

## Tips for a Butterfly Garden

**Choose a sunny spot.** Most flowers need sun to bloom and the butterflies like the warmth.

**Use native plants.** These are plants that have always grown in your area.

**Include nectar flowers.** Red, yellow, purple, pink and orange are favorite colors of butterflies. Wide flat flower heads are best.

**Group plants in masses,** and try to have something blooming all season.

**Choose host plants for caterpillars.**

**Also add shrubs or grasses** for shelter.

**Provide a resting place.** Smooth flat stones are nice.

**Add a shallow dish with water** and sand which contain helpful minerals and adults can drink water.

**Do not use pesticides** in your butterfly garden.



### Web resources:

<http://www.thebutterflysite.com>

[www.monarchsacrossga.org](http://www.monarchsacrossga.org)

<http://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch>

[www.learner.org/jnorth](http://www.learner.org/jnorth)

[www.gardenswithwings.com](http://www.gardenswithwings.com)

[www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklist](http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklist)

<http://www.agr.georgia.gov/create-a-garden-to-attract-butterflies.aspx>

## About Us

Located within the heart of Johns Creek, Autrey Mill Nature Preserve and Heritage Center is a beautiful 46 acre property. Our mission is to create a destination and educational resource that inspires exploration, appreciation and preservation of the natural environment and local history.

Experience the quiet pleasure of observing native plants and animals in their natural environment along nearly 3 miles of walking trails.

Discover local history in our Heritage Village.

Join us for educational programs including hands-on learning for all ages.

### *Consider volunteering or becoming a member*

Autrey Mill is a 501(c)(3) organization. It depends on grants, corporate sponsorships, and individual donations from members and guests. Your tax deductible contributions allow us to continue to offer quality educational programming.

For more information, please visit: [www.autreymill.org](http://www.autreymill.org)

### Acknowledgments:

Autrey Mill thanks the volunteers and community members who help to maintain our butterfly garden and extends special thanks to Monarchs Across Georgia for their role in enabling us to educate our visitors about the importance of the Monarch butterfly and its cousins who help pollinate our food sources .



## AUTREY MILL LOVES BUTTERFLIES

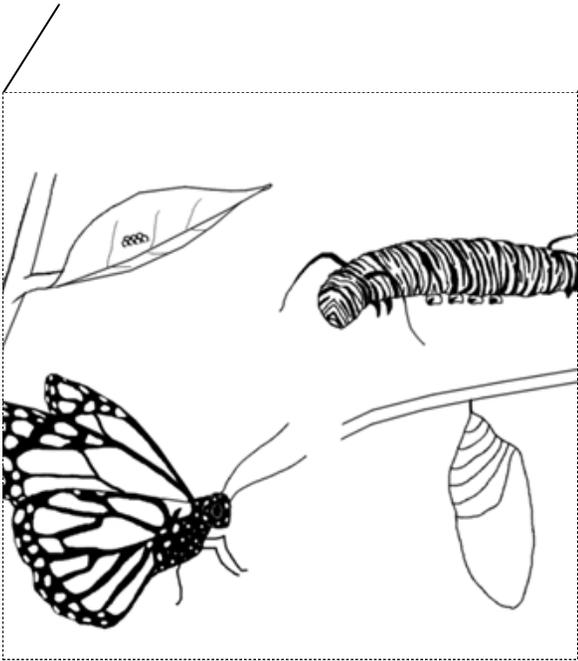
*And hummingbird and bees!*



**AUTREY MILL**  
NATURE PRESERVE  
HERITAGE CENTER

# The Butterfly Life Cycle

1. Adult : 2-4 weeks
2. Egg: 3-5 days
3. Caterpillar (larva): 2-12 weeks
4. Chrysalis (pupa): 7-10 days



## Why are Butterflies Important?

Seventy five percent (75%) of flowers require pollination. This includes the flowers that produce fruits and grains we use as food.

Fifty pollinator species are now threatened or endangered. There are so few adults, that, if things do not improve, the species will someday no longer exist.

In 2013, the monarch butterfly population fell by 40%.

How To Help? Create a Butterfly Garden!

The butterfly garden at Autrey Mill was first planted in 2015, and has continued to improve with a grant from Butterflies Across Georgia and the help of many volunteers. Join us! (Go to [www.autreymill.org](http://www.autreymill.org) for more information)



Adult butterflies sip nectar, a sugary liquid found within some flowers, with a mouth-part shaped like a straw (proboscis). As they fly from plant to plant, they carry pollen, allowing the plant to reproduce. This is called pollination. Along with bees, birds and other insects, the butterflies are important pollinators. They lay eggs on host plants. When the eggs hatch, the caterpillars will eat the plants. They will form a chrysalis, which protects the caterpillar as their bodies change into the adult butterfly form.

## Parts of a Butterfly

