



National Learn About Butterflies Day!

Saturday March 14th

Ahh, butterflies! How fortunate there are so many of these creatures adding natural beauty to our gardens. It seems very fitting to set aside a day to celebrate and appreciate them.

Butterfly Interesting Facts

- Butterflies have 4 wings
- Butterfly wings are made up of tiny scales that reflect light to form beautiful colors and patterns.
- It is estimated that there are between 15,000 and 20,000 different species of butterfly in the world. Out of this number, 750 can be found in America.
- Butterflies can camouflage to avoid predators.
- Butterflies belong to the Lepidoptera class of insects which are characterized by their large scaly wings.
- Butterflies don't taste with taste buds, but rather sensors located under their feet.
- A group of butterflies is known as a flutter.
- Butterflies can see beyond the ultraviolet spectrum and their eyes consist of a network of 6000 lenses.
- Adult butterflies can only feed on liquids—usually nectar from flowers.
- Butterflies can't fly if they're cold.
- Butterflies are cold-blooded and need an ideal body temperature of about 85 degrees to fly. If the temperature falls below 55 degrees butterflies are rendered immobile—unable to flee from predators or feed.
- Cooler days require a butterfly to warm up its flight muscles, either by shivering or basking in the sun.
- Some butterfly species are extremely fast. As a matter of fact, the Skipper butterfly can fly faster than a horse can run.

We invite you to walk through our beautiful butterfly gardens and enjoy this fabulous gift from Mother Nature.