

STEPS TO ENHANCE POLLINATOR HABITAT

1. Avoid mowing during the warmest parts of the afternoon when they are most active.
2. Provide fresh water in a safe location.
3. Allow dead branches/limbs to remain on the ground to provide habitat for ground-dwelling pollinators.
4. Grow multi-season, nectar-rich native plants and a diverse array of native trees and shrubs to support pollinator foraging.
5. Plant Oak trees because they support more pollinators than any other tree species.
6. Avoid pesticides and herbicides
7. Turn off outdoor lights after dark. If you must have lights, use yellow LED lights that don't blind or exhaust insects and moths.
8. Create a "no or low mow" zone in your yard. This will also save water, fuel, and time.



For more ideas visit:
www.dnr.maryland.gov/forests/documents/woodscaping.pdf



RECOMMENDED READING

Nature Play at Home: Creating Outdoor Spaces that Connect Children with the Natural World
 by Nancy Striniste

Nature's Best Hope: A New Approach to Conservation That Starts in Your Yard
 by Douglas W. Tallamy

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants
 by Douglas W. Tallamy

Pollinators of Native Plants: Attract, Observe and Identify Pollinators and Beneficial Insects with Native Plants
 by Heather N. Holm

Weedless Gardening: The Hassle-Free All-Organic System
 by Lee Reich

Kiss the Ground: How the Food You Eat Can Reverse Climate Change, Heal Your Body & Ultimately Save Our World
 by Josh Tickell

THIS PROJECT IS SUPPORTED BY

Harford County Climate Action
www.hcclimateaction.org



The Town of Bel Air Board of Town
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Bel Air Appearance and Beautification
 Committee; Bel Air Tree Committee

Greater Baltimore Group, Maryland Chapter,
 Sierra Club

Harford County Master Gardeners

Harford County Public Library



"BEL AIR FIVE"

	Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly
Monarch Butterfly	
	Great Spangled Fritillary Butterfly
Pipevine Swallowtail Butterfly	
	Unicorn Caterpillar Moth

Have we unintentionally been starving beloved wildlife?

Many of us enjoy watching wildlife in our yards: birds, squirrels, chipmunks, frogs and toads, foxes, even coyotes. This chain of life is dependent either directly or indirectly on insects and caterpillars. Native insects and pollinators can't get nourishment or raise their young on non-native plant species. If we plant only non-native plants, we are starving the wildlife we enjoy seeing!

Plant host plants in your yard.

You will be helping to save threatened species!

Then, submit photos of caterpillars, butterflies and moths that visit your garden later in the season. Identify the butterflies by uploading the photos to the free iNaturalist app. Your submitted identification photos are automatically recorded in the local Maryland Biodiversity Project database and become part of the official state registry of butterflies identified in Harford County.



Visit marylandbiodiversity.com to view the diverse species of Maryland.

HOST PLANTS

Each insect has very specific "host" plants. Planting native butterfly and pollinator host plants extends and replaces lost habitat. You can find many of these plants in local plant nurseries.

1. **Monarch** butterflies are completely reliant on milkweeds, including **Butterfly Weed**, *Asclepias tuberosa* (*not the Butterfly Bush!*)



2. **Silvery Checkerspot** butterflies use the **Ten-Petal Sunflower**, *Helianthus decapetalus* and *Wingstem*, *Verbesina alternifolia*.



3. **Pipevine Swallowtail** butterflies host plants include **Virginia Snakeroot**, *Endodeca serpentaria*.



4. **Great Spangled Fritillary** butterfly host plants include various species of violets including the **Arrow-leaved Violet**, *Viola sagittata* and **Common Blue Violet**.



5. **Unicorn Caterpillar Moth** host plants include **Hawthorn trees** and **New Jersey Tea** plants.



GARDEN CERTIFICATION

Some of the programs listed below will provide a sign and official certification for your pollinator-friendly garden. In addition, your waystation garden can be placed on both national and international maps!

Visit:

MyChesapeake.ClearChoicesCleanWater.org

MonarchWatch.org

HomegrownNationalPark.org

BeeCityUSA.org

Xerces.org

