

News From The Garden

Butterfly Release

Enjoy a wondrous flight of color!
Learn about Monarch butterflies, their migration and their host plants.

Sunday, October 2, starts at 2 p.m.

Hurley Park, the Annex section



FALL 2022

Hurley Park Will Be All A-Flutter!

By: *Sarina Dellinger*

Help us celebrate the endangered Monarch Butterfly by releasing 50 Monarchs on Sunday, October 2 at 2 p.m. at Hurley Park! All-a-Flutter Farms will educate attendees, on the lifecycle of butterflies, their migration, and host plants. Hurley Park Advisory Board members will be giving away 250 packets of Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) seeds to attendees and have Monarch Masks for kids to color and wear. Horizons Unlimited will also be at the event with information about their programs and two special guests for children and adults to meet and greet!

Create Your Own Pollinator Paradise!

By: *Sarina Dellinger*

It's been a hot summer! I'm sure many of us are ready for fall, including myself. However, fall is also a very busy time in the garden. Weeding, planning, planting, and the dreaded leaf cleanup are just a few tasks that come to mind. But I hope I can minimize one of those tasks off your list by encouraging you to "leave the leaves"! If you enjoyed the buzzing of bees or butterflies fluttering by on a hot afternoon or seeing a beautiful moth hovering around your porch – those insects spent the winter bundled into the leaf litter or burrowed into rotting logs and perennial stems. You can support these important pollinators by gently raking fallen leaves into your garden beds or around tree rings, creating

brush piles with fallen sticks, and keeping stems from perennials in your yard over the winter. With the increasing loss of habitat for critters, consider supporting them in your yard and encouraging your neighbors to do the same.

Fall Into Planting

By: *Karen Barbiero*

Love those fall colors you're seeing? Now is the perfect time for planting. Coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, asters, and sedum are just a few plants that create late season color and seedheads for wildlife. Use this time of year to assess what plants flourished and fill in where there are empty spots. You may want to consider adding an ornamental tree or shrub to the landscape. Head over to your local garden center and ask about native plants that you can add to your design. Don't forget to plant bulbs for spring color. See you in the garden.



Tips From the Garden:

Leave the seed heads! It's tempting to cut your perennials back after the flowers are finished, but leaving them for the birds is an easy (and inexpensive) way to attract and feed the birds in the fall. Yellow finches love the seeds from Purple Coneflowers and Black-eyed Susans. Sparrows, chickadees, and nuthatches are just a few of the other birds that will be attracted to those left over seed heads.

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