BUTTIERFLY GARDENING BASICS

Plant Selection & Care

- Your region dictates the butterflies and moths you are likely to attract; as such, should determine which plants you choose.
- Let fallen leaves begin accumulating at the base of your plants. Leaving some leaves will provide habitat for ground-pupating caterpillars. This will also attract foraging lizards and birds, helping your local eco-system.
- Avoid all insecticides. Most kill indiscriminately, targeting pests as well as insects that are beneficial, and even your caterpillars.
- It is important to note that many "pests" play a role in your eco-system, and may be harmless to the caterpillars you are trying to attract.
- Many times, it is best to leave the insects alone as their natural predators provide the best insecticide.







Credits & Resources

- Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants 10459 Tuxford Street, Sun Valley, CA 91352, (818) 768-1802, theodorepayne.org
- Butterflies and Moths of North America, butterfliesandmoths.org
- · Monarch Watch, monarchwatch.org
- North American Butterfly Association, naba.org
- The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, xerces.org



