

How to Create Your Own Butterfly Garden!

Add beauty and life to your property with the inclusion of flowers and plants that attract butterflies, including Monarchs, Swallowtails, and other species.

Choose "host plants" - sites for the butterfly to lay eggs and be the food source for the emerging caterpillar

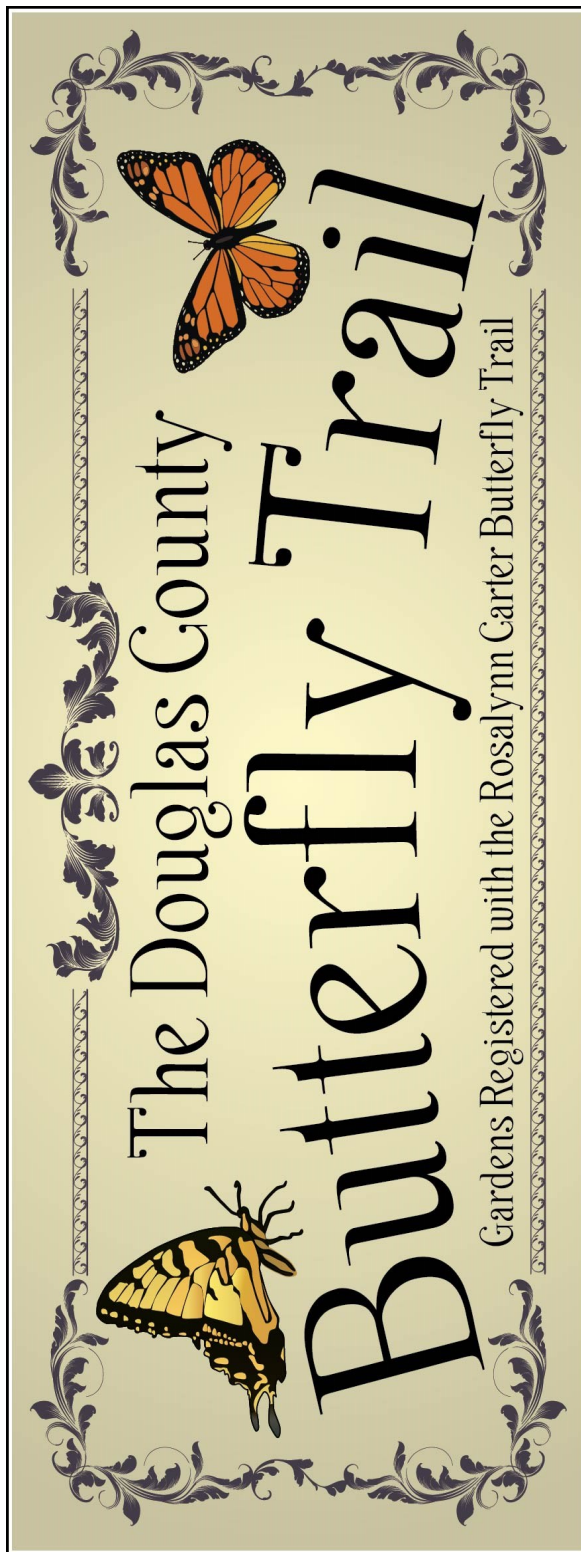
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| Milkweed | Dill |
| Parsley | Fennel |

Choose "nectar plants" - plants serve as the food source for the butterfly

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| Butterfly Bush | Swamp Milkweed |
| Joe Pye Weed | Asters |
| Bee Balm | Zinnia |
| Pentas | Heliotrope |
| Verbena | Marigolds |

Don't put your garden in a windy, exposed area because butterflies are relatively weak fliers.

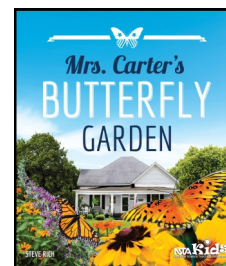
The butterflies will find your garden; you will be helping them to survive; and you get to enjoy their beauty!



