



Evergreen Garden Club

WILD IRIS

APRIL 2019



NEXT MEETING
TUESDAY
April 9, 2019

BERGEN PARK FIRE
HOUSE

9:00 a.m. Social
9:30 a.m. Meeting

EGC APRIL PROGRAM

*NATIVES FOR
YEAR-ROUND INTEREST*

*Presented by
IRENE SHONE*



Evergreen Garden Club Minutes March 12, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Carol Herczeg. Board members present were Cherie Luke, Kris Waggoner, Cindy Gibson and Susan Garcia. Forty-one members were in attendance.

Welcoming Committee

Louise Sprot introduced the new members Nancy Woodson, Jessica Pickard and Marlo Griesser to our group.

President's Report

Carol Herczeg briefly reviewed our mission statement.

The club sang "Happy Birthday" to our members born in March.

Carol opened up the discussion on Charitable Giving. The Charitable Giving Committee members have recommended that we donate \$250.00 to EAS+Y. \$1,000.00 was originally requested. Kris stated that because we are deferring our tour for another year, the funds should be held in reserve for our budget. Individuals that served on the committee stated that because the request for funds did not state a specific purpose and because there was a possibility that part of the funds could be used for reimbursing a paid EAS+Y employee, they were not comfortable in approving the entire amount. Mary Dickoff encouraged members to visit the Buchanan Park and Buffalo Park community gardens to see the good work that EAS+Y does for our community. A vote was held and the club agreed to donate the recommended amount of \$250.00.

Carol encouraged members to step up and volunteer for the open board positions.

First Vice President's Report

Cherie Luke described her job position of arranging for speakers throughout the year. She has a notebook that details what she does and is happy to meet with anyone who is interested.

Second Vice President's Report

Mary Twombly described her job position of maintaining the membership files. She has streamlined the paperwork process and is happy to pass along her knowledge.

Treasurer's Report

Kris Waggoner gave the budget report for the club. Currently, there is \$2,986.00 in our checking account and \$22,857.00 in the saving's account.

Kris apologized to the first-time new members who joined after January 1 who should have received a 50% discount on their dues. She will refund the three individuals to which this applies. One of these individuals has chosen to donate her refund to the club. Kris presented the board's decision to change the bylaws so that first time new members joining after April 1st will receive a 50% discount.

A question was asked about the decision to delay the garden tour for a year. It was explained that due to the success of the last tour, we would have sufficient funds to fulfill the budget for an extra year (as of March 5, 2019, \$7,234.00 is budgeted to cover this year's expenses). In addition, the committee had a hard time finding 6 gardens that would be suitable for the tour. By allowing an extra year for some of the gardens that were not selected to mature would be helpful.

**Evergreen Garden Club Minutes (Continued)
March 12, 2018**

Treasurer's Report (Continued)

Helen McLeman will continue Kris's good work in the Treasurer's position for the next two years.

Secretary's Report

Cindy Gibson asked for approval of the February minutes as printed in the Wild Iris. The minutes were approved without additions or corrections.

The Secretary's position will also be open at the end of the year, and Cindy is happy to coach anyone interested and to pass along the Secretary's notebook.

Hospitality Committee

Annell passed around a sign-up sheet for treats for our April meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Cherie introduced Pete Biggam, who spoke on "Waking up your Soil after a Long Winter's Slumber."

Next month's presentation will be "Natives for Year-Round Interest".

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Gibson, Secretary
Evergreen Garden Club

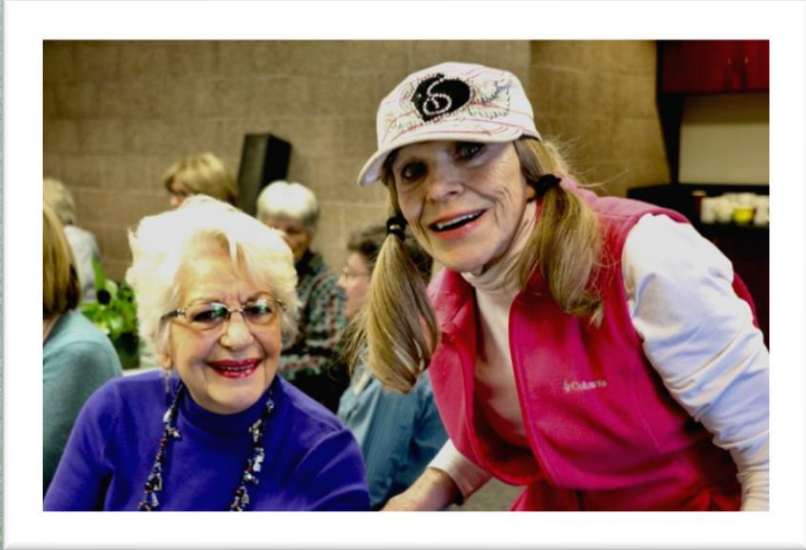
**A BIG 'THANK YOU' to Susan Blake
for preserving the memory of EGC
by providing us with her beautiful
pictures every month!**



Photo by Paul Luzetski



**EVERGREEN GARDEN CLUB
MARCH MEETING
2019**



Pictures by Susan Blake



EGC MARCH PROGRAM WAKING UP YOUR SOIL FOR SPRING

Presented by: Pete Biggam
Soil Scientist



Pictures by Susan Blake

Other Organic Soil Amendments

BioChar

- Organic matter that is burned very slowly under low oxygen conditions to yield that yields a product with "sponge-like" qualities - "Activated Charcoal"
- Stimulates growth and development of beneficial soil fungi
- Greatly improves nutrient and water storage capacity and soil tilth
- Works best when used in conjunction with composted manures and other amendments

Other Organic Soil Amendments

Soil MicroBiotics

Similar in function to the probiotics human take, these help the "soil digestive process" and improve nutrient cycling, availability and uptake by plant roots.

