





















Guide to Creating an Easy, Flower-Friendly Butterfly Garden

<u>Butterfly</u>	<u>Plants</u>	<u>Care Instructions</u>
American Lady 	Easy: Pussytoes	Requires excellent drainage and no fallen leaves or wood mulch over crown.
	Annual: Verbena (purple)	Fine foliage types keep blooming in summer without adding fertilizer.
	Fall: Smooth Aster	If over time the plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 mid – late spring, shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Summer: Slender Mountain Mint	Drought tolerant once established. Remove spent flowers to control reseeding.
	Spring: Old Fashioned Lilac	Remove 2” canes and larger and most spindly suckers annually.
American Snout 	Easy: Hackberry/Sugarberry	Avoid placing by sidewalks. Prune weak or undesirable growth in late winter.
	Annual: Globe Ameranth	Easy care. No deadheading needed
	Fall: Smooth Aster	If over time the plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 mid – late spring, shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Summer: Summersweet	Prefers lights shade, even moisture. May need staking as it takes time to mature and maintain upright shape.
	Spring: Plum or Peach Tree	Not recommended around livestock.
Summer Azure 	Easy: Flowering Dogwood	Easy to damage by lawnmowers. Plant away from heat reflective surfaces. Takes time to establish. Water during dry spells.
	Annual: Scabiosa Spps.	Dead head regularly to get the most blooms
	Fall: Black Eyed Susan	Divide clump to prevent overcrowding. Deadhead to control reseeding and extend flower period.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Blackberries	Tip prune in the spring, remove berried canes in fall
Banded Hairstreak 	Easy: Black Oak	Usually require minimal care once established. Acorn production after 20 years cycling every 2-3 years
	Annual: Pentas	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Summer: Yarrow	Both native and introduced genotypes reseed easily but are easy to control. Remove spend flowers. Soft, ferny foliage, crown is tender and easy to injure with spade. Drought tolerant.
	Spring: New Jersey Tea	Prune hard to rejuvenate as needed. After flowering remove spent blooms if preferred.
Black Swallowtail 	Easy: Parsley/Fennel/Dill	Treat as annual. Tolerates range of soil conditions. Fennel and Dill are more heat tolerant. Grow all three in ground or container.
	Annual: Verbena Bonariensis	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Joe Pye Weed	Water deeply during extended drought periods. When center starts to die out its time to dig up, divide and discard the dead center. Replant to division flower colors variable.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Blazing Star	Deadhead to prevent seeding by removing flower stalks at base leaving basal foliage or leave for songbirds.

Butterfly	Plants	Care Instructions
Cloudless Sulphur 	Easy: Partridge Pea	Lengthy bloom period. Useful in honey production. Remains fairly upright and can tolerate gentle shearing before blooming.
	Annual: Bougainvillea	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Phlox Paniculata	Mildly fragrant. Avoid overcrowding, drought and poor circulation. Remove spent flowers.
	Summer: Rose Mallow	Largest Missouri wildflower. Needs moist soil. Significantly extend bloom period by removing each spent bloom and the calyx, the little cup at the flower base that forms seed.
Common Buckeye 	Easy: Wild Violet Petunia	Long bloom period, tolerates some shade, no deadheading required, occasional volunteers easy to remove.
	Annual: Globe Ameranth	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Smooth Aster	If over time the plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 mid – late spring, shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Summer: American Boneset	Requires moist soil. Cut plant height 1/3 in the spring to encourage tight bushy habit, pruning may delay flowering slightly. Deadhead after flowering to control spread.
Eastern Tailed-Blue 	Easy: False Blue Indigo	Trim off finished bloom and trim /shape gently after flowering to keep compact or leave seed pods for looser look.
	Annual: Globe Ameranth	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Smooth Aster	If over time the plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 mid – late spring, shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: False Blue Indigo	Trim off finished bloom and trim /shape gently after flowering to keep compact or leave seed pods for looser look.
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 	Easy: Sweetbay Magnolia	Easy to maintain as moderate size shrub with occasional pruning, or as small tree. Water during dry periods.
	Annual: Pentas	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Tall Phlox	Mildly fragrant. Avoid overcrowding, drought and poor circulation. Remove spent flowers.
	Summer: Glossy Abelia	Prune as needed in spring to remove winter damage. Regrows from roots after severe winter. Water weekly or more in extended dry periods.
	Spring: Old Fashioned Lilac	Remove 2" canes and larger and most spindly suckers annually.
Giant Swallowtail 	Easy: Hoptree	Small tree, deer resistant. Useful in small gardens as windbreak where multi-purpose function appreciated.
	Annual: Bougainvillea	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Ironweed	Trim 1/3 to 1/2 late spring to reduce height and encourage more flowers. Remove spent flowers to control reseeding.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Beebalm	Needs good air circulation. If mildew develops remove foliage at base to stimulate new growth. Divide when center begins to die out.
Gray Hairstreak 	Easy: Dwarf Hollyhock	Needs no pampering, original plant short lived but gentle reseeding usually keeps population. Volunteers easy to remove.
	Annual: Globe Ameranth	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Mum	Trim 1/3 to 1/2 in late spring to reduce height and encourage more flowers. Removing spent flowers as they wane stimulates dormant buds. Leave foliage intact over winter to protect crown.
	Summer: Bluestar	Flowers best in full sun, shear after flowering to maintain fresh appearance and to prevent reseeding.
	Spring: New Jersey Tea	Prune hard to rejuvenate as needed. After flowering remove spent blooms if preferred.

