

Butterfly-Friendly Plants

Check with a nursery first, for information about ideal plants for local climate and soil conditions, and the species of butterflies you hope to attract. Look for plants with staggered blooming times, from spring through fall. The following are popular choices:



NECTAR PLANTS

Aster
Black-Eyed Susan
Coneflower
Cosmos
Goldenrod
Marigold
Milkweed
Nasturtium
Petunias
Phlox
Sweet William
Sweet Alyssum
Thistle
Verbena
Zinnia

NECTAR SHRUBS

Butterfly Bush
Fruit Trees
Lilac
Redbud
Spirea
Sumacs

HOST PLANTS

Aster
Clover
Daisies
Dill
Fennel
Hackberry
Hollyhock
Hops
Mallow
Milkweed
Nettles
Parsley
Passion Flower Vine
Queen Anne's Lace
Rue
Sassafras
Snapdragons
Violets
Wild Cherries
Willows



For more information, please contact me today! My name and phone numbers are listed above. It's a pleasure to be of service to you!

As a well-trained and knowledgeable real estate professional, I will be happy to answer any questions you may have about your specific property or the real estate market in general.

Just call me — we can get together by phone or in person to discuss any matters pertaining to real estate, such as:

- A marketing consultation about a specific property.
- Real estate activity in our local area.
- Real estate activity in other locales.
- Vacation home properties.
- Helpful hints on improving the "curb appeal" of homes.
- Relocation information for:

City _____ State _____

Please disregard this offer if your property is now listed for sale. This is not a solicitation for other real estate professionals' listings. This offer is void where prohibited by law.

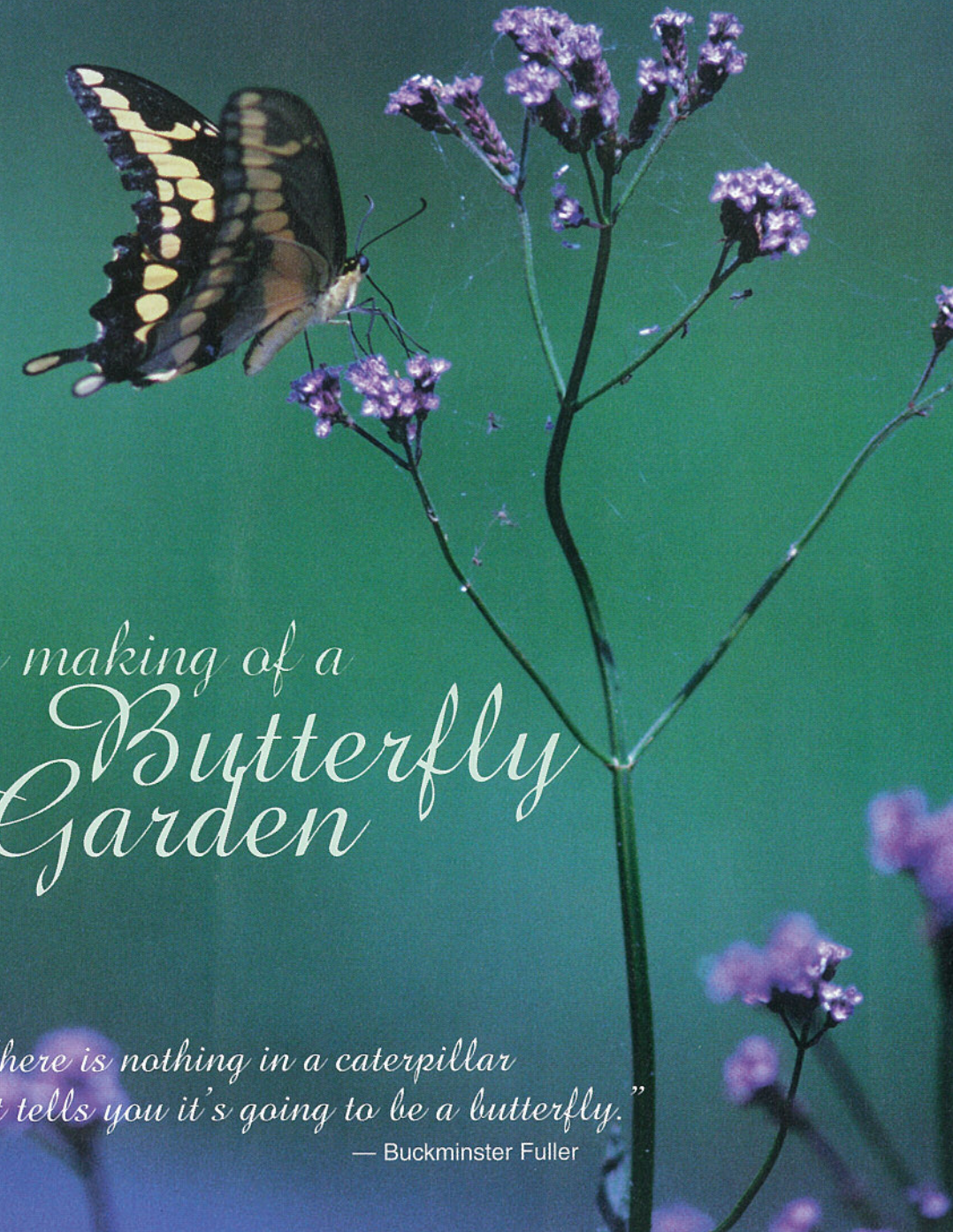
Rediscover the magic of metamorphosis, from tiny seedling to flowering shrub, from fuzzy caterpillar to free-spirited butterfly. It's easy to transform your garden into a haven for these enchanting, vividly colored creatures.

