

Butterfly Sanctuary

Sprinkle Larvae Nectar Plants * And Flying Flowers Will Appear!

Butterfly Sanctuaries featuring the Certified Sanctuaries from The Florida Federation of Garden Clubs

The world of the butterfly is magical! They help pollinate your garden as well as add beauty. Butterflies are active by day, brightly colored, and rests with wings held erect over its back. They have a complex life cycle consisting of four stages. Eggs, Caterpillars (larvae), Pupae, and Adult. To attract butterflies all you need to provide are a few of the food plants that caterpillars and butterflies are attracted to. To attract the greatest number of butterflies and have them all reside in your yard you will need to have plants that serve the needs of all life stages of the butterfly. They need a place to lay eggs, food plants for the larva (caterpillar), a place to form a chrysalis (pupa) and nectar sources for the adult. Your butterfly garden should take into account the food preferences of both adult butterflies and their caterpillars. Do not use pesticides in or near your butterfly garden. Begin by planting nectar plants such as Milkweed, Porterweed, Firebush, Pentas, Lantana, Salvia, Shrimp, Coral honeysuckle, Mexican flame vine, Zinnias, Golden Dew Drop, Mexican Heather, Tropical Sage, Plumbago, and Butterfly Bush. By planting Larva (host) plants you're inviting them to stay, such as Milkweed, Parsley, Dill, Fennel, Rue, Dutchman's Pipevine, Passionvine planted in the sun and shade will attract different species of butterflies, Cassia, and Blue Plumbago. Larger plants provide shelter for the butterflies to hide in when there is inclement weather and a safe haven to hide from predators. Water with sand in a dish provides nutrients as well as water.

BUTTERFLY SANCTUARY GUIDELINES

- 1) No harmful chemicals or biological control agents shall be used in or near the area that is to be declared a Butterfly Sanctuary.
- 2) Specific larval and nectarous food sources shall be available continuously and in sufficient quantities.
- 3) A variety of habitats shall exist to fill all the needs of as many butterflies as possible: sunny, dappled and shaded areas; damp spot for salts and water.

Butterfly Nectar Plants

Of the two types of plants you'll need to attract butterflies to your garden, nectar plants usually get top billing. And why not? They add color, style and beauty to your garden while providing the food most butterflies and other wildlife need to sustain life.

For butterflies, presentation is everything so by grouping a number of the same nectar plants together you'll help butterflies see your scrumptious offering from a distance.

Some nectar plants have the reputation of being favorites to a wide variety of butterflies – plants such as Coneflower, Butterfly Bush, Tall Verbena and Lantana, to name a few. Be sure to check with your local garden organizations for any plants that may be considered 'invasive' in your area.

You may want to consider planting nectar plants that are native to your area. They not only can require less maintenance than non-natives but can bring a welcome variety to your gardens. Check with your local garden organizations for a list of the native plants in your area.

Finally, be sure to extend your garden 'menu' with your favorite butterflies' host plants.

Common Nectar Plants

Flowers:

[Aster \(*Aster spp.*\)](#)
[Black-Eyed Susan \(*Rudbeckia hirta*\)](#)
[Blazing Stars \(*Liatris spp.*\)](#)
[Butterfly Milkweed \(*Asclepias tuberosa*\)](#)
[Buttonbush \(*Cephalanthus occidentalis*\)](#)
[Cardinal Flower \(*Lobelia cardinalis*\)](#)
[Common Milkweed \(*Asclepias syriaca*\)](#)
[Coneflowers \(*Echinacea purpurea*\)](#)
[Coreopsis \(*Coreopsis spp.*\)](#)
[Cosmos \(*Cosmos spp.*\)](#)
[Dianthus Family \(*Dianthus spp.*\)](#)
[Lantana \(*Lantana camara*\)](#)
[Marigold \(*Tagetes spp.*\)](#)
[Mexican Sunflowers \(*Tithonia rotundifolia*\)](#)
[Petunia \(*Petunia x hybrida*\)](#)
[Salvia \(*Salvia spp.*\)](#)
[Shasta Daisy \(*Leucanthemum spp.*\)](#)
[Sunflower \(*Helianthus spp.*\)](#)
[Swamp Milkweed \(*Asclepias incarnata*\)](#)
[Swamp Verbena \(*Verbena hastata*\)](#)
[Tall Verbena \(*Verbena bonariensis*\)](#)
[Thistle \(*Cirsium discolor*\)](#)
[Violet \(*Viola spp.*\)](#)
[Woodland Stonecrop \(*Sedum ternatum*\)](#)
[Yarrow \(*Achillea spp.*\)](#)
[Zinnia \(*Zinnia elegans*\)](#)