Butterfly	Plants	Care Instructions
Great Spangled Fritillary 	Easy: Violets (native or common)	Plant annual types in September for fall, winter and spring. Not heat tolerant. Leave fallen leaf debris in shade garden for caterpillars.
	Annual: Verbena Bonariensis	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Joe Pye Weed	Water deeply during extended drought periods. When center starts to die out its time to dig up, divide and discard the dead center. Replant to division flower colors variable.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Beebalm	Needs good air circulation. If mildew develops remove foliage at base to stimulate new growth. Divide when center begins to die out.
Monarch 	Easy: Rose or Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Annual: Bloodflower	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Sedum	Lift, divide and replant outer crown part. Discard center every 2 years to prevent open woody center developing. Trim ½ in late spring to encourage more flowers.
	Summer: Coneflower	Deadhead spent flowers to extend flower period but leave last flowers for songbirds. Some plants/ flowers show significant variability but susceptible to aster yellow virus.
	Spring: Blazing Star	Deadhead to prevent seeding by removing flower stalks at base leaving basal foliage or leave for songbirds.
Pearl Crescent 	Easy: Aromatic Aster	If over time plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 in mid-late spring. Shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Annual: Mexican Sunflower	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Black-Eyed Susan	Divide clump to prevent overcrowding. Deadhead to control reseeding and extend flower period. Seeds are attractive to birds.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Coreopsis Lanceolata	Remove spent blooms by shearing to prevent reseeding issues. Trim foliage 1/3 to keep tidy. Some selections remain more upright.
Red-Spotted Purple 	Easy: Black Cherry	No fruit production until age 10. Keep away from driveway and patio. Needs moist soil and full sun.
	Fall: Coneflower	Deadhead spent flowers to extend flower period but leave last flowers for songbirds. Some plants/ flowers show significant variability but susceptible to aster yellow virus.
	Summer: Summersweet	Prefers light shade, even moisture. May need staking as it takes time to mature and maintain upright shape.
	Spring: Linden	Prefers rich soil. Grows stream side. Not pollution or salt tolerant. June flowers. Fragrant pollinator. Drops nutlet and flower bracts.
Silver-Spotted Skipper 	Easy: Honeylocust Tree	There are thornless and podless cultivars available. Salt tolerant and tolerates being near Black Walnut. Pods on species are edible to livestock. Thorns were once used as nails.
	Annual: Zinnia (purple)	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Sedum	Lift, divide and replant outer crown part. Discard center every 2 years to prevent open woody center developing. Trim ½ in late spring to encourage more flowers.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Blazing Star	Deadhead to prevent seeding by removing flower stalks at base leaving basal foliage or leave for songbirds.
Silvery Checkerspot 	Easy: Black-Eyed Susan	Divide clump to prevent overcrowding. Deadhead to control reseeding and extend flower period.
	Annual: Zinnia	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Coneflower	Deadhead spent flowers to extend flower period but leave last flowers for songbirds. Some plants/ flowers show significant variability but susceptible to aster yellow virus.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Coreopsis Lanceolata	Remove spent blooms by shearing to prevent reseeding issues. Trim foliage 1/3 to keep tidy. Some selections remain more upright.

Butterfly	Plants	Care Instructions
Spicebush Swallowtail 	Easy: Spicebush	Plant multiples for best fruit set. Tolerates sun or shade. Possible with pruning to be shaped as small tree standard or left natural as shrub.
	Annual: Lantana	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Joe Pye Weed	Water deeply during extended drought periods. When center starts to die out its time to dig up, divide and discard the dead center. Replant to division flower colors variable.
	Summer: Blazing Star	Deadhead to prevent seeding by removing flower stalks at base leaving basal foliage or leave for songbirds.
	Spring: Beebalm	Needs good air circulation. If mildew develops remove foliage at base to stimulate new growth. Divide when center begins to die out.
Wild Indigo Duskywing 	Easy: Blue False Indigo	Trim off finished bloom and trim /shape gently after flowering to keep compact or leave seed pods for looser look.
	Annual: Globe Amaranth	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Smooth Aster	If over time the plant becomes lanky by late summer, try cutting back 1/3 mid – late spring, shear moderately hard as bloom starts to finish to control reseeding.
	Summer: Swamp Milkweed	Well suited for cultivated gardens. Reserve energy used forming seedpods by removing spent blooms.
	Spring: Pussytoes	Requires excellent drainage and no fallen leaves or wood mulch over crown.
Zebra Swallowtail 	Easy: PawPaw	Fruit is on new wood. Multiple specimens are required for fruiting. Prefers understory while developing. No tolerance for water logged soil. Deer resistant. Slow colonizer.
	Annual: Zinnia	Easy care. No deadheading needed.
	Fall: Yarrow	Both native and introduced genotypes reseed easily but are easy to control. Remove spent flowers. Soft ferny foliage. Crown is tender, easy to injure with spade. Drought tolerant.
	Summer: Milkweed	Late to emerge in spring so place a few rocks around base at planting to serve as a marker. Draws significant numbers of pollinators so place multiples in various and viewable locations.
	Spring: Blueberry	Don't prune for 2 years. When mature, remove older canes and prune inward pointing laterals when dormant for increase fruit production.