

Monarch & Other Pollinator Conservation Resources for the Southeastern US

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USDA & Other Federal Agencies Supporting Monarchs & Other Pollinators

USDA Service Center Locator Link <https://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app> and www.farmers.gov

- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Monarch Resources (including Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Guides & regional plants lists) www.nrcs.usda.gov/monarchs; relevant guides for Southeast include (northern states not shown):
 - Greater Appalachian Mountains Region Resources includes parts of AL, GA, KY, MD, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV
 - Midwest Resources includes a small part of AR
 - Southern Great Plains Resources includes parts of TX
 - Western [Gulf] Coastal Plain Resources includes parts of AR, LA, TX
- NRCS Working Lands for Monarch Butterflies <https://tinyurl.com/WLMonarchs>
- NRCS Pollinator Resources <http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/nrcsdocuments.html>
- NRCS Landscape Conservation Initiatives <https://tinyurl.com/NRCSConservationInitiatives>
- NRCS Field Office Technical Guide <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/>
- Using 2014 Farm Bill Programs for Pollinators <https://tinyurl.com/FBPollinators>
- NRCS Conservation Practices <https://tinyurl.com/NRCSConservationPractices>
- PLANTS Database information on pollinators <http://plants.usda.gov/pollinators/NRCSdocuments.html>
- Announcing New Steps to Promote Pollinator Health (was updated in 2017 by Dr. John P. Holdren) <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2015/05/19/announcing-new-steps-promote-pollinator-health>
- US Forest Service (USFS) Celebrating Wildflowