

What Attracts Butterflies?

Bright colored flowers such as orange, red, yellow and purple attract butterflies to a garden. Not only does color attract butterflies, but the structure of the plant and flower. Plants that form clusters of short tubular flowers are appealing to butterflies because they are easier to land onto and perch on while feeding on the flowers.

Creating A Butterfly Garden

Elements to a butterfly garden are sun, color, shelter, food and water. Butterflies enjoy areas that have a lot of sunshine. Butterfly gardens must have flat rocks, or surfaces such as exposed soil and grasses to absorb heat from the sun to warm their bodies. A butterfly garden should also have some trees and bushes to provide shelter and resting places for butterflies when they are not feeding and absorbing sunlight. Shallow puddles are essential for needed moisture whether manmade or natural. Lastly colorful flowers are necessary to provide nectar to feed these beautiful creatures.

Butterfly Attracting Plants



**All plants are subject to availability.*



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Perennials

- America
- Arabis
- Aster
- Astilbe
- Black eyed Susan
- Butterfly Bush
- Chelone
- Coreopsis
- Daylily
- Dianthus
- Gaillardia
- Goldenrod
- Hollyhock
- Iberis
- Joe Pye Weed
- Lavender
- Liatris
- Lily
- Mallow
- Milkweeds
- Monarda
- Nepeta
- Phlox
- Physostegia
- Purple Coneflower
- Salvia
- Scabiosa
- Sedum
- Shasta Daisy
- Veronica
- Violets
- Yarrow

Annuals

- Cosmos
- Lantana
- Lobelia
- Marigold
- Pentas
- Snapdragon
- Spider Plant
- Sunflower
- Verbena
- Zinnia

Herbs

- Anise Hyssop
- Borage
- Catmint
- Chives
- Dill
- Fennel
- Parsley

Shrubs

- Azalea
- Honeysuckle
- Lilac
- Rhododendron
- Viburnum
- Wisteria

Trees

- Flowering Cherry
- Flowering Plum
- Willow



Swamp Milkweed, *Asclepias incarnata*
Monarch Butterfly, *Danaus plexippus*
Illustrated by Lisa Nyquist