Great for use with planting mix in container gardens !!!

TRULY ADVANCING BIOTICS

2010 ProBiotic

2016 TruBiotic

Greater Results!

WORM CASTINGS ARE A "WORMS" SOIL CONDITIONER

- Extremely rich in beneficial microbial life and essential organic nutrients and humus and works with clay minerals to store macro and micronutrients in the soil and make these available to plants
- Can be directly added to garden bed soils and container mixes without fear of "nutrient burn"
- Works great as an ingredient in compost teas and cocktails



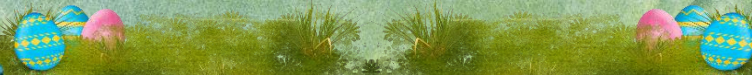
Best Wishes
to all of our
EGC April
Birthday Girls!
And Guys!



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

LINDA CHAPPELL
LAURIE BLOHM
CATHY KOWALSKI
CHRISTINE HART

First time new members joining on or after April 1st of
each year will pay half of the full-year's dues = \$15.00





Green zucchini, yellow crooknecks, and pattypan, all summer squash are tasty, early bearing and easy to grow, especially if you use good organic methods. But with even the best of crops, things can go wrong. Here are some problems to anticipate and ways to prevent and correct them if they occur.

WHY DO I HAVE A LOT OF FLOWERS, BUT NO FRUIT?

This is perfectly natural with squash plants. Every plant produces male and female flowers, but only females produce fruit. If you peer inside the huge butter- yellow trumpets, you'll see that males have a column of fused anthers, whereas females have a gold-crowned pistil (photo, right). But the clearest difference is in the stems. Male stems are long and slender; female ones are short, thick, and quick to form a bulb (the beginning of a squash). Sometimes, at first, plants will produce only male flowers or only female flowers, but these will even out.





*MY LEAVES ARE SPECKLED AND
BEGINNING TO BLACKEN.
WHAT CAUSES THIS?*

This is probably damage caused by the squash bug (photo above), an oval gray-brown insect that sucks juices from the leaves and stems. As with any pest, crop rotation is the first line of defense. Avoid planting squash in a spot where it (or its relatives, such as pumpkin, cucumber, and melon) has grown the previous year or two. You can also discourage the overwintering of squash bugs by keeping the garden plot clean of debris where larvae can hide. Search the underside of young leaves for reddish eggs, and rub them off. Pick off and squish or drown the larvae and the adults – a task that is not too daunting with a modest planting (which is usually all you need with squash).



*I HAVE FRUIT THAT SHRIVELS UP AND DIES.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?*

The problem likely occurs because of inadequate pollination. In the morning, when the flowers are open, look to see if bees are flying in and out of the flowers; if not, there are likely not enough nectar-bearing flowers around to bring in bee traffic. Plant more! I'm partial to native plants, but for early bloom, I'd recommend planting catmint (*Nepeta* spp. and cvs) and lavender (*Lavendula* spp. and cvs). Keep all insecticides out of your garden, and inspire your neighbors to do the same. Meanwhile, you can hand-pollinate a squash blossom by stroking the anthers of a male flower with a tiny paintbrush or cotton swab, then stroking the top of a female's pistil to transfer the pollen.



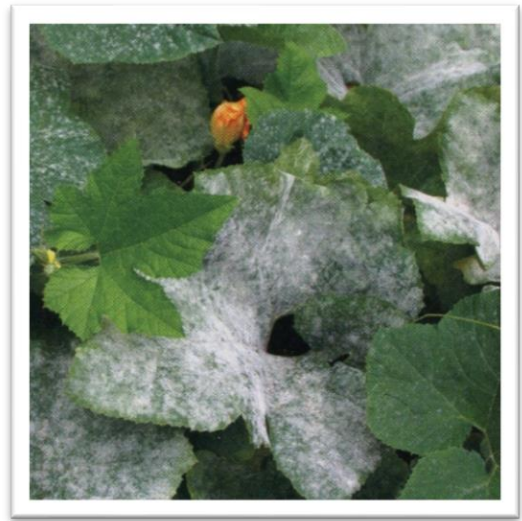
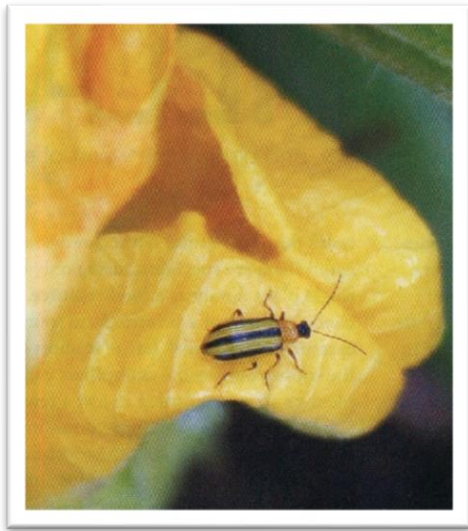


A squash vine borer causes stems to wilt. This nemesis of squash plants can decimate a plant in no time. One telltale sign includes a flattened plant right next to a healthy one (left). Cut open the stem of the problem plant to locate the culprit (above).

