



# Wild for Monarchs

Butterfly gardeners show they care about the environment and their connection to nature. While providing food and shelter for monarchs and other pollinators, they also help to conserve native plants, reduce habitat fragmentation and increase biodiversity. Healthy ecosystems directly affect our food, water and air quality.



[wildones.org](http://wildones.org)

## *Native Plants Matter*

Butterflies and moths depend predominantly on native plants as their larval host plants. In the case of monarchs, milkweed species are critical for their survival. Whenever possible, grow local genotype native plants that have co-evolved in their native

habitats with other plants and wildlife, such as insect pollinators. Local genotype native plants are vigorous and hardy. Adapted to their region, they can survive winter cold and summer heat. The deep roots of native plants, especially those of prairie plants, trees and shrubs, hold soil, control erosion and withstand droughts. Native plants, once established, require little watering and better tolerate native pests. To prevent the local extinction of native flora, plants should be purchased from reputable nurseries and not dug from natural areas.

Collect native milkweed seed and encourage others to grow milkweeds. Details: [wildones.org/learn/wild-for-monarchs](http://wildones.org/learn/wild-for-monarchs)

Local genotype guidelines: [wildones.org/learn/native-plants-and-landscaping/local-ecotype-guidelines](http://wildones.org/learn/native-plants-and-landscaping/local-ecotype-guidelines)

**“Without milkweeds  
there can be no monarchs”**

**— Douglas W. Tallamy**



# JOIN THE Wild for Monarchs CAMPAIGN

NEED MORE MILKWEEDS? Contact local native plant growers or your local Wild Ones chapter for information on their plant sales. Local Wild Ones chapter contact: [wildones.org/connect](http://wildones.org/connect)



Monarch Watch's Bring Back the Monarchs Program:

[monarchwatch.org/bring-back-the-monarchs](http://monarchwatch.org/bring-back-the-monarchs)

Native butterfly host and nectar plant lists: [wildones.org](http://wildones.org)

Wild Ones Butterfly sign: [wildones.org/learn/wild-for-monarchs](http://wildones.org/learn/wild-for-monarchs)

Monarch Waystation sign: [monarchwatch.org](http://monarchwatch.org)

North American Butterfly Assoc. sign: [naba.org](http://naba.org)