Shrubs:

[Butterfly Bush \(*Buddleia spp.*\)](#)

Vines:

[Passion Flowers \(*Passiflora spp.*\)](#)

Trees:

[Chaste Tree \(*Vitex agnus-castus*\)](#)

[Flowering Dogwood \(*Cornus*\)](#)

Other Ways To Attract Butterflies

Basking

There are various ways to keep butterflies interested in and returning to your garden. Placing a flat stone in your garden not only provides a spot for butterflies to bask to warm their wings on cool mornings but it can also add variety in texture and color to your garden.

Puddling

Groups of male butterflies often congregate at puddles of water to drink. Mud-puddling offers them the opportunity to get the salt and amino acids they need. You can create your own puddle by digging a shallow depression in or near your garden. Line it with plastic, fill it with sand or gravel and add water.

Overripe Fruit

Attracting and feeding butterflies can be as simple as placing a piece of overripe fruit like a banana, orange or pear on a dish and either placing it on the ground or hanging it from a tree limb.

Many species enjoy these fruity snacks including Question Marks, Red Admirals, Red-Spotted Purples, Mourning Cloaks, Malachites, Hackberries, Viceroy and Zebra Longwings.

Butterfly Feeder

A variety of commercial butterfly feeders are available for purchase in many garden gift shops. You simply fill them with your homemade nectar and wait for your colorful customers to arrive.

Butterfly Host Plants

Even though host plants aren't top-of-mind when planning a butterfly garden, no butterfly garden is complete without these important, 'behind-the-scenes', plants.

Host plants are the nurseries of the garden. If you keep an eye out you'll see the female as she flits around the plant, gently laying her next brood's eggs, sometimes on the top of leaves but usually on the bottom, hidden from predators.

Then, in 10 to 14 days, the tiny larvae, less than an eighth inch long, emerge and begin eating the plant. It's a fascinating process as they munch away, growing larger everyday. Equally fascinating is watching the caterpillar leave the plant to form a chrysalis.

Host plants range from flowering plants like Milkweed and Passion Vine, to herbs like Fennel, to bushes as well as trees like Sweet Bay Magnolia.

By including both host plants and nectar plants in your garden, you can attract a wider selection of butterflies while providing an environment that supports their entire life cycle.

Common Host Plants

Flowers:

[Aster \(*Aster spp.*\)](#)

[Black-Eyed Susan \(*Rudbeckia hirta*\)](#)

[Butterfly Milkweed \(*Asclepias tuberosa*\)](#)

[Common Milkweed \(*Asclepias syriaca*\)](#)

[Coneflowers \(*Echinacea purpurea*\)](#)

[False Nettle \(*Boehmeria cylindrica*\)](#)

[Hollyhock \(*Alcea rosea*\)](#)

[Indian Paintbrush \(*Castilleja spp.*\)](#)

[Mallow \(*Malva spp.*\)](#)

[Nasturtium \(*Tropaeolum majus*\)](#)

[Pussy-toe \(*Antennaria plantaginifolia*\)](#)

[Rue \(*Ruta graveolens*\)](#)

[Ruellia \(*Ruellia spp.*\)](#)

[Shasta Daisy \(*Leucanthemum spp.*\)](#)

[Silver Brocade \(*Artemisia stellariana*\)](#)

[Snapdragon \(*Antirrhinum majus*\)](#)

[Spider flower \(*Cleome hasslerana*\)](#)

[Sunflower \(*Helianthus spp.*\)](#)

[Swamp Milkweed \(*Asclepias incarnata*\)](#)

[Swamp Verbena \(*Verbena hastata*\)](#)

[Tall Verbena \(*Verbena bonariensis*\)](#)

[Violet \(*Viola spp.*\)](#)

[Water Dock \(*Rumex verticillatus*\)](#)

[Wild Senna \(*Senna hebecarpa*\)](#)

[Woodland Stonecrop \(*Sedum ternatum*\)](#)

Herbs:

Dill (*Anthem graveolens*)

Fennel (*Foeniculum vulgare*)

Parsley (*Petroselinum crispum*)

Grasses:

Little Bluestem Grass (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Orchard Grass (*Dactylis glomerata*)

Panic Grass (*Panicum spp.*)