Entice visiting butterflies to stay for awhile, or watch new butterflies emerge from a cocoon to bask in the sun and flutter from petal to petal.

the making of a
Butterfly Garden

"There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly."

— Buckminster Fuller



a garden metamorphosis

What do butterflies love? Warm sun, cool water, safe shelter and fragrant flowers with places to perch and nectar to sip. These gardening fundamentals can turn your backyard into a photogenic retreat accented by fluttering blurs of color.



flowers & fragrance

Butterflies have sensitive antennae that guide them to their favorite fragrances. Sweet-scented florals with wide, colorful petals are especially attractive. Since butterflies are nearsighted, they'll spot groupings of the same kind of plant more easily than a single plant. Flat-petaled flowers, such as daisies, and plants with clustered blooms work well, providing high visibility and "landing room." And, butterflies will appreciate the one-stop convenience!

Different species of butterflies prefer different kinds of nectar, so assorted plants with staggered blooming seasons will draw a variety of visitors. To keep butterflies happy, you'll want nectar plants that flower throughout the growing season. This will also attract hummingbirds and bees to add even more color and interest.

sunshine & shelter

Butterflies love places that are sunny throughout the day. These cold-blooded critters need to draw warmth from the sun. In the morning, you'll see them basking on a sun-warmed stone before a busy day of fluttering from flower to flower.

Keep in mind that these delicate creatures also need protection from strong wind, rain or excessive heat. Choose an area that is sheltered by a wall, fence or hedge and one that has a few shrubs or trees where butterflies can hide. Or, consider planting lilac bushes, butterfly bush or viburnum to provide both shelter and nectar. When it rains, butterflies often hide under leaves.

