adult Butterflies generally like to feed in the sun. If you have limited sun in your flower gardens, add nectar sources to your sunny vegetable garden. Adding containers with nectar annuals around the yard is another great idea.

Your key butterfly nectar source plants should receive full sun from mid-morning to mid-afternoon. Butterfly adults generally feed only in the sun. If sun is limited in your landscape, try adding butterfly nectar sources to the vegetable garden.

HOST PLANTS & TREES

- Milkweed to attract Monarch Butterflies.
- Violets & Pansy to attract Fritillaries.
- Pearly Everlasting to attract American Painted Lady.
- Willows, Elm & Paper Birch to attract Mourning Cloaks.
- Apple, Ash, Aspen, Birch, Green Ash, Poplar & Willow to attract Tiger Swallowtail.
- Blueberry, Dogwood, Sumac, Viburnum & Oaks to attract Spring Azure.
- Sumacs to attract Red-Banded Hairstreak.
- Asters to attract Pearl Crescent.
- Sedum, Snapdragon & Verbena to attract Buckeye.
- Willows & Poplars to attract Viceroy.
- Blueberries to attract Pink Edged Sulphur.

