



Uncanoonuc Mt. Perennials

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Butterfly Gardening

A sun drenched area, protected from the wind is the ideal spot for a butterfly garden. An abundance of nectar producing plants will attract adult butterflies. The presence of larval food plants will encourage them to take up residence making it a truly self-perpetuating butterfly garden. Different species of butterflies are attracted to different plants. Adults and larvae have specific needs. Monarchs favor milkweed species as egg laying sites, because they are excellent larval food. Mourning Cloaks prefer to lay their eggs on willow species for the same reason. Providing as diverse an environment as possible with a wide range of plant types is a good start. Adding different plants as you learn about your favorite butterflies can make it a rewarding, lifetime hobby. Weeds like dandelions, milkweed and thistle are favored larval food. An area left in a more wild or natural state is encouraged. This spot may be where some butterflies overwinter. Monarchs famously migrate, but others stay put. Mourning Cloaks overwinter as adults under patches of loose bark in piles of brush or logs. Red-spotted Admirals spend the winter as larvae, wrapped in dead leaves. Moist areas provide a spot for 'puddling' where some species, like the Tiger Swallowtails, gather to take up minerals from the evaporating water. Basking spots such as rocks will be welcome by all butterflies and are easy to work into any style of garden.



Larval Food:

Birches
Cherries
Dill

Fennel
Milkweeds
Parsley

Rue
Willows
Many Common Weeds



Nectar Sources:

Annuals...

Cosmos
Hollyhocks**
Lantana
Sweet William**
Zinnia
**biennials

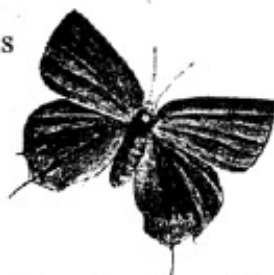
Perennials...

Anise Hyssop
Asters
Black-eyed Susans
Butterfly Bush
Butterfly Weeds
Coneflowers
Coreopsis
Gayfeathers
Globe Thistles
Goldenrods - cultivated and wild
Joe-Pye-Weeds



Perennials (continued)...

Oreganos including
'Herrenhausen'
Ornamental Onions
Pincushion Flowers
Salvia
Sedums - especially
'Autumn Joy' types
Tall Phlox
Yarrows



North American Butterfly Association 987-285-0907 (www.naba.org)

"The Butterfly Gardener's Guide" (\$19.95) New from the Brooklyn Botanic Garden...packed with information, beautifully illustrated.