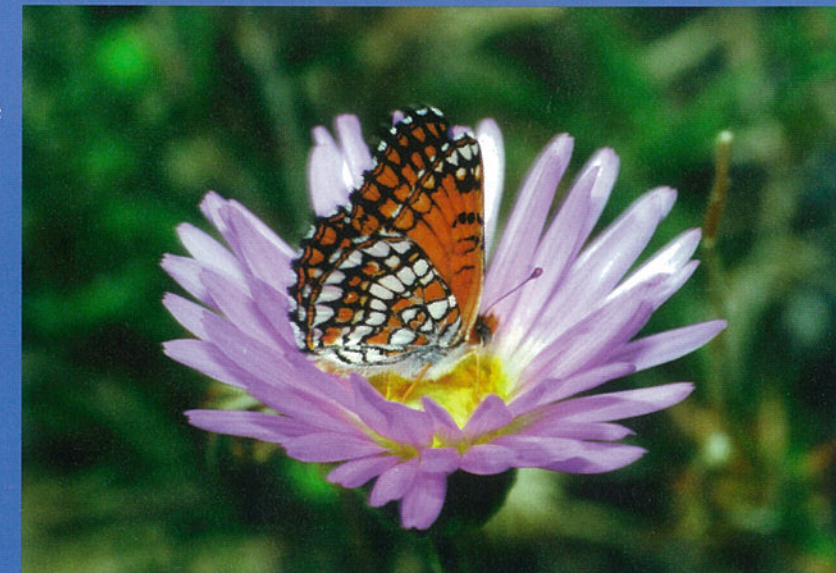
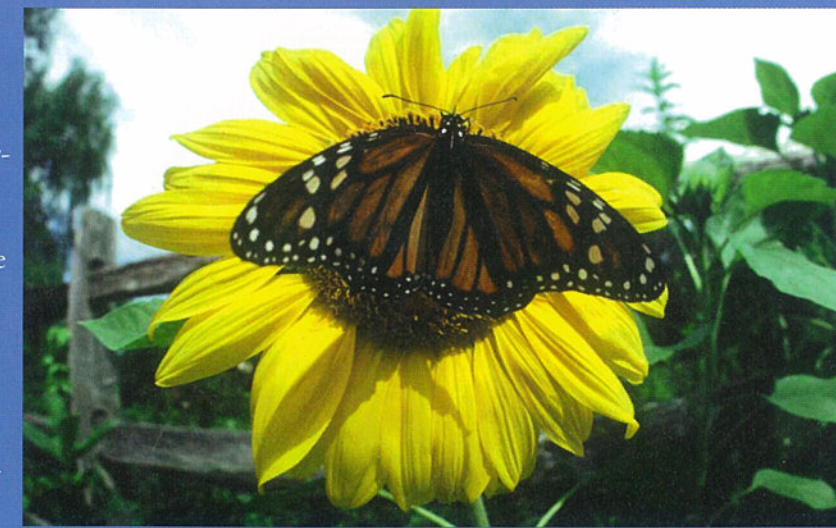
You can also help protect butterflies by avoiding harmful insecticides and herbicides. The chemicals are harmful to butterflies and other garden-friendly insects, and they may not be so healthy for humans, either!



food & foliage

For maximum butterflies per bloom, include both host plants, for eggs and caterpillars, and nectar plants, for butterflies. Check with a nursery about local climate, soil conditions and butterfly preferences. Monarchs, for example, often lay eggs on milkweed, while silvery blue butterflies like wild pea blossoms. Good sources of both larval food and butterfly nectar include sunflowers, snapdragon, Queen Anne's lace, thistle, aster and clover. Other good larval and nectar sources include herbs, such as dill and parsley, as well

as trees, such as birch, cherry, cottonwood, elm and willow. If there are woodlands or pastures nearby, nectar plants are sufficient. Broccoli and cabbage plants are also good larval food. Expect caterpillars to eat a lot of foliage! If they're chomping away on a favorite plant, simply move the caterpillars to a less conspicuous location. But, wear gloves! Some caterpillars can sting.



puddles & perches

In addition to "perchable" flowers, butterflies appreciate flat stones, bricks or gravel paths. Stone absorbs the warmth of the sun and provides a place for butterflies to sunbathe.

Butterflies need a water source, too. They're drawn to puddles, and the males often congregate around rain pools. To create your own butterfly "water cooler," bury a bucket to the rim, fill it with sand and then saturate the sand with water.

As you plan your garden, don't forget a perching place for yourself! Plant your garden near a comfortable window seat or set up patio chairs where you can relax and enjoy the show. A window box or container garden can also coax butterflies a little closer to your home. Or, you can keep binoculars nearby, as well as a camera to capture those photogenic butterflies on film.