WHY DOES MY PLANT WILT DURING THE DAY EVEN THOUGH IT HAS SUFFICIENT WATER?

The squash vine borer could be the culprit here, a caterpillar that feeds inside a squash plant's stem, shutting off its water supply. To know for sure, look at the base of the stems near the ground for sawdust-like deposits. A last-ditch maneuver is to slit the stem just enough to probe and remove the creature (or creatures). The plant may re-root, carry on with life, and bear fruit if you mound soil over the wounded part of the stem. But if you have recurrent problems with borers, your best bet is to grow extra vigorous plants with rich compost; use row covers (until pollination time) to exclude the moths that produce the caterpillars; and have a series of new, young squash plants coming along as replacements. You might also try one of the vining heirloom Italian summer squashes, such as 'Zuchetta Rampicante'. These have solid stems into which no caterpillar may crawl.





MY PLANT HAS STRIPED BUGS ALL OVER IT. WHAT ARE THEY, AND WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT THEM?

IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO ABOUT WHAT LOOKS LIKE MOLD ON MY PLANT?

This pest might be called the striped cucumber beetle, but it likes the whole cucurbit family – squash included – so crop rotation is important here, too. The beetle feeds on all parts of the plant but is even more destructive as a carrier of diseases, namely bacterial wilt and squash mosaic virus. It’s also hard to pick off because it is small and lively. Early in the morning when it’s heavy with dew, it moves slowly, so you can use a shop vacuum to suction it away; the slot attachment is easiest on the plants. Spreading a well-anchored row cover over the plants will also exclude this and other pests, though it must be removed at flower time to allow pollination.

If what you see on the leaves is whitish, it’s powdery mildew a common affliction for many plants in warm, humid weather. If it’s yellowish, then it’s downy mildew, which favors weather that is cool and moist. If either are frequent problems, look for resistant squash varieties when you buy seeds or transplants; then give the plants plenty of air circulation. Some gardeners swear by a solution of milk and water as a foliar spray; baking soda dissolved in water has its fans too. Remove spent plants promptly.



GROWING SQUASH

The basics for a healthy plant

GROW IN YOUR SUNNIEST SPOT. Squash plants require full sun, at least six hours per day.

START WITH GREAT SOIL. Use fertile, dark, cookie-crumb soil, rich in organic matter. Dig in lots of good compost to help ward off diseases and pests—the healthier the soil, the more resistant plants are to both. Squash also needs trace minerals, so work in a powdered source, like greensand, or top-dress with a liquid seaweed fertilizer.

PLANT WHEN THE SOIL HAS WARMED. Squash needs soil that is at least 62°F for direct sowing. Sow several seeds in clusters 2 feet apart, then thin each to the strongest seedling. You can start transplants indoors, but they should be no more than three weeks old when you plant them outside; otherwise, they may be too stretched to develop into a healthy plant.

PROVIDE CONSISTENT WATER. Using a drip line or soaker hose will help keep the foliage dry and disease-free.

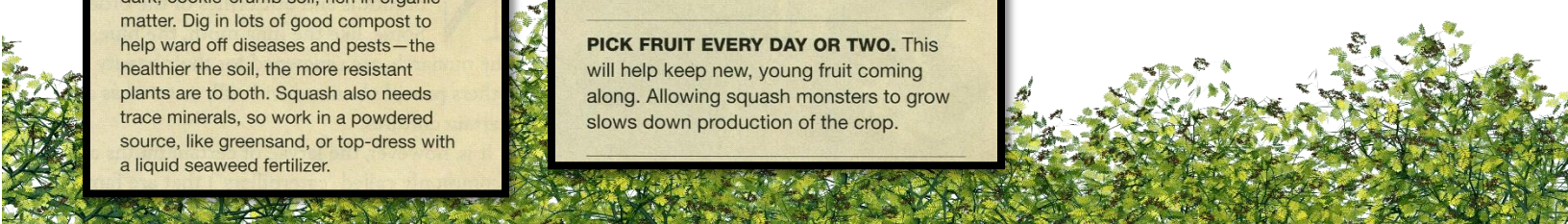
KEEP PLANTS WELL WEEDED. This is especially true when the squash plants are young and have not fully leafed out. The plants might not be able to handle competition from weeds at this stage.

PICK FRUIT EVERY DAY OR TWO. This will help keep new, young fruit coming along. Allowing squash monsters to grow slows down production of the crop.



PLANT IN SUCCESSION. Plant continually from early summer to midsummer so that you’ll always have fresh, vigorous young fruit that is compact and easy to pick.

REMOVE FINISHED PLANTS. This will help break pest and disease cycles, and keep the garden free of sprawling vines, which smother nearby crops.



Hummers are here!

Every April that familiar buzz makes us smile! After their long journey from wintering in warmer climates, the Broad-tailed and Rufous hummingbirds are now frantically searching for food. Male hummingbirds arrive first to establish their territories; a good food source helps them choose a desirable site.

