



# WAYSTATION CHECK-LIST

A butterfly garden, or waystation supplies food and shelter for all stages of a butterfly's life. You can create a habitat of your own and watch and the spectacular metamorphosis and migration. Become part of a community effort to help one of the great wonders of nature continue on for generations. Plant milkweed, save the monarchs!

Here's how to get started:

## 1. SIZE:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small (less than 200 sq. ft.) | <input type="checkbox"/> X-Large (1,000-4,999 sq. ft.)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medium (200-499 sq. ft.)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Colossal (more than 5,000 sq. ft.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Large (500-999 sq. ft.)       |   |

2. **EXPOSURE:** Butterflies as well as their host plants need lots of sun. Butterfly gardens should be located in an area that receive at least six hours of sun a day.

3. **DRAINAGE AND SOIL TYPE:** Plants will grow best in low clay soils and areas with good drainage to prevent root rot.

4. **PLANT MULTIPLE MILKWEED PLANTS:** A monarch waystation requires a minimum of 10 milkweed plants, preferably two or more species. Milkweeds that bloom at different times increase the chances for seeing monarchs over a longer period.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Milkweed | <input type="checkbox"/> Green Antelopehorn | <input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Milkweed    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Common Milkweed    | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Milkweed    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Milkweed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Desert Milkweed    | <input type="checkbox"/> Showy Milkweed     | <input type="checkbox"/> Whorled Milkweed  |

5. **PLANT A MINIMUM OF FOUR NECTAR PLANTS:** Providing nectar throughout the growing season will increase your chances of attracting monarchs as well as other butterflies and pollinators.

### Nectar Plants - Annuals or Biennials:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cosmos          | <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican Sunflower | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweet William   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French Marigold | <input type="checkbox"/> Pentas            | <input type="checkbox"/> Verbena/Vervain |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lantana         | <input type="checkbox"/> Porterweed        | <input type="checkbox"/> Zinnia          |

### Nectar Plants - Perennials:

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bee Balm         | <input type="checkbox"/> Catmint, Catnip | <input type="checkbox"/> New England Aster |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black-Eyed Susan | <input type="checkbox"/> Hollyhock       | <input type="checkbox"/> Purple Coneflower |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Bush   | <input type="checkbox"/> Joe-Pye Weed    | <input type="checkbox"/> Violet            |

## 6. MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:

- Add other features (e.g., fruit feeders, bee nesting boxes, other host plants, etc.)
- Eliminate the use of pesticides and herbicides
- Mulch around the base of plants to reduce the growth of weeds and retain water
- Use natural compost for fertilization