

Components of a Butterfly Garden

By Brenda Dziezic

Lots of Sun – Most butterfly plants need full sun, at least 6 hours a day.

Plant in Groups – It's easier for butterflies to see a group of 3 or more plants.

Plant Arrangements – From back to front of garden, plant tallest to shortest, so plants are easily observed.

Shelter from Wind – Use trees, shrubs, tall plants, trellises, or fences to provide shelter from the wind.

Host Plants – Host plants are needed for butterflies to lay their eggs on and are food for the caterpillars.

Nectar Plants – Nectar plants are food for butterflies.

Sunning Spot – Rocks and stepping stones can be used by butterflies to warm themselves when it's cool.

Place to Puddle – Butterflies ingest water and minerals from damp sand, dirt, and mulch.

Rotting Fruit – Providing rotting fruit such as bananas, cantaloupe, peaches, pears, watermelons, etc. furnishes nutrients for butterflies.

NO PESTICIDES

Nectar Plants

Aster (*Aster* spp.)

Blazingstar (*Liatris* spp.)

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Ironweed (*Vernonia* spp.)

Joe-Pye-Weed (*Eupatorium* spp.)

Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)

Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Vervain (*Verbena* spp.)

Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Zinnia (*Zinnia elegans* spp.)

Host Plants

Aster (*Aster* spp.)

- Pearl Crescent

Dill, Fennel, Rue, Parsley

- Black Swallowtail

False Nettle (*Boehmeria cylindrica*)

- Eastern Comma, Question Mark, Red Admiral

Milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.)

- Monarch

Pearly Everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)

- American Lady

Rue (*Ruta graveolens*)

- Giant Swallowtail, Black Swallowtail

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

- Spicebush Swallowtail

Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Violet (*Viola* spp.)

- Fritillary

Wild Indigo (*Baptisia*)

- Wild Indigo Duskywing, Frosted Elfin, Hoary Edge

Willow (*Salix* spp.)

- Red-spotted Purple, Viceroy, Mourning Cloak