We're in luck since they generally nest at elevations above 6,000 feet! No need to buy the powdered hummingbird nectar mix – instead, make homemade hummingbird nectar. **All you need is 4 parts water to 1-part white granulated table sugar – boil the water, stir in the sugar until completely dissolved, and let it cool.**

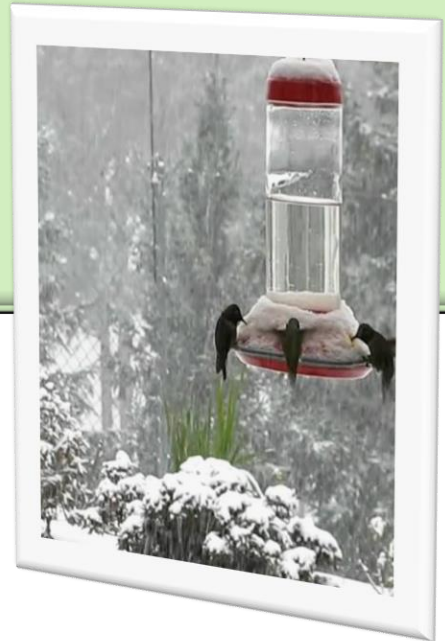
Adding more sugar DOES NOT HELP the hummers; in fact, too much sugar can cause liver damage. Don't use dye, food coloring or commercial nectars – they have chemicals the birds don't need and could be harmful. DO NOT USE HONEY – it will quickly ferment and become poisonous to the birds. Make sure your feeder has some red trim to attract them, and keep feeders clean. Of course, there are many native wildflowers that they are attracted to as well; feel free to contact me for more information.

Christine M. Crouse
Director/Agent, CSU Extension in Clear Creek County
303-679-2424 (Office)

Christine.crouse@colostate.edu



A note from CSU CCC Extension



Note to self: Bring feeders in at night!





C'mon Ladies and Gentlemen, it's time to step up!
We cannot keep Evergreen Garden Club going strong without your help!
Volunteers are needed for the following Board and Committee Positions
Try it; you'll like it!

First Vice President (contact Cherie Luke cherie7651@gmail.com for details or questions)
Second Vice President (contact Mary Twombly twomblyfam@aol.com for details or questions)
Secretary (contact Cindy Gibson clgibson426@gmail.com for details or questions)
Technology Officer (contact Susan Garcia blueberrypilot@yahoo.com for details)
Hospitality (contact Louise Sprout louise.sprot@me.com for details or questions)
Photographer/Historian (contact Susan Blake shb@cybermesa.com for details or questions)



All about butterflies

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: This article was taken from a back issue of *Garden Gate's Great Beds & Borders*. I especially liked it because almost all of the plants listed are cold zones 3 and 4; and while not necessarily native, are known to thrive at higher altitudes. Please note, however, a couple of the many varieties listed are on Colorado's noxious weeds 'most wanted' list. They can be easily substituted for a similar and/or 'safer' variety!



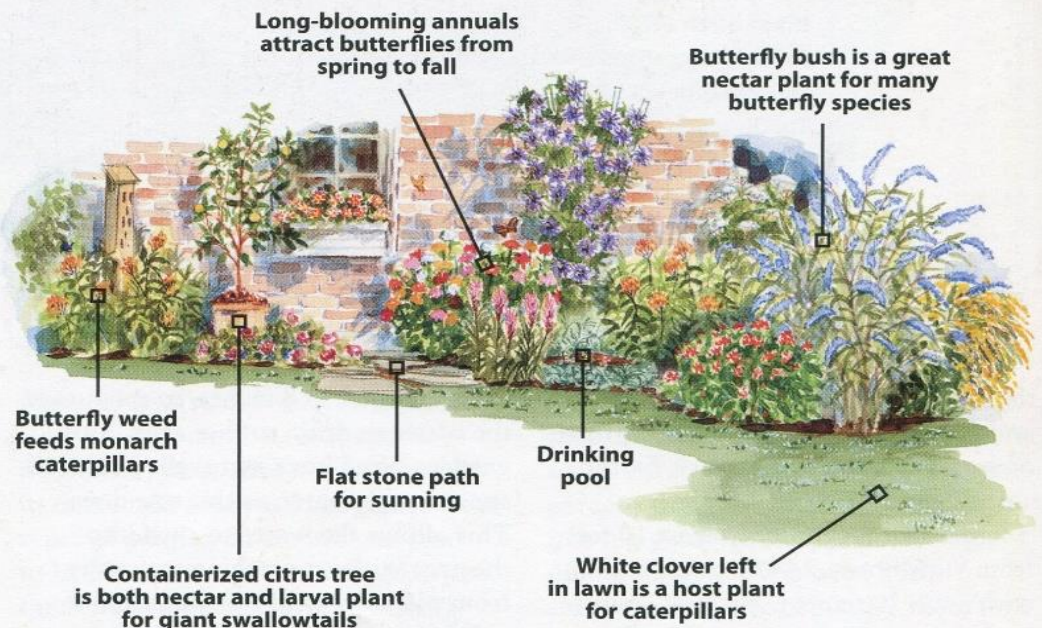
GREAT PLANTS

- A Globe thistle** *Echinops ritro*
Blue flowers in midsummer; 3 to 5 ft. tall, 2 to 3 ft. wide; cold zones 4 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1
- B Tall garden phlox** *Phlox paniculata*
Range of colors in midsummer; 2 to 4 ft. tall, 2 to 3 ft. wide; cold zones 4 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1
- C Purple coneflower** *Echinacea purpurea*
Range of colors in mid- to late summer; 2 to 4 ft. tall, 2 ft. wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1
- D Black-eyed Susan** *Rudbeckia* spp.
Yellow flowers in mid- to late summer; 1 to 3 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1

