

Attracting Monarchs to Your Backyard with a Butterfly Oasis

For the true butterfly enthusiast, we've found the ultimate guide for creating the ideal destination for monarchs. If you own a plot of land or have access to a community garden, these tips and strategies will help you attract pollinators like monarch butterflies, honey bees and hummingbirds.



What you'll need:

- Compost
- Flowers
- Sunshine
- Milkweed
- Water
- Nectar

Step 1 Composting for Monarchs

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Place rotting fruit and sponges filled with lightly salted water throughout your garden. In addition to enriching the soil this creates a potent, irresistible aroma for attracting monarchs.

Step 2 Nectar Flowers

2



Make your garden reflect the monarch's natural habitat of prairies and valleys. Plant at least 4-5 different nectar flowers close together and vary by height. New England Aster, Smooth Beggartick, and Seaside Goldenrod are particularly attractive to monarchs. Ask your local gardening expert if these plants are native to your climate.

Step 3 More Sun, Less Wind

3



Survey your backyard or property for a flat, sunny, protected area. Ideally this is a spot with several hours of direct sunlight and minimal wind. Nearby shrubs, trees or lining your bed with a fence will protect your monarch friends.

Step 4 Monarch Butterflies Love Milkweed

4



Butterfly or Showy Milkweed can be used in most climates (consult your local gardening expert). Spread milkweed throughout your garden between other colorful flowers. Monarchs lay their eggs on milkweed so the more you plant, the better your chances of attracting monarchs.

Step 5 Help Thirsty Monarchs

5



Monarchs typically stay hydrated from dew, nectar and moist soil. Placing

"puddle stations" throughout your garden will make it a refreshing spot for monarch butterflies.

- Fill a 16-inch bowl with moist sand.
- Mix in a spoonful of compost (fruit, coffee grounds, etc.) and a pinch of salt.
- Dig a hole allowing the bowl to be flush with the soil.
- Add a few stones, shells or twigs on top.
- Keep your station damp and salted throughout the season.

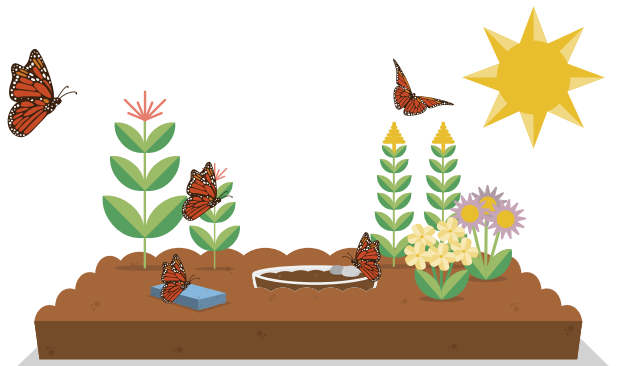
Step 6 Monarchs Love Sugar

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- Mix a ½ cup of sugar into 5 cups of boiling water.
- Let it cool.

- Pour mixture over a sponge until it's full but not overflowing.
- Place sponge in your pot or window box.
- Refresh weekly.



Nourishing Monarchs Together

As an agriculture company, we understand the importance of protecting habitats for monarch butterflies, birds, bees and other pollinators. We hope to continue to partner with fellow nature-lovers, conservationists, universities and farmers to create a more beautiful planet for all life to share. If we work together, share ideas and challenge ourselves, a bright future is ahead for both monarchs and people.

Learn more about our passion for protecting the monarch butterfly at [Discover.Monsanto.com](https://www.Discover.Monsanto.com)

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