A butterfly garden, or waystation supplies food and shelter for all stages of a butterfly’s life. You can create a habitat of your own and watch the spectacular metamorphosis and migration. Become part of a community effort to help one of the great wonders of nature continue on for generations. Plant milkweed, save the monarchs!

Here’s how to get started:

1. **SIZE:**
   - ___ Small (less than 200 sq ft)
   - ___ Medium (200-499 sq ft)
   - ___ Large (500-999 sq ft)
   - ___ Colossal (more than 5,000 sq ft)
   - ___ X-Large (1,000-4,999 sq ft)

2. **EXPOSURE:** Butterflies as well as their host plants need lots of sun. Butterfly gardens should be located in an area that receive at least six hours of sun a day.

3. **DRAINAGE AND SOIL TYPE:** Plants will grow best in low clay soils and areas with good drainage to prevent root rot.

4. **PLANT MULTIPLE MILKWEED PLANTS:** A monarch waystation requires a minimum of 10 milkweed plants, preferably two or more species. Milkweeds that bloom at different times increase the chances for seeing monarchs over a longer period.
   - ___ Butterfly Milkweed
   - ___ Common Milkweed
   - ___ Desert Milkweed
   - ___ Swamp Milkweed
   - ___ Purple Milkweed
   - ___ Tropical Milkweed
   - ___ Showy Milkweed
   - ___ Whorled Milkweed

5. **PLANT A MINIMUM OF FOUR NECTAR PLANTS:** Providing nectar throughout the growing season will increase your chances of attracting monarchs as well as other butterflies and pollinators.
   - Nectar Plants - Annuals or Biennials:
     - ___ Cosmos
     - ___ Mexican Sunflower
     - ___ Sweet William
     - ___ French Marigold
     - ___ Pentas
     - ___ Verbena/Vervain
     - ___ Lantana
     - ___ Porterweed
     - ___ Zinnia
   - Nectar Plants - Perennials:
     - ___ Bee Balm
     - ___ Catmint, Catnip
     - ___ New England Aster
     - ___ Black-Eyed Susan
     - ___ Hollyhock
     - ___ Purple Coneflower
     - ___ Butterfly Bush
     - ___ Joe-Pye Weed
     - ___ Violet

6. **MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:**
   - ___ Add other features (e.g., fruit feeders, bee nesting boxes, other host plants, etc.)
   - ___ Eliminate the use of pesticides and herbicides
   - ___ Mulch around the base of plants to reduce the growth of weeds and retain water
   - ___ Use natural compost for fertilization