 Attracts butterflies

BUTTERFLY ATTRACTION

It doesn't take lots of room to create a butterfly garden. Here's a look at a small garden that'll attract all kinds of butterflies. Tucked in next to a garage wall, it's warm and sheltered, contains a range of plants that'll attract butterflies and has a few butterfly bonuses that'll keep them visiting from spring to fall. In the next few pages, you can read more in-depth information on all these points, plus tips on how to work them into your own garden.





HAVING IT ALL This sunny, restful garden has just about all the things you need to attract butterflies: Shelter provided by tall perimeter plants and a wall, stepping stones for sunning, and a rich variety of plants. Oh, and a bench allows the gardener to rest and enjoy the garden, too! With all these plants, many of them tall, this space could feel almost junglelike. But notice how the plantings get shorter as they get closer to the path? It allows you to see all the way to the bench. That gives a feeling of space so the garden doesn't seem cluttered or claustrophobia-inducing.

GREAT PLANTS

- A Zebra grass** *Miscanthus sinensis 'Zebrinus'*; Grown for horizontally striped foliage; 5 to 8 ft. tall, 4 to 6 ft. wide; cold zones 5 to 9; heat zones 9 to 11
- B Oxeye sunflower** *Heliopsis helianthoides* Yellow flowers in summer; 3 to 6 ft. tall, 2 to 4 ft. wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1
- C Butterfly weed** *Asclepias tuberosa* Orange flowers in summer; 12 to 30 in. tall, 12 to 18 in. wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1
- D Corneliancherry dogwood** *Cornus mas* Yellow flowers in early spring; 15 to 20 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 4 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1
- E Lavender** *Lavandula* hybrid Purple or white flowers in early summer; 1 to 2 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 5 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1

BUTTERFLY WELCOME Of course, butterfly plants are important, but we'll get into that later. First, let's take a look at other factors that'll keep butterflies happy.

Shelter Butterflies need protection from the wind, so provide a windbreak. It could be a hedge or a group of large shrubs, or even a privacy fence. Tucking your butterfly garden up next to a garage or house wall works well, too.

Light Butterflies' wings need to be dry and warm for them to fly well, and for that they need sunlight and a resting spot. That's why you'll see them sitting in the sun, opening and closing their wings. A couple of warm, dry flat rocks, or even a sidewalk, will give them a place to rest and warm up.

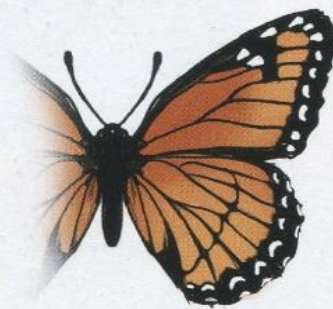
Drinking pools This might not be the drinking fountain a human would choose, but butterflies drink from mud puddles, not open water. In addition to moisture, they take in salts and nutrients from the wet mud. It's easy to create a permanent butterfly "mud puddle" in your garden. Just sink a big plastic saucer in the ground, fill it with half sand and half composted manure, and keep the mixture wet. If you want to really please the butterflies, top it with an overripe banana. Sounds terrible to humans, but the butterflies will love it!

KEEP IT SAFE One last thing to keep in mind in a butterfly garden: Avoid pesticides, even the organic ones, as they can harm both the adult butterflies and the caterpillars. Your best bets for pest control are to handpick pests from plants, or spot-treat specific areas with an insecticidal soap. Birds, bees and beneficial insects will thank you, too.

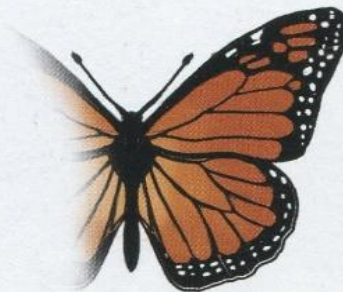


WHO'S WHO?

PHOTO: Donna and Tom Kriscchan



Viceroy



Monarch



Queen

There's nothing more embarrassing than having a visitor in your garden and not recognizing him or her! And it can be difficult to distinguish between the three butterflies below, especially since their habitat ranges overlap. Viceroys and monarchs (that's a monarch above) are found in most of the United States and southern Canada, while queen butterflies are found in the southwestern United States.

Viceroys are a little smaller than the other two, and you'll notice a prominent horizontal vein on their lower wings. The wing veins of queen butterflies are less noticeable than on the viceroy or monarch.

Scientists used to assume that the viceroy colors and pattern mimicked that of the monarch. Monarchs taste bad to birds, so if birds couldn't tell the difference, they'd leave the viceroy alone. But further research shows that all three taste bad to birds, so they all benefit from looking alike. Birds associate those colors and markings with an unappetizing mouthful, so they'll leave all three butterflies alone. That's a pretty impressive trick!

