

Free!

HOW TO DESIGN A BUTTERFLY GARDEN

TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS:

Spring is here! The robins have returned and butterflies are on their way! Why not plan a beautiful butterfly garden this year . . . young and old can participate in this activity. Here are some helpful facts that we hope you will find useful in getting started as you . . . DESIGN A BUTTERFLY GARDEN . . .

Butterflies linger in sunny places. Because they are "cold blooded", butterflies require warmth to be active. They do this by basking in the sunlight. Rarely do they spend much time in the shade. When choosing a spot for your *butterfly garden*, choose a sunny area. This will fulfill one more requirement for the butterfly and provide one more "reason" to linger in your garden. Oddly enough, most plants attracting butterfly adults grow well in sunny exposures.

Butterflies linger in places protected from the wind

Because they are more wing than body, butterflies are affected by gusts of wind. They linger longer in sunny locations, protected from the wind. Wind protection can be in the form of a fence, wall, house, hedge, or a tree lined area. So when choosing a place for your butterfly garden pick a sunny spot that is protected somewhat from the wind. Such protection will form a pleasant viewing backdrop for your butterfly garden.

Butterflies require moisture and minerals: They will linger where these are provided Like all creatures, butterflies require water to live. Although plant nectar is mostly water with dissolved sugars it is fairly low in mineral salts needed to maintain their "animal" metabolism. Butterflies cannot "drink" from bodies of water like most animals can. They must "lick" water from moist surfaces. A basin of moist soil, with added salts, especially sodium from ordinary table salt will provide the nutrients needed by the butterflies. BE SURE TO KEEP THE BASIN MOIST. The top of a conventional birdbath, slightly sunken in the ground provides a decorative container for moist soil.

Butterflies linger where there is a source of nectar

By following the plant suggestions on the following pages you will provide your adult butterfly friends with a season long source of nectar. You will also provide a quiet corner of the world for yourself, filled with a kaleidoscope of color and shapes. A butterfly garden attracts beauty in all its forms. Many of the same flowers that attract butterflies, attract hummingbirds.

Take One!