Shrubs:

Coontie (*Zamia pumila*)

False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*)

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Vines:

Passion Flowers (*Passiflora spp.*)

Pipevine (*Aristolochia macrophylla*)

Trees:

Aspen Tree (*Populus spp.*)

Common Hop Tree (*Ptelea trifoliata*)

Elm Tree (*Ulmus spp.*)

Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus*)

Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*)

Prickly Ash (*Zanthoxylum americanum*)

Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)

Sweet Bay (*Magnolia virginiana*)

Willow (*Salix*)

Butterflies of Volusia County, Florida, United States

The BAMONA database currently includes verified sighting records for 118 butterfly species from this region. http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklists?species_type=0&tid=579

Hesperiidae Skippers (53)

[*Epargyreus clarus*](#) Silver-spotted Skipper
[*Urbanus proteus*](#) Long-tailed Skipper
[*Urbanus dorantes*](#) Dorantes Longtail
[*Autochton cellus*](#) Golden Banded-Skipper
[*Achalarus lyciades*](#) Hoary Edge

[*Thorybes pylades*](#) Northern Cloudywing
[*Thorybes bathyllus*](#) Southern Cloudywing
[*Thorybes confusus*](#) Confused Cloudywing
[*Staphylus hayhurstii*](#) Hayhurst's Scallopwing
[*Erynnis brizo*](#) Sleepy Duskywing

[*Erynnis juvenalis*](#) Juvenal's Duskywing
[*Erynnis horatius*](#) Horace's Duskywing
[*Erynnis martialis*](#) Mottled Duskywing
[*Erynnis zarucco*](#) Zarucco Duskywing
[*Pyrgus communis*](#) Common Checkered-Skipper

[*Pyrgus albescens*](#) White Checkered-Skipper
[*Pyrgus oileus*](#) Tropical Checkered-Skipper
[*Nastra lherminier*](#) Swarthy Skipper
[*Nastra neamathla*](#) Neamathla Skipper
[*Cymaenes tripunctus*](#) Three-spotted Skipper

[*Lerema accius*](#) Clouded Skipper
[*Ancyloxypha numitor*](#) Least Skipper
[*Copaeodes minima*](#) Southern Skipperling
[*Hylephila phyleus*](#) Fiery Skipper
[*Hesperia meskei*](#) Meske's Skipper

[*Atalopedes campestris*](#) Sachem
[*Polites themistocles*](#) Tawny-edged Skipper
[*Polites baracoa*](#) Baracoa Skipper
[*Polites origenes*](#) Crossline Skipper
[*Polites vibex*](#) Whirlabout

[*Wallengrenia otho*](#) Southern Broken-Dash
[*Wallengrenia egeremet*](#) Northern Broken-Dash
[*Atrytone arogos*](#) Arogos Skipper
[*Anatrytone logan*](#) Delaware Skipper
[*Problema byssus*](#) Byssus Skipper

[*Poanes zabulon*](#) Zabulon Skipper
[*Poanes aaroni*](#) Aaron's Skipper
[*Euphyes pilatka*](#) Palatka Skipper
[*Euphyes berryi*](#) Berry's Skipper
[*Euphyes dukesi*](#) Dukes' Skipper

[*Euphyes arpa*](#) Palmetto Skipper
[*Euphyes vestris*](#) Dun Skipper
[*Asbolis capucinus*](#) Monk
[*Atrytonopsis hianna*](#) Dusted Skipper
[*Amblyscirtes alternata*](#) Dusky Roadside-Skipper

[*Lerodea eufala*](#) Eufala Skipper
[*Oligoria maculata*](#) Twin-spot Skipper
[*Calpodus ethlius*](#) Brazilian Skipper
[*Panoquina panoquin*](#) Salt Marsh Skipper
[*Panoquina panoquinoides*](#) Obscure Skipper

[*Panoquina ocola*](#) Ocola Skipper
[*Megathymus yuccae*](#) Yucca Giant-Skipper
[*Megathymus cofaqui*](#) Cofaqui Giant-Skipper

Papilionidae Parnassians and Swallowtails (8)

Battus philenor Pipevine Swallowtail
Battus polydamas Polydamas Swallowtail
Eurytides marcellus Zebra Swallowtail
Papilio polyxenes Black Swallowtail
Papilio glaucus Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio troilus Spicebush Swallowtail
Papilio palamedes Palamedes Swallowtail
Papilio cresphontes Giant Swallowtail