Gardentime™

At Home Outdoors

For more information,
please contact me today!
My name and phone
numbers are listed
above. It's a pleasure to
be of service to you!

As a well-trained and knowledgeable
real estate professional, I will be happy
to answer any questions you may have
about your specific property or the real
estate market in general.

Just call me — we can get together by
phone or in person to discuss any
matters pertaining to real estate, such as:

- A marketing consultation about a specific property.
- Real estate activity in our local area.
- Real estate activity in other locales.
- Vacation home properties.
- Helpful hints on improving the “curb appeal” of homes.
- Relocation information for:

City _____ State _____

Please disregard this offer if your property is now listed for sale. This is not a solicitation for other real estate professionals' listings. This offer is void where prohibited by law.

BGN / Volume 8#4
Recyclable. Printed with soy ink.
Most firms independently owned and operated. Availability of services may vary.
Free offers may be regulated by law. If your home is currently listed for sale, this is not a solicitation for business.

grins

If you love to garden, just say “sow,”
Scatter the seeds and watch them grow.
Just add sunshine, water and fun,
You'll discover a “lot” before the day is done.



And while you wait for plants to appear,
Try solving the riddles you'll find right here!
Or, write your own riddles, in neat little rows,
With punchlines that make you say “Hoe. Hoe. Hoe!”

What gets bigger the more
you take away?

A hole

What runs without getting
tired?

Water

What is one of the most
musical insects?

A humbug

What does the letter “A”
have in common with a
flower?

*They both have bees coming
after them.*

What do you call a country
where all the people drive
pink cars?

A pink car-nation

April showers bring May
flowers, but what do May
flowers bring?

Pilgrims

What is one good reason
not to iron a four-leaf
clover?

*You don't want to press your
luck.*

What do you get if you
divide the circumference of
a pumpkin by its diameter?

Pumpkin pi

How do you ship vegetables?

Send them by Parsley Post.

What vegetable calls for a
plumber?

A leek



like a breath of fresh air
gardening is good for kids of all ages



“There is a garden in
every childhood, an
enchanted place where
colors are brighter,
the air softer and the
morning more fragrant
than ever again.”

— Elizabeth Lawrence

Gardening brings out
the child in all of us. It's a
timeless celebration of long
summer days, cauliflower
bouquets and carrot-chasing
cottontails. It's an excuse to
dig in the dirt, bask in the
sun, roll up your sleeves
and harvest the fruits (and
vegetables) of your labor.
You'll be rewarded with good
food, good health and good
old-fashioned fun.

When you involve the
whole family in gardening,
you're encouraging them to
cultivate a healthful habit.
Invite kids of any age to dig
up dandelions, plant memo-
ries and maybe even unearth
a worm or two. Gardening is
learning and recess rolled
into one. So why should
grownups have all the fun?

plan

a
culinary
adventure

flavor

For a gourmet touch, just add herbs.

Herbs are easy to grow – inside or out. Plant them near the kitchen for convenient access. You can dry them, freeze them or enjoy them fresh from the garden. Experiment with varied combinations and flavors. Rosemary is great for seasoning fish, chicken, lamb, veal, pork and game. It enhances the flavor of cheeses, eggs and vegetables. You can even put a few twigs of rosemary in lemonade for a refreshing drink. Thyme lends a distinct flavor to meat, poultry and fish. It thrives in light, well-drained soil and direct sunshine. Here are a few more kitchen-friendly herbs:



Full Sun

- Basil (*Ocimum basilicum*)
- Cilantro (*Coriandrum sativum*)
- Dill (*Anethum graveolens*)
- Oregano (*Origanum vulgare*)
- Rosemary (*Rosemarinus officinalis*)
- Sage (*Salvia*)
- Thyme (*Thymus*)



Partial Shade

- Bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*)



Full Sun to Partial Shade

- Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*)
- Mint (*Mentha*)
- Tarragon (*Artemisia dracunculus*)

variety

"Five a Day" is just the beginning!

