

December, 2022

## SacValley CNPS Demonstration Gardens

EACH GARDEN IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOWCASE, SHARE AND EDUCATE!

# BUTTERFLY WAYSTATION



Butterflies are not only a wonderful way to bring bright refreshing colors to your wildlife garden but they are essential to the web of life. The butterfly waystation is focused on providing host and nectar plants for a variety of native butterfly species. Attracting butterflies requires a landscape design that serves the needs of butterflies throughout all life stages. The garden's earthworks slow rain water to prevent runoff.



Designed and installed by Grow Water- Chris Lopez & Rodger Sargent

According to Doug Tallamy, 96 percent of bird species feed their young with caterpillars. Oak trees are a keystone species, and can support more than 300 species of wildlife, including many pollinators.

### Feature

Butterfly puddler: Though rich in sugar, nectar lacks some important nutrients the butterflies need for reproduction. For those, butterflies visit puddles. By sipping moisture from mud puddles, butterflies take in salts and minerals from the soil. This behavior is called puddling.

### Butterflies on a bank along the American River.



## What is the Butterfly Waystation?

They are specialized Pollinator Gardens that provide habitat for:

### Caterpillars

**Food:** Host plants provide food for butterfly or moth larvae (caterpillars). Adult butterflies/moths lay their eggs on host plants, then the larvae hatch and eat from the plant before undergoing metamorphosis into butterflies.

**Shelter:** Woody trees and shrubs protect caterpillars at night and during bad weather

### Butterflies & Moths

**Food:** Nectar Plants for Butterflies, Moths and other pollinators.

**Water:** Many species of butterflies and moths congregate on wet sand and mud to partake in “puddling”, drinking water, and extracting minerals from damp puddles.

H: Host / S: Shelter / N: Nectar ~ (A partial list plants in this garden.)

Most butterflies use all of these nectar sources!

<a href="#">Dutchmans Pipe</a>	<i>Aristolochia californica</i>	HN	<b>Jan-April.</b> Deciduous vine, grows in moist woods along streams <b>sole larval host of the Pipevine Swallowtail</b>
<a href="#">Purple Milkweed</a>	<i>Asclepias cordifolia</i>	HSN	<b>Mar-July.</b> It is the earliest flowering local milkweed but notoriously hard to grow in a nursery setting or to establish. Beautiful flowers and leaves; <b>host to Monarch larva</b>
<a href="#">Narrowleaf Milkweed</a>	<i>Asclepias fascicularis</i>	HSN	<b>June-Sept.</b> Lovely flower cluster; tolerates clay; <b>host to Monarch larva</b>
<a href="#">Quailbush</a>	<i>Atriplex lentiformis</i>	HSN	<b>June-July.</b> Huge, evergreen shrub. Great for wildlife. Tolerates a variety of soils, <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 14 likely</b>
<a href="#">California Fuchsia</a>	<i>Epilobium canum</i>	N	<b>Aug-Oct.</b> Hummingbird favorite; spreads; cut back in winter <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 15 likely</b>
<a href="#">Fleabane Daisy</a>	<i>Erigeron foliosus</i>	N	<b>May-Sept.</b> Showy blue flowers <b>larval host likely to at least 13 butterflies and moths</b>
<a href="#">California Buckwheat</a>	<i>Eriogonum fasciculatum</i>	NS	<b>Apr-Sept.</b> Tough, easy to grow, prefer good drainage <b>larval host to 15 butterflies and moths</b>
<a href="#">Nude Buckwheat</a>	<i>Eriogonum nudum</i>	HN	<b>May-Aug.</b> Leafless stems <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 9 confirmed Acmon Blue, Blue Copper, Mormon Metalmark, Square-spotted Blue, Dotted Blue, Bramble Hairstreak, Gorgon Copper, Veined Blue, Mojave Dotted-blue, plus 39 more likely</b>
<a href="#">Seep Monkeyflower</a>	<i>Erythranthe guttatus</i>	H	<b>Apr-June.</b> Aquatic annual plant; good in ponds or rain gardens <b>larval host to Mylitta Crescent, Annaphila lithosina, plus 8 more likely</b>
<a href="#">California Poppy</a>	<i>Eschscholzia californica</i>	H	<b>Feb-Sept.</b> CA State flower, tolerates clay soil, readily reseeds <b>larval host to Acmon Blue, Mormon Metalmark, Dotted Blue, Veined Blue, Buckwheat Borer Moth, plus 2 more likely</b>
<a href="#">Common Sunflower</a>	<i>Helianthus annuus</i>	HN	<b>June-Aug.</b> it can also be a spectacular performer in the garden if given plenty of room, direct sun, and normal garden watering. <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 9 confirmed, 28 likely. Plus 7 Specialist bees</b>

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<a href="#">Pink Honesuckle</a>	<i>Lonicera hispidula</i>	N	<b>Apr-July.</b> This chaparral vine to shrub seems to be deer proof. Hummingbird flower. <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 2 confirmed, 22 likely</b>
<a href="#">Chaparral Honeysuckle</a>	<i>Lonicera interrupta</i>	N	<b>Apr-June.</b> Hardy, woody chaparral shrub/vine, summer flowering, edible/bitter berries <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 23 likely</b>
<a href="#">Coyote Mint</a>	<i>Monardella villosa</i>	N	<b>Jun-Aug.</b> Requires good drainage, Butterfly magnate <b>larval host to 6 butterflies and moths</b>
<a href="#">Deergrass</a>	<i>Muhlenbergia rigens</i>	S	<b>May-June.</b> Attractive bunch grass; easy to grow; grows in most soils <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 1 likely</b>
<a href="#">Foothill Penstemon</a>	<i>Penstemon heterophyllus</i>	N	<b>May-July.</b> Perennial evergreen herb. May need pm shade in valley <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 17 likely</b>
<a href="#">California Goldenrod</a>	<i>Solidago velutina ssp. californica</i>	N	<b>Jul-Oct.</b> Easy to grow; spreads easily with garden water. <b>Likely larval host to 39 butterflies and moths</b>
<a href="#">California Aster</a>	<i>Symphyotrichum chilense</i>	N	<b>Jul-Aug.</b> Tolerates clay soil and RAIN Gardens; winter deciduous; aggressive spreader <b>likely larval host to 10 butterflies and moths</b>
<a href="#">Vervain</a>	<i>Verbena lasiostachys</i>	N	<b>May-Jun.</b> Common along rivers and streams, winter deciduous <b>Butterflies &amp; moths hosted: 41 likely</b>



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