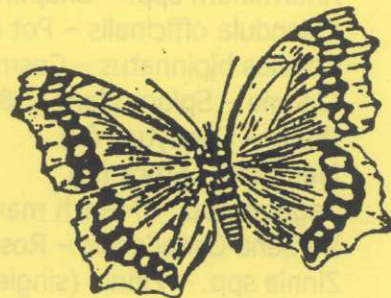


BUTTERFLY GARDENING



Butterflies can add extra color and life to any yard or garden. A little extra planning and proper selection can increase the number and variety of butterflies visiting your yard.



Start by evaluating the butterfly habitats that already exist in your yard or neighborhood. The grassy field, unmown highway berms, boulevard and park flowerbeds provide food and shelter for butterflies. Your garden can serve to enhance these existing habitats.

Next, evaluate the growing conditions in your yard. Locate your butterfly garden in a sheltered, but sunny, location since butterflies spend the majority of their time in the sun. Put the garden in an area where you will be able to sit and observe the butterflies.

Butterfly gardens can be grown in containers, small beds or large open fields. They don't need to be big but will need to include several important features to attract a variety of butterflies. These features include:

- Warming surfaces. Provide flat rocks or surfaces for sunning. Butterflies rest on rocks, exposed soil or grasses to capture the sun's rays to warm their bodies.
- Water. Natural or man made shallow puddles or damp areas provide needed moisture. Groups of males can often be found congregated around these water sources.
- Plants with cluster of short tubular flowers that also have space for butterflies to land and perch while feeding.
- Plants with purple, orange, yellow or red flowers.
- Food plants for the caterpillars.
- Nectar and food sources preferred by butterflies.

Select plants that are suited to the growing conditions – soil, moisture and light – of your yard. Develop a plan which allows for continuous bloom and takes into consideration the height, form and spread of the individual plants selected.

You may also need to change some of your pest control methods. **AVOID USING PESTICIDES.** Remember the products that kill undesirable insects will also kill butterflies. Use insecticidal soaps, barriers, traps and other non-chemical insect controls to handle pest problems.

And, don't forget to take some time to enjoy the benefits of your gardening efforts. Be patient. These creatures travel in small numbers and will sporadically appear in your yard. Butterflies are most active and more easily spotted between 11 A.M. and 3 P.M. Wear drab colored clothes to avoid confusing and startling the butterflies. Bring along your camera to capture the beauty of your garden and visiting butterflies.

SUGGESTED PLANTS FOR WISCONSIN BUTTERFLY GARDEN

HERBS

Allium schoenoprasum – Chives (N)
Anethum graveolens – Dill (L)
Borago officinalis – Borage (L)

Foeniculum vulgare – Fennel (L)
Petroselinum crispum – Parsley (L)

ANNUALS

Antirrhinum spp. – Snapdragons (L & N)
Calendula officinalis – Pot marigold (N)
Cosmos bipinnatus – Cosmos (N)
Cleome – Spider plant (L & N)
Iberis – Candytuft (N)
Matthiola – Stock (N)
Tagetes spp. – French marigold (single) (N)
Verbena Canadensis – Rose verbena (N)
Zinnia spp. – Zinnia (single) (N)

BIENNIAL

Dianthus barbatus – Sweet William (N)

PERENNIALS

Arabis spp. – Rock cress (N)
Asclepias tuberosa – Butterfly weed (L & N)
Aster novae-angliae – New England aster (L & N)
Chelone glabra – Turtlehead (L)
Coreopsis spp. – Coreopsis (N)
Echinacea purpurea – Purple coneflower (N)
Liatris aspera – Rough blazing star (N)
Lupinus perennis – Lupine (L & N)
Monarda spp. – Bergamot (N)
Phlox spp. – Phlox (N)
Sedum spectabile – Sedum (N)
Viola spp. – Violets (L)

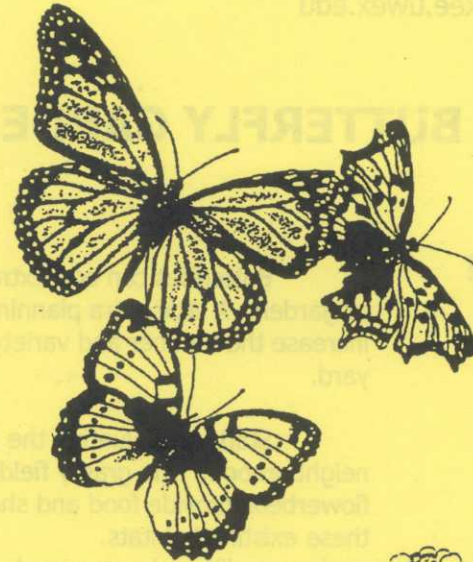
SHRUBS

Buddleia davidii – Butterfly bush (N)
Ceanothus americanus – New Jersey tea (L & N)
Ligustrum spp. – Privet (L & N)

Rhus spp. – Sumac (L)
Salix discolor – Pussy willows (L)
Viburnum trilobum – Cranberrybush V. (N)

WEEDS – SO CALLED?

Asclepias syriaca – Common milkweed; A. incarnata – Swamp milkweed; A. verticillata – Whorled milkweed (L & N)
Carduus nutans – Nodding thistle (L & N)
Eupatorium fistulosum – Joe Pye Weed (also other Eupatorium)
Solidago spp. – Goldenrod (N)
Trifolium spp. – Clover (L & N)
Urtica dioica – Nettles (L)



L = Larval plant N = Nectar plant