(Photo above)

A Joe-Pye weed *Eupatorium purpureum*
Pink, white or purple flowers in late summer to fall; 5 to 7 ft. tall, 2 to 4 ft. wide; cold zones 4 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1

SIMPLY STRIKING A drift of purple dame's rocket and giant alliums, both good spring butterfly plants, proves that sometimes simple is best — this garden would still be pretty with multiple colors, but a single-color theme is striking and memorable. To keep this sweep going for years, keep in mind that dame's rocket is a biennial or a short-lived perennial that reseeds readily. You can deadhead it for a small rebloom, but be sure to let some of the flower heads remain so the plants can form seeds.

GREAT PLANTS

A Dame's rocket *Hesperis matronalis*
 Pink, purple or white flowers in midspring;
 1 to 3 ft. tall, 1 to 2 ft. wide; cold zones 3 to 8;
 heat zones 8 to 1

B Giant allium *Allium giganteum*
 Purple flowers in midspring; 3 to 5 ft. tall, 1 to
 2 ft. wide; cold zones 5 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1



ROYAL PURPLE What could be more welcome than a last burst of color in the garden, especially if it helps attract butterflies? These low-growing purple asters, plus the lamb's ear and bergenia in front of them, attract your eye to the front of the border and away from the taller, spent plants in the back. But don't worry too much about cleanup — you can leave some plants standing for some winter interest. Sedum seedheads look great with a dusting of snow!

GREAT PLANTS

A Tall sedum *Sedum* spp.
 Pink flowers in late summer to fall; 12
 to 24 in. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 9;
 heat zones 9 to 1

B New England aster *Aster novae-angliae*
 Range of colors in late summer to fall; 18
 to 72 in. tall, 2 to 3 ft. wide; cold zones 5
 to 8, heat zones 8 to 1

C Bergenia *Bergenia cordifolia*
 Pink spring flowers; 12 to 18 in. tall and
 wide; cold zones 3 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1

D Lamb's ear *Stachys byzantina*
 Velvety silver-gray foliage; 9 to 18 in. tall,
 12 to 18 in. wide; cold zones 4 to 8; heat
 zones 8 to 1

SPRING, SUMMER, FALL Planning for a three-season butterfly garden isn't all that different from planning any three-season garden. The main goal is to have something blooming all the time, from early spring to late fall. Now, it's certainly easier in midsummer, when many plants are in bloom, and that's when butterflies are most active and need the food most. But look at the list of eight spring butterfly plants at right, as well as the photos on these pages, for some ideas for plants that'll keep the butterflies happy in spring and fall, as well. Fall feeding is especially important for species like monarchs, which migrate farther south in the fall — they'll need the energy to complete their journey.

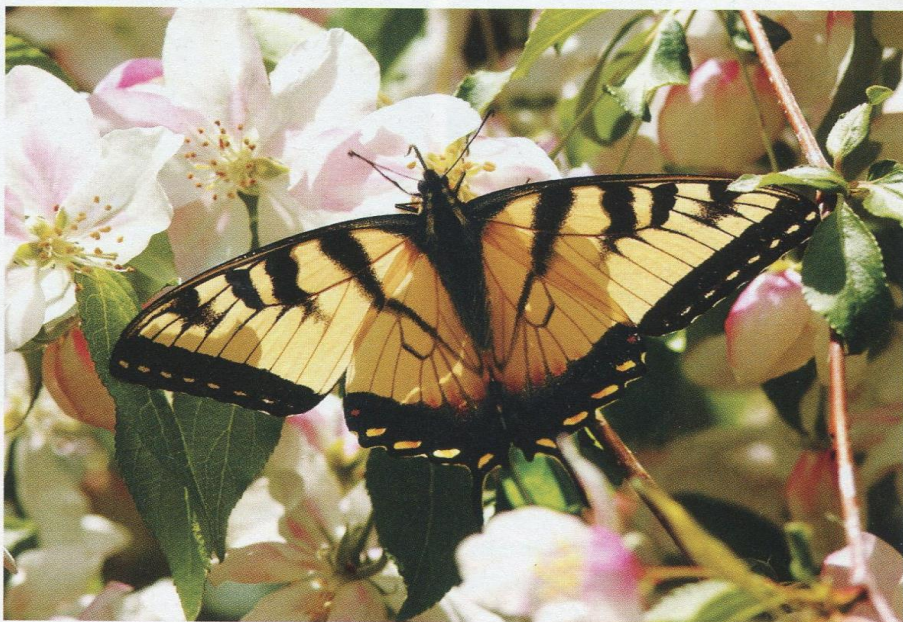
COLOR COUNTS Butterflies don't have good eyesight, so very bright-colored flowers are best for attracting them. That's why most butterfly gardens are out-of-this-world colorful. Another helpful hint: Plant flowers in groups, like the swathe of alliums and dame's rocket in the top photo at left. Those masses of a single color are easier for butterflies to spot than a few scattered plants.

Mix up the flower shapes, too. Butterflies feed by poking a slender feeding tube into flowers. So it's easy for them to feed from open, flat flowers, like the sedums at left, or daisy-shaped flowers, like the purple asters in the same photo. Those flat surfaces are also easier for the butterflies to land upon. But a few spike-shaped flowers won't hurt — the butterflies can feed on them, and your eyes will enjoy some contrasting shapes in the garden, as well. And of course, not everything in a butterfly garden has to be a butterfly plant. Those big-leaved bergenias and soft, silvery lamb's ear hide the asters' bare stems, and create a pleasing edging to this showy fall border, too.