Pieridae Whites and Sulphurs (11)

Pontia protodice Checkered White
Ascia monuste Great Southern White
Colias eurytheme Orange Sulphur
Zerene cesonia Southern Dogface
Phoebis sennae Cloudless Sulphur
Phoebis agarithe Large Orange Sulphur
Phoebis philea Orange-barred Sulphur
Eurema daira Barred Yellow
Pyrisitia lisa Little Yellow
Abaeis nicippe Sleepy Orange
Nathalis iole Dainty Sulphur

Lycaenidae Gossamer-wing Butterflies (13)

Atlides halesus Great Purple Hairstreak
Callophrys gryneus Juniper Hairstreak
Callophrys henrici Henry's Elfin
Satyrium favonius Oak Hairstreak
Satyrium calanus Banded Hairstreak
Calycopis cecrops Red-banded Hairstreak
Strymon melinus Gray Hairstreak
Parrhasius m album White-M Hairstreak
Leptotes cassius Cassius Blue
Brephidium pseudofea Eastern Pygmy-Blue
Cupido comyntas Eastern Tailed-Blue
Hemiargus ceraunus Ceraunus Blue
Cyclargus thomasi Miami Blue

Riodinidae Metalmarks (1)

Calephelis virginensis Little Metalmark

Nymphalidae Brush-footed Butterflies (32)

Libytheana carinenta American Snout
Danaus plexippus Monarch
Danaus gilippus Queen
Danaus eresimus Soldier
Agraulis vanillae Gulf Fritillary
Heliconius charithonia Zebra Heliconian
Euptoieta claudia Variegated Fritillary
Limenitis arthemis Red-spotted Purple or White Admiral
Limenitis arthemis astyanax 'Astyanax' Red-spotted Purple
Limenitis archippus Viceroy

Marpesia petreus Ruddy Daggerwing
Asterocampa celtis Hackberry Emperor
Asterocampa clyton Tawny Emperor
Eunica tatila Florida Purplewing
Phyciodes phaon Phaon Crescent
Phyciodes tharos Pearl Crescent
Anthanassa frisia Cuban Crescent
Anthanassa texana Texan Crescent
Hypolimnas misippus Mimic
Junonia coenia Common Buckeye

Junonia genoveva Mangrove Buckeye
Anartia jatrophae White Peacock
Polygonia interrogationis Question Mark
Vanessa atalanta Red Admiral
Vanessa cardui Painted Lady
Vanessa virginiensis American Lady
Enodia portlandia Southern Pearly-eye
Cyllopsis gemma Gemmed Satyr
Neonympha areolatus Georgia Satyr
Megisto viola Viola's Wood-Satyr
Hermeuptychia sosybius Carolina Satyr
Cercyonis pegala Common Wood-Nymph

Websites to Explore: for more Butterfly Gardening Information

<http://www.thebutterflysite.com/life-cycle.shtml>

http://www.ffgc.org/projects/birds_bees_butterflies/index.html

[http://www3.canisius.edu/~grandem/butterflylifecycle/
The Lifecycle of a Butterfly print.html](http://www3.canisius.edu/~grandem/butterflylifecycle/The_Lifecycle_of_a_Butterfly_print.html)

[http://www3.canisius.edu/~grandem/butterflylifecycle/
The Lifecycle of a Butterfly print.html](http://www3.canisius.edu/~grandem/butterflylifecycle/The_Lifecycle_of_a_Butterfly_print.html)

<http://www.butterflywebsite.com/articles/npwc/butterflychecklist.cfm>

<http://www.cocoon.org/>

<http://george4plants.com/Services.html>

<http://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/index.html>

<http://www.butterflywebsite.com/>

http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklists?species_type=0&tid=579

Explore the site below: It will even help you identify butterflies and their caterpillars.

<http://www.gardenswithwings.com/what-is-a-butterfly-garden/host-plants.html>

Gardens to Attract Butterflies

Saturday, April 20

9:30 am-11:30 am

Fee: \$14 (Members \$8)

Learn to prepare an appropriate butterfly garden site by selecting the proper trees, shrubs, ground covers and larval and nectar plants to attract local and migratory butterfly species. We can take the confusion out of metamorphosis for you, and provide excellent handouts for use as reminders and shopping lists. And weather permitting, we will spend some observation time of the plants and different butterflies found in Leu Gardens' Butterfly Garden.

Instructor: Joel Arant

Location: Cottage and Butterfly Garden