Our History and Inspiration

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter wanted to establish a butterfly garden at her home in Plains, Georgia, to encourage the conservation of butterflies and their habitats, and her desire to bring public awareness to the declining monarch butterfly population. In April 2013, The Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail was established by Ms. Annette Wise with the Georgia Department of Education.

A Douglas County educator, Dr. Steve Rich, wrote a K-3 elementary school science resource book entitled "Mrs. Carter's Butterfly Garden", published by NSTA Kids, based



on the Trail in Plains. Dr. Rich had previously worked - and continues to work - throughout Georgia to establish butterfly gardens at schools as part of their science curriculum. Dr. Rich advised the First Lady on the establishment of the Trail in Plains.

Concurrently, the Douglas County Master Gardeners and the Ama-Kanasta, Town and Country, and Sweetwater Garden Clubs of Douglas County were establishing butterfly gardens in public places as individual efforts.

Mr. Wes Tallon, Douglas County Director of Communications and Community Relations, read Dr. Rich's book, knew of the local efforts, and decided to bring them all together to establish the Douglas County Butterfly Trail with all local gardens registered with the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail as a cooperative and complementary effort.

The Douglas County Butterfly Trail was inaugurated in conjunction with the 9th annual Penny McHenry Hydrangea Festival.

Why Establish Butterfly Gardens?

Since 1990, about 970 million monarch butterflies have vanished.

It happened as farmers and homeowners sprayed herbicides on milkweed plants, which serve as the butterflies' nursery, food source, and home.

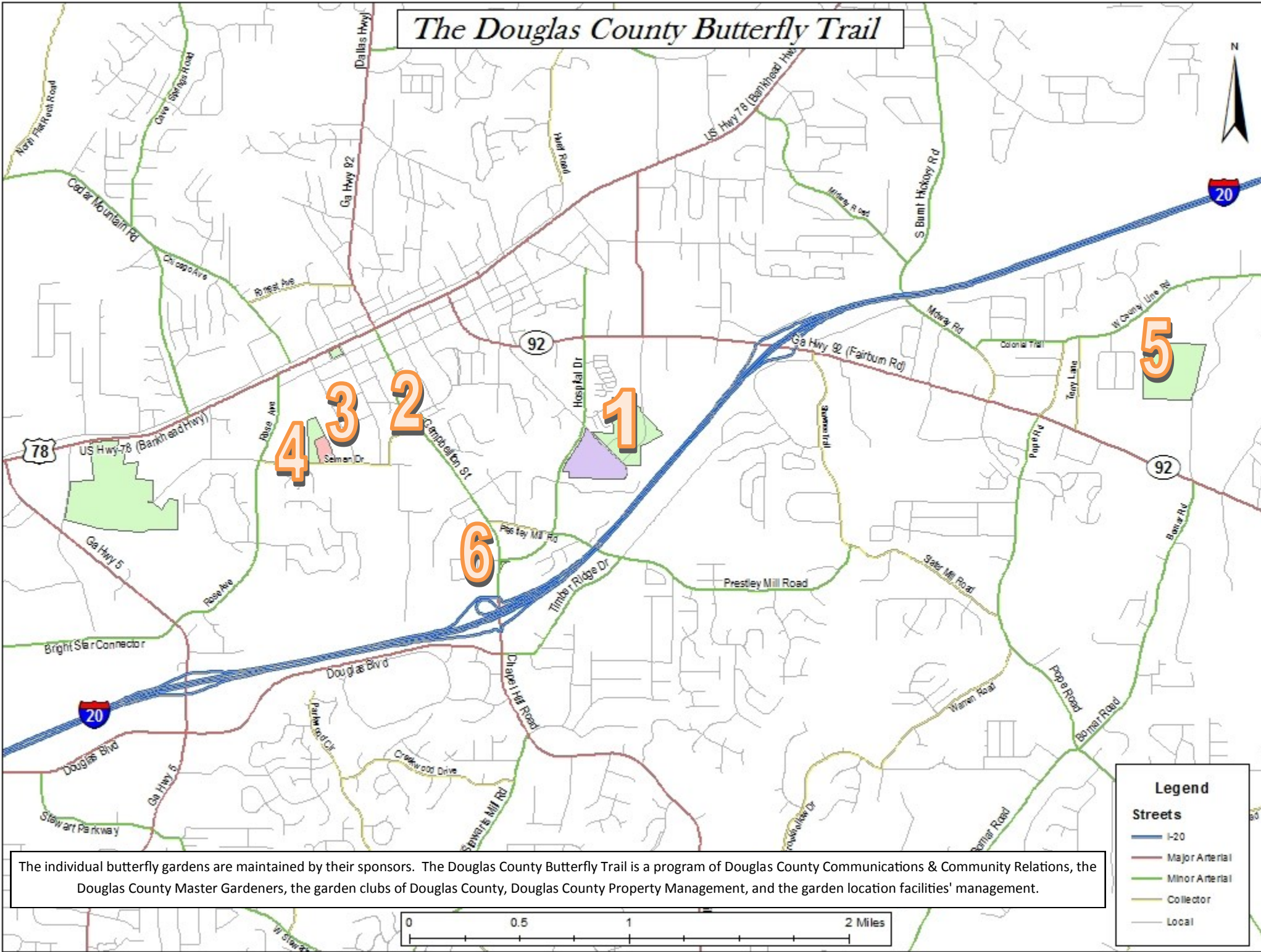
Monarch butterflies are a keystone species - one that has a disproportionately large effect on its environment relative to its abundance, and playing a critical role in maintaining the structure of nature. Butterflies are the third most productive pollinator behind bees, wasps and flies. The world's food supply depends on pollinators. Butterflies are also an indicator species which reflects the health of the environment. Butterflies are very sensitive to changes in climate, the presence of harmful chemicals, and pollution in the air and water. If an environment is not healthy for butterflies, then it is not friendly to humans and other species.

