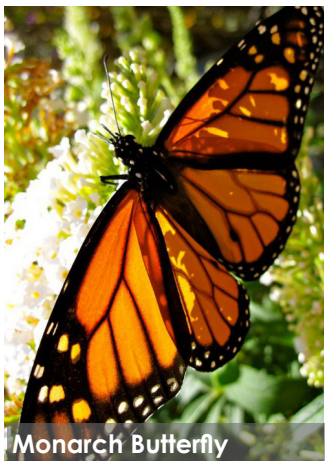


Why should I care about pollinator decline?

Monarch butterfly numbers are at an all-time low
The North American monarch population has declined by more than 80% over the past two decades¹. Many other pollinators, including honey bees, are in steep decline as well.

Pollinators play a crucial role in plant reproduction
Most flowering plants and many fruits and vegetables require pollinators to reproduce. Our local food systems and the livelihoods of our farmers become vulnerable without healthy pollinator populations and the crops they help grow.

Did you know that 70% of native plants and more than 30% of crops require pollinators to produce? Without pollinators, many of our favorite foods would not be able to grow.



Monarch Butterfly

Pollinator decline is partially attributed to the destruction of their habitat by large scale agricultural techniques that make use of herbicides like Roundup® which can wipe out the host and nectar plants where pollinators find food and lay their eggs². Insecticides and other pesticides, particularly those in the neonicotinoid family³, can be toxic to many good insects like honey bees.

Strong pollinator populations are an indicator of a healthy ecosystem

Here in the Ozarks, residents and tourists alike spend their time and money enjoying our beautiful natural world. Without strong pollinator populations, the landscapes that provide economic and cultural stability to our region may suffer.

CITATIONS

1. National Wildlife Federation "Monarch Conservation in America's Cities" 2016 (PDF).
2. Center for Food Safety, "Monarch Decline and GE Crops."
3. Monarch Joint Venture, "Pesticides" 2016 (Web).

Host Plants

FOR MONARCHS:

Milkweed

Preferred species for Fayetteville include:

- Butterfly Weed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
- Swamp Milkweed** (*Asclepias incarnata*)
- Common Milkweed** (*Asclepias syriaca*)
- Green Antelopehorn** (*Asclepias viridis*)

HOSTS FOR OTHER POLLINATORS:
(THESE VARIETIES CAN ALSO CAN ACT AS NECTAR PLANTS)

Asters

Perennial. Bloom in fall. Used in containers and beds. Also act as nectar plants.

False Indigo

Perennial. Blooms late spring. Used in containers and beds.

New Jersey Tea

Deciduous shrub. Blooms May-July.

Sunflower

Annual. Blooms July-September.

Nectar Plants

Bee Balm

Perennial. Bloom mid summer-fall. Used in containers, beds, and borders. Deer resistant.

Tall Blazing Stars

Perennial. Bloom throughout summer. Used in containers, borders, and beds.

Purple Coneflowers

Perennial. Bloom summer-fall. Used in containers, beds, and borders.

Missouri Ironweed

Perennial. Bloom July-October. Used in containers, beds, and borders. Deer resistant.

Buttonbush

Perennial shrub/small tree. Bloom June-Aug. Used for erosion control.

Woodland/Wild Phlox

Perennial. Bloom April-May. Low maintenance ground cover.



SAVE THE MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

(and their pollinator pals)

Take this brochure to learn about:

Pollinator decline

The Mayors' Monarch Pledge

Planting a pollinator-friendly garden





What are pollinators?

Pollinators are animals that carry pollen from one plant to another, causing plants to make fruit or seeds. Many animals act as pollinators including bats, rodents, and birds. Have you ever walked by a patch of flowers and realized you had pollen on your shoes? Humans can be pollinators too!

While all pollinators play important roles, this brochure will cover primarily the insect pollinators native to our region of the county including butterflies, moths, bees, and wasps. See why here [----->](#)

What can I do to help?

How do I plant a pollinator garden?

Learn more about the pollinator decline

Check out great resources like the US Forest Service¹, Monarch Watch², and the Monarch Joint Venture³.

Take the Pledge

The Monarch Pledge is a promise to create or restore monarch habitat in your community. Fayetteville's Mayor Lionel Jordan took the Pledge, committing our city to restoring habitat in parks and public lands. Find the Pledge online at the National Wildlife Federation website⁴.



Butterfly Weed
(*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Join in at local pollinator-friendly events

The City of Fayetteville's Parks and Recreation Department, the County Extension office, and Fayetteville Monarch Project host events that benefit pollinators including invasive species removals and native plant give aways. Attend or volunteer!



Green Antelopehorn
(*Asclepias viridis*)

Plant a pollinator garden

Fayetteville is located along a primary monarch flyway. By planting a pollinator garden, you can help maintain and improve this corridor for monarchs and other pollinators. You'll also be strengthening your local food systems and our economy.

First, plan your space

Look around for a sunny, wind-sheltered space. Most host and nectar plants need at least 6 hours of sunlight per day. Your garden can be any size and can easily be added to an existing plot; every new garden helps!

Next, pick some pollinator-friendly, native plants

Your garden should include **Host** and **Nectar** plants.



There is a list of plants on the back of this brochure that will help you pick native host and nectar plants in a variety of colors and shapes that both you and pollinators will enjoy!

Host plants are the nurseries of pollinator gardens

They provide shelter for pollinator eggs and nourishment for larval pollinators. Many insects are host-specific. The most important host plant for monarchs is **Milkweed**. Monarchs lay their eggs exclusively on milkweed plants. Check the back of this brochure for some beautiful, native milkweed varieties.



Female Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

Nectar plants provide food for adult pollinators

Nectar plants add color, style, and beauty to your garden while providing the nourishment that butterflies and other pollinators need to survive and thrive.

Choose plants that bloom in different seasons

This assures that pollinators have a food source during breeding times and migration, and will also bring a diversity of pollinators to your garden. Fall nectar plants are especially important for migrating monarchs.



Blazing Star
(*Liatris aspera*)

Choose plants that will be various heights when blooming

This creates "tiers" within your garden, improving visibility and keeping many different types of pollinators happy.

Grow Local, Grow Green

Check to make sure your plants are native, grown locally, and have not recently been treated with pesticides.

Finally... its time to plant!

Plant 3-5 of each plant together in a group. This technique creates splashes of color which will attract monarchs and other pollinators to your garden. In the first few weeks after planting, watch for rot or pest issues on your young plants.

Watch and Enjoy

Once the plants have established, keep an eye out for monarchs and other pollinators.

Have a camera handy to snap some pictures of the pollinators who visit your garden!



Monarch Pupa

CITATIONS

1. www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/
2. www.monarchwatch.org/
3. www.monarchjointventure.org/
4. www.nwf.org/Butterfly-Heroes/Pledge.aspx

Share photos of your garden or the pollinators that come to visit on Facebook or Instagram
@FayParksAndRec & @fyvgov



Photos of plants provided by Eric Hunt.

Photos of Monarchs provided by Monarch Watch.

This brochure was created by Fayetteville Monarch Project and the City of Fayetteville's Sustainability Department.