



Arizona Wildlife Federation

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Resources for Helping Monarch Butterflies in Arizona

Compiled by Nikki Julien, Arizona Wildlife Federation, April 2021

Organizations featured in the program:

- Arizona Wildlife Federation: www.azwildlife.org
- Arizona Interfaith Power and Light: www.azipl.org
- Southwest Monarch Study: <https://swmonarchs.org/>
- Arizona Master Naturalists: <https://azmasternaturalist.org/>
- Pima County Master Gardeners: <https://extension.arizona.edu/pima-master-gardeners>
- National Wildlife Federation's Garden for Wildlife program: <https://www.nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife>
- National Wildlife Federation's Certified Wildlife Habitat program: <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify>
- National Wildlife Federation's Sacred Grounds program: <https://www.nwf.org/sacredgrounds>

Risks to monarchs and other pollinators:

- Risks of Neonicotinoid Use to Pollinators:
https://monarchjointventure.org/images/uploads/documents/Risks_of_Neonics_to_Pollinators.pdf
- Monarchs and Climate Change:
https://c402277.ssl.cf1.rackcdn.com/publications/845/files/original/Monarch_butterfly_-_WWF_wildlife_and_climate_change_series.pdf
- Dr. Chip Taylor, Director of Monarch Watch, blog
- <https://monarchwatch.org/blog/2020/02/25/monarchs-and-climate-in-the-west/>

What you can do to help:

- Let your elected officials know how important this is to you. Send a letter: <https://azwildlife.org/Send-a-Letter-Climate-Action-for-Wildlife>
- Report Monarch sightings: info@swmonarchs.org
- Native plants for monarchs based on tagging research for Arizona:
<https://swmonarchs.org/restoration.php>
- Garden for Wildlife with tips from the National Wildlife Federation's: <https://www.nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife>

Planting for monarchs:

- Waystations in the Deserts: <https://swmonarchs.org/waystations.php>
- Creating Monarch Waystations in the Low Deserts:
<https://swmonarchs.org/Low%20Desert%20Monarch%20Waystations%20and%20Butterfly%20Gardens.pdf>

- Arizona Milkweed varieties: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/azpmctn12744.pdf
- Plant list for the Southwest desert areas: https://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Xerces-NWF/07-SW_Monarch_Plant_List_spread.ashx
- Plant list for the Rocky Mountains (a useful reference for our high altitude gardens in AZ): https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/16-046_01_XercesSoc_MonarchNectarPlants_Rocky-Mountains_web-4page.pdf
- Butterflies love “Blue Mist”, a nectar plant: Ageratum, Conoclinium, Chromolaena

Where to buy local milkweeds and other native plants:

- AZ Milkweeds for Monarchs: <https://www.azmilkweedsformonarchs.org/>
- Phoenix: Cactusstore.com: https://www.cactusstore.com/category_580/Asclepias-.htm
- Phoenix: Summer Winds Nursery: <https://summerwindsnursery.com/>
- Prescott: Underwood Gardens/ Terrior Seeds: <https://store.underwoodgardens.com/milkweed>
- Flagstaff: Flagstaff Arboretum: <https://thearb.org/>
- Tucson: Native Seed/SEARCH: <https://www.nativeseeds.org/>
- Tucson: Spadefoot Nursery: <https://www.spadefootnursery.com/>
- Tucson: Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum plant sale: <http://www.desertmuseum.org/>
- Tucson: Desert Survivors Nursery: <https://desertsurvivors.org/>
- Superior: Boyce Thompson Arboretum plant sale: <https://www.btarboretum.org/>
- Free/low cost seed Libraries can be found at Native Seed/SEARCH (Tucson), Scottsdale Community College, Maricopa Community Colleges

Ready to create a garden for wildlife?

- Here is the checklist for certification: https://www.nwf.org/~media/PDFs/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certified-Wildlife-Habitat/NWF_Garden-Certification-Checklist.ashx?la=en&hash=FFAA30B3AE06687A881FC4BE615DEFB0E2BACF42
- Certify your garden here: <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/Certify>