

ABIDE A WHILE

GARDEN BOUTIQUE



Attracting Butterflies

HOW TO CREATE A BUTTERFLY GARDEN

- Locate a sunny area in your garden. Butterflies, and a majority of the plants they need, require bright sunshine.
- Plant nectar producing flowers. Many native butterflies seem to prefer purple, yellow, orange and red colored blossoms.
- Select single flowers. The nectar inside a single flower is much more accessible to butterflies. They do not need to “wade through” a mass of petals.
- Use large splashes of color. Butterflies are first attracted to flowers by their color. Masses of flowers are more easily located than single plants.
- Plan for all season bloom. Butterflies are active from early spring through late fall. Plant a selection of plants which will provide nectar throughout the growing season.
- Include puddling areas. Some butterflies drink and extract salts from moist soil. Create shallow puddles or damp areas in your garden. Occasionally, large numbers of male butterflies congregate around moist areas forming a “puddle club.”
- Place flat stones in your garden. Butterflies often perch on stones, bare soil, or vegetation, spreading their wings to bask in the sun. This raises their body temperature so they are able to fly and remain active.
- *Do not use pesticides in or near your butterfly garden. Most are toxic to them.*

BUTTERFLIES AND THEIR HOST PLANTS

- Black Swallowtail: Parsley, Dill, Bronze Fennel
- Cloudless Sulphur: Cassia
- Common Buckeye: Snapdragon, Toadflax
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail: Prunus spp., Tulip Tree
- Giant Swallowtail: Citrus
- Gray Hairstreak: Hibiscus, Mallow
- Gulf Fritillary: Passion Vine
- Monarch: Asclepias
- Painted Lady: Hollyhock, Mallow
- Pearl Crescent: Aster
- Sleepy Orange: Cassia
- Zebra Longwing: Passion Vine