Bypass the grocer and treat yourself to Mother Nature's produce department. You can add a new "aisle" each year. Spend the off-seasons planning new plantings. With a little organization, you can enjoy a steady succession of new treats as they're in season. Or, cultivate even more variety in an "open year-round" greenhouse.



Berries.

From blueberries to bush cherries, fruitful shrubs can be a tasty alternative to traditional flowering shrub borders.



Leafy vegetables.

Rhubarb, kale, cabbage, asparagus and other foliage can add color to landscape borders and dinner tables.



Decorative Vegetables.

Eggplant, peppers, tomatoes and radishes can be as ornamental as they are healthful.



Fruit vines.

Grapes, kiwi and other vines can yield abundant fruit while lending shade and style to trellises and arbors.



Fruit and nut trees.

Check with a nearby nursery for advice about the best types of trees and plants for local growing conditions.

Garden-fresh produce tastes so delicious you may forget that it's good for you.

Jazz up a plain potato with a sprinkling of just-picked chives. Sample a salad that is packed with crisp greens and ripe tomatoes. Enhance a favorite recipe with aromatic herbs and whip up a sweet strawberry shortcake dessert.

A delicious harvest of healthful and flavorful herbs, fruits and vegetables can be as close as your own backyard.

plant

a
childhood
memory

Mud, bugs and squishable slugs. What's not to love about gardening? Set aside a small pot or a big plot that's just for kids. Whether they're toddlers or teens, it's a recipe for fun. Give them a handful of seeds, add a bucket of water and harvest a basket of veggies and fruit. Whatever they plant, chances are, they'll love gardening. In fact, with a little luck, they may even bury the remote control. And, with a little prodding, they might even learn to like Brussels sprouts!

mud

It's okay to play in the dirt.

This is more fun than video games! Kids of all ages can grow to love gardening. Smaller children will need their own tools, available in many retail outlets. Or, just use an old spoon. To keep it fun, keep it simple. Consider larger, easy-to-handle seeds. Sunflowers, watermelons and pumpkins are easy to plant and grow quickly. Let kids create colorful labels and waterproof them with clear tape. Older kids may want to make creative labels, too, or learn how to tell time on a sundial. They might also enjoy "recipe gardens," such as a pizza garden with everything from green peppers to tomatoes, or a salsa garden, with tomatillos, cilantro, garlic and other zesty ingredients.

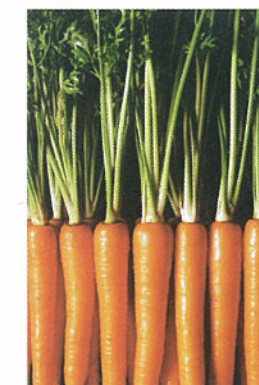


snacks

Dig, plant, water, tug, pull, rinse, crunch and munch.

Vegetables are exciting to plant because it's fun to eat what you grow! Most kids are more likely to enjoy munching on radishes and carrots that they grow themselves. And, you'd be amazed how many fresh veggies they'll try in one "I grew it myself" lettuce salad!

Kids love to "discover" buried treasures and hidden harvests, not to mention the sheer fun of pulling up potatoes, beets or carrots from the ground. They'll love watching squash or cucumbers grow and flower. The remarkable process will definitely impress them.



secrets

Come out, come out, wherever you are!

Gardens can make great hiding places and getaways that awaken a child's imagination. You can create a meandering maze of bricks and shrubs or a path that leads to a secret playhouse. No matter how simple, a playhouse is a child's dream come true. Build it yourself or let children create their own "teepee" of sunflower plants or ivy vines tied to a center pole. Or, prune away a kids-only cubbyhole inside overgrown shrubs in an out-of-the-way corner. Build yet another hiding place by growing vines across a low trellis.

Include plenty of tall, brightly colored flowers and colorful accents. Let the kids help you build their scariest scarecrow or paint a handcrafted bird feeder.

