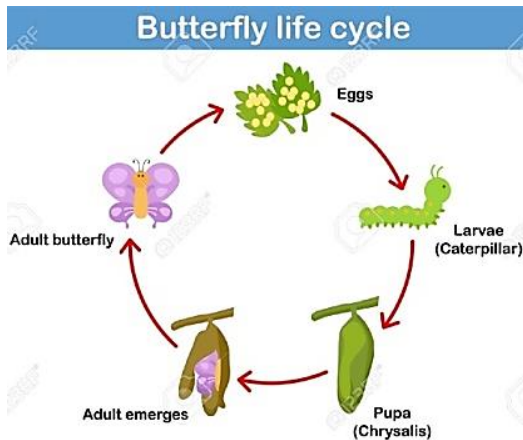


THE STAGES OF A BUTTERFLY



A butterfly starts its life as an egg. The Larva (Caterpillar) hatches from the egg and eats leaves and flowers, continually. The Caterpillar molts (loses their skin) several times as they grow. The Caterpillar then turns into a Pupa (chrysalis). This is also known as the resting stage. The adult butterfly emerges from the Pupa and flies away. The butterfly does not grow in this stage but will continue the cycle and reproduce.



MONARCH FUN FACTS

- ~Monarch butterflies typically live from 2 to 6 weeks except for the last generation of the year, which can live up to 8 to 9 months.
- ~Female Monarchs can lay up to 300 eggs in their lifetime.
- ~A Monarch caterpillar will gain about 2,700 times its original weight.

Tioga County Youth Butterfly-Lifecycle Curriculum Enrichment & Certified Wildlife Habitat Garden Project

Project grant awarded to the Carantouan Greenway by the Floyd Hooker Estate Fund of the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers (2015), for:

Lifecycle Curriculum Supplies

- *Custom butterfly cages*
- *Books, DVDs, Posters*
- *Guest speaker*
- *Resource development*

Butterfly Garden Supplies

- *Garden development*
- *Native pollinator plants*
- *Nesting box*
- *Birdbath and feeder*



**Carantouan Greenway, Waverly
Central Schools &
Waverly Little League**

www.carantouangreenway.org
www.waverlyschools.com/
www.waverlylittleleague.com

WHY DO BUTTERFLIES MATTER?

In cooperation with
Carantouan Greenway, Waverly
Central Schools and
Waverly Little League



"NO GARDEN TRULY BLOOMS UNTIL
BUTTERFLIES HAVE DANCED UPON IT."

~K. D'ANGELO



WHY ARE BUTTERFLIES IMPORTANT?

Butterflies are known for their beauty, but they are also very important for our world's food supply. Butterflies are pollinators. Pollinators visit flowers in search of food, shelter, mates, and nest building materials. The secret bond of the partnership is that neither plant nor pollinator populations can survive in isolation – should one disappear, the other may be one generation from disaster.

WHAT IS POLLINATION?

Pollination is the act of moving pollen grains from the male anther of the flower to the female stigma. Successful pollination allows plants to produce seeds. Seeds are needed to produce the next generation of plants, which will provide food for the next generation of pollinators and wildlife.

More than 80% of all plants need a pollinator to distribute pollen and set fruit and seeds. While butterflies perch on flower heads to hunt for nectar, they collect pollen on their legs and body. As they flutter and fly between flowers the pollen falls off and is distributed between plants.



WHY SHOULD WE HELP?

Pollination is not just fascinating but it is also essential for our survival and all ecological function. Without pollinator's, the human race and all of Earth's ecosystems would not survive. So next time you see a butterfly, bee, bat, or any pollinator, thank them!

HOW CAN WE HELP?

The best way to help in the survival of butterflies is by planting Butterfly Gardens. Not only are they beautiful to enjoy, but they will allow for a safe and welcoming place for butterflies to live and eat. A successful butterfly garden must provide food, water, and shelter for each stage of a butterfly's life; egg, caterpillar, and butterfly. A source of nectar should be continually available so be sure to plant flowers and bushes that bloom during the Spring, Summer, and Autumn.

Wildlife Habitat Certification

The local gardens planted by the Carantouan Greenway at Muldoon Gardens and Lincoln St-Little League, will be certified by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), as Wildlife Habitats. To learn how to obtain certification for your own garden, visit:

<http://www.nwf.org/CertifiedWildlifeHabitat>

BUTTERFLY GARDEN TIPS

When planting a Butterfly Garden, you should focus on providing plants for each stage of a butterfly's life.

Caterpillar Host Plants

- Milkweed
- Hollyhock
- Willow
- Clover
- Hibiscus

Nectar Plants for Adult Butterflies

- Butterfly Bush
- Coneflower
- Phlox
- Goldenrod
- Black Eyed Susan
- Monarda -Bee Balm

Visit the Butterflies-Pollinators-Resource link on the Carantouan Greenway website, for more!



For more information, contact tpipher@carantouangreenway.org