The monarch butterfly is the most widely recognized of all American butterflies with its distinct orange, black, and white wings. While beautiful, this coloring sends a warning to predators that the monarch is foul tasting and poisonous to them.

The greatest threats to the monarch butterfly population are the loss of habitat, loss of food supply, and climate change. Butterfly gardens help with the loss of habitat by providing milkweed upon which they depend as larva to survive, and nectar plants as food sources.



The Douglas County Butterfly Trail



Douglas County Butterfly Trail Gardens

- 1. Woodie Fite Senior Center**
 8800 Dorris Road (adjacent to the Douglas County Courthouse), Douglasville 30134 garden is located in the lawn area to the east of the Center
- 2. Cultural Arts Council**
 8652 Campbellton Street, Douglasville 30134 garden is located to the left of the front porch
- 3. Plant-a-Row-for-Hunger Vegetable Garden, Douglas County Health Department**
 6770 Selman Drive, Douglasville 30134 garden is located to the north of the Health Department building
- 4. Children's Garden, Douglas County Library**
 6810 Selman Drive, Douglasville 30134 garden is located to the left of the library's front door
- 5. Deer Lick Park**
 2105 Mack Road, Douglasville 30135 garden is located east of the gymnasium and adjacent to the football field
- 6. Freedom Island**
 Hospital Drive at Campbellton Street, Douglasville 30134 garden is located within the intersection (drive-by garden)

The individual butterfly gardens are maintained by their sponsors. The Douglas County Butterfly Trail is a program of Douglas County Communications & Community Relations, the Douglas County Master Gardeners, the garden clubs of Douglas County, Douglas County Property Management, and the garden location facilities' management.

DOUGLAS COUNTY
Tourism
 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER

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