EIGHT SPRING BUTTERFLY PLANTS

It's easy to find nectar plants to attract butterflies in the summer, but it's a bit more of a challenge in the spring. The plants on this list will help you out — and you can see what kind of butterflies to expect when you plant them, too.

- 1 Chives** *Allium schoenoprasum*
12 to 18 in. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1; attracts swallowtails, hairstreaks, commas, fritillaries
- 2 White clover** *Trifolium repens*
6 to 12 in. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1; attracts crescents, buckeyes
- 3 Grape hyacinth** *Muscari* spp.
6 to 9 in. tall, 3 to 6 in. wide; cold zones 4 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1; attracts skippers, whites, alfalfas
- 4 Lilac** *Syringa* spp.
4 to 12 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 7; heat zones 7 to 1; attracts swallowtails, spring azures, tortoiseshells
- 5 Moss phlox** *Phlox subulata*
6 in. tall, 1 to 2 ft. wide; cold zones 3 to 9; heat zones 9 to 1; attracts skippers, swallowtails, pearl crescents, painted ladies
- 6 Peony** *Paeonia* hybrids
2 to 3 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 3 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1; attracts skippers, satyrs, swallowtails
- 7 Crabapple** *Malus* spp.
6 to 30 ft. tall and wide; cold zones 4 to 8; heat zones 8 to 1; attracts admirals, swallowtails
- 8 Virginia bluebell** *Mertensia virginica*; 1 to 2 ft. tall, 6 to 12 in. wide; cold zones 3 to 7; heat zones 7 to 1; attracts skippers, sulphurs



SPRING BEAUTIES Crabapple blossoms are a great source of spring nectar for butterflies like this yellow swallowtail. And the trees' tiny, often sour fruits are a great winter food source for many bird species.

Don't miss the 12th annual

"THE ART OF THE EGG"

Evergreen's Egg-cellent Egg Design Contest

Have fun!
Paint an egg!
Win prizes!



Support
Downtown Evergreen!



Downtown Evergreen's 12th annual Egg-cellent Egg Design Contest "THE ART OF THE EGG"

All Ages Welcome!

- Individuals • Families
- Clubs • Groups

Host an Egg Painting Party

Paint Eggs at Go Paint!

in Downtown Evergreen

For more info call 303-679-3089

ENTRY FEE

- **Little Ones:** Ages 0-7 – \$15
- **Tweens:** Ages 8-13 – \$15
- **Adults:** Ages 14+ – \$25
- **High School Pro:** \$35 (can get sponsor)
- **Professional Artists**
(sponsored by a business) – \$50

Proceeds from this Go Paint! event benefit
the Evergreen Downtown Business Association

SCHEDULE

Now thru April 3: Amateurs paint eggs at
Go Paint!, 4602 Plettner Lane

March 30: Deadline for professional artists' eggs
(including High School Pro) to be submitted at Go Paint!

April 1-29: "Heart of the Egg" Scavenger Hunt
in Downtown Evergreen stores

April 8-12: Eggs on display at Evergreen National
Bank, 28145 Hwy 74 (Main Street)

April 13-30: Eggs on display at Go Paint!

April 1 - April 26

Heart of the Egg Scavenger Hunt

Search stores in Downtown
Evergreen for special eggs.
Pick up game card at Go Paint!
or participating stores.

Wednesday, May 1

Finale Party!!!!

4-6pm - children & families
6-7:30pm - adults
Live music, food & drink fun &
games. Prizes awarded for
designs & scavenger hunt;
silent auction ends.



From 13 Beautiful Botanical Gardens around the Globe,
to Growing Plants in the Coldest Place on Earth,
follow the links (place cursor on the link; *Ctrl+Click*) below and enjoy!

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/worlds-most-beautiful-botanical-gardens>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/science/2019/03/how-do-you-grow-plants-in-space-go-to-coldest-place-on-earth/>

Submitted by Kristina Sherwood

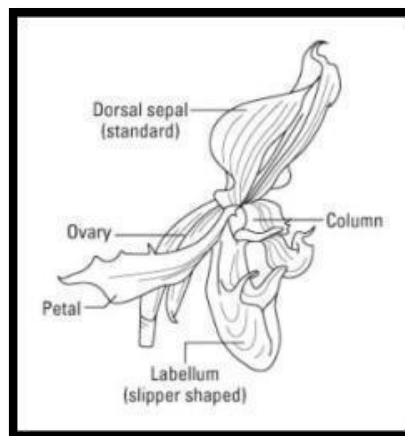
Tropical Lady's Slipper Orchids – Easy and Rewarding

Continuing with our series on Orchids, this article was written by Stephen A. Frownie, who collaborated with the National Gardening Association and Wiley & Sons to produce the highly popular book *Orchids for Dummies*.

LADY'S SLIPPERS are some of the easiest orchids to grow and among the most rewarding orchids you'll find, making them a great orchid for beginners. They present a wide range of strikingly colored, frequently glossy flowers in a myriad of shapes. Some have petals that are elegantly twisted, while others are marked with hairs and warts. All slipper orchids are noted for very-long-lasting blooms — the flowers usually last six to eight weeks. Many slipper orchids have gorgeous marbled foliage, which makes them stunningly beautiful, even when they aren't in bloom. Collectors of slipper orchids tend to be a fanatic lot — and it's easy to see why.

