

Help Save Monarch Butterflies in Your Yard



One of Ohio's favorite pollinating butterflies, our orange and black Monarch, may disappear due to rapid loss of habitat.

You can help save Monarchs by creating their habitats in your garden with beautiful flowers!

The Monarch population count needs to be a minimum of 6 to be stable (See graph below).

Experts think 2015 could be their last migration, meaning they would disappear from Ohio.

You can help save Monarchs!

The Monarch Caterpillar can eat only pesticide-free, native Milkweed.

Ninety percent of the Monarchs' summer homes have been in US farmlands

per [Monarch Watch](#). Corn and soybean seeds have been genetically modified to make the crops resistant to pesticides. This modification allows farmers to spray their entire farmland to kill all other plants, destroying those necessary for the Monarch habitat, including milkweed.

Plant 10 *Native Milkweed* plants (i.e. Common, Marsh/Swamp or Butterfly Weed, but not non-native [Tropical Milkweed](#)) and summer and late-blooming perennial nectar plants in the sun. Each Monarch's survival depends on anything from a large piece of land to a postage-size garden in the city. Here is a possible [garden design](#) and [gardening tips](#).

For more Monarch butterfly gardening information, see [Bring Ohio Butterflies to Your Yard](#) and page down through [Make Habitat for Monarchs](#). Water Milkweeds so leaves stay tender for Monarch caterpillars to chew. Here is an Ohio [starter native plant vendor list](#).

It works! Watch this short [YouTube video](#) of butterflies in an Ohio city yard to see a Monarch laying an egg under a leaf and Monarchs mating in a tree near the end of the video. Spread the word to create a no-spray, no-mow Monarch Trail. People created Bluebird Trails to save Bluebirds, so why not Monarch Trails?

Learn more at www.backyardhabitat.info or email naturescoop@backyardhabitat.info.

