



PRAIRIELANDS COUNCIL SERVICE PROJECT

IS YOUR UNIT INTERESTED IN DOING
A SERVICE PROJECT TO BENEFIT
POLLINATORS LIKE BUTTERFLIES AND
BEES? IF SO, JOIN PRAIRIELANDS IN
A COUNCIL-WIDE EFFORT TO BUILD
BUTTERFLY-FRIENDLY GARDENS!

APRIL 2018

FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
CONTACT
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COUNCIL-WIDE

SERVICE PROJECT

Prairielands Council Packs, Troops, and Crews:

Over the past two decades, the iconic Monarch Butterfly populations have declined by as much as 80%. The orange-and-black butterfly is known for its annual migration from Mexico to as far north as Canada, but their journeys have been cut short in part because of the decrease in the native plants they depend on for food.

Because Monarch Butterflies are always on the move, they need to have the right plants at the right time along their migration route. Caterpillars need to feed on milkweed to complete their life cycle, and adult butterflies need the right nectar producing plants in bloom for needed energy. Agriculture and development have removed much of the native milkweed that once spanned the country.

But enough with the bad news. Here's the good news---you can help! Prairielands Council is initiating a project to create butterfly habitat in our area to support Monarch populations. We are seeking the support of Council units, chartering organizations, park districts, forest preserves, and more to identify and establish butterfly gardens throughout our nine counties. If your unit is interested in helping or you know an area in your town that would be good for this project, please contact Activities Committee Chair Kurt Brown kurtbrownie@gmail.com. After identifying organizations willing to install gardens, units will be called into action to begin planning for and designing the gardens for the April 2018 installation.