The official Latin name of this group is Paphiopedilum. The common name is Asian Lady's Slipper, but you'll probably hear them referred to as lady's slippers or just plain slipper orchids — though they're anything but plain. These orchids got their common name because of their pouch-like lip, or labellum, which resembles a lady's slipper.

I'd like introduce you to the world of lady's slipper orchids — giving you some slipper-specific growing tips, and some suggestions of varieties to buy.



Simple Growing Requirements

Although lady's slipper orchids are found in cold climates in North America, the ones that are most commonly grown indoors are the ones from the old-world tropics, like Southeast Asia. Almost all lady's slippers grow well in average home temperatures — 65 ° F to 75 ° F during the day, and 55 ° F to 60 ° F during the evening — and have modest humidity requirements.

Some of the lady's slippers are among the least demanding orchids when it comes to light, so they're very adaptable to growing in windowsills or under lights. You can grow them in an East-facing window, under florescent lights (I'll give you more details on this later) and in a shaded greenhouse. They are great companions with Phalaenopsis.

Getting Your Slippers to Bloom

Slipper orchids are some of the easiest of all orchids to grow and bloom. That said, you can't force these plants to flower if they're not mature or if it isn't their normal time of year to bloom. If your slipper orchid hasn't bloomed in over a year, and it needs a little nudging, try this three-step method:

1. Grow your lady's slipper in a little brighter spot (see Chapter 5 for more details about orchid light needs). If you don't see the flower buds forming in six to eight weeks, keep it in this same location and move to Step 2.
2. Drop the temperature at night about 20 ° F cooler than the daytime temperature. If you don't see buds forming in six to eight weeks, move it back to its regular growing temperature and then move to Step 3.
3. Let your lady's slipper get a little drier than usual for six to eight weeks.

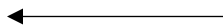
Maudiaes Are the Easiest of the Easy to Grow and Flower

What a fabulous group of lady's slippers these are. The word Maudiae is the name given to the of the first hybrids made, in 1901, between Paphiopedilum callosum and Paphiopedilum lawrenceanum. Paphiopedilum Maudiae and its offspring are noted for their exceptional vigor, ease of blooming (sometimes more than once a year), undemanding growing requirements, gorgeous foliage, and striking, gloriously colored flowers. They are found in three major color groups or combinations, and are very economical to purchase.



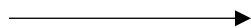
Green-and-whites

Green-and-white Maudiaes are occasionally referred to as albinos because they lack the more commonly found red pigment. There is a simple timeless elegance to these flowers. They're highly revered in Europe as cut flowers.



Coloratums

This group is typified by a large dorsal and petals displaying streaks of purple in the flowers. The flower shape of this type looks very similar to the green-and-white Maudiae but has much more red and burgundy markings. Many times, the dorsal is larger and rounder.



Vinicolors

The flowers of this type look like they've been varnished. They're a rich dark red or purple and have many admirers. This is probably the most sought-after form of the Maudiae types. Their solid burgundy to mahogany blossoms shine

Other Beautiful Slippers to Try

Lady's slipper **species**, which is what the plants are called as they come from the wild, display an exotic array of nature's work.

Here are a few gems:



Paph. leucochilum

Everyone has room for this charming miniature slipper. It also has beautiful foliage.



Paphiopedilum liemianum

If you want a slipper orchid that keeps on blooming, try this one that is called a "sequential bloomer."

Primary Hybrids

Primary hybrids are the results of crossing (mating) two different species to create a new plant. In doing this, exciting new forms of orchids are created. The crossing process started in the 1800s and is continuing at full speed today. As new species are being discovered or better forms of the same species are showing up, the orchid breeder gets more new genetic material to play with. The results of some of these efforts are quite impressive.

The goals of breeding vary within the group, but the main purpose is to:

- * Expand the color range.
- * Vary the flower shapes.
- * Make the flowers larger.
- * Create a new "look."
- * Make the plants more compact.

Here are few stunning primary hybrid paphiopedilums.

This is just a sampling of the many fabulous slippers to try. For long lasting exotic flowers with gorgeous foliage that are very easy to grow, slipper orchids can't be beat.



If you want a slipper with an aristocratic bearing, this **Lynleigh Koopowitz** fits the bill.
Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz (delenatii x malipoense)



Or if you are after the exotic look of twisted, pendulous petals try **Paph. Berenice**.
Paph. Berenice (phillipinense x lowii)



A Week in the life of a Gardener's Spouse

**She dug the plot on Monday, the soil was rich and fine
But she forgot to put the dinner on, so out we went to dine.**

**She planted roses Tuesday, she says they are a must.
They really were quite lovely, but she forgot to dust.**

**On Wednesday it was daisies, they opened with the sun,
All pinks and whites and yellows, but the laundry wasn't done.**

**The poppies came on Thursday all bright and cherry red,
I guess she really was engrossed, she never made the bed.**

**It was violets here on Friday, in colors she adores,
It never bothered her at all, the dirt upon our floors.**

**Saturday, I hired a maid, I'd not admit defeat,
She can garden all she wants now and the house will still be neat.**

**It's nearly lunchtime Sunday, I cannot find the maid,
Oh I don't believe it!**

She's out there alongside my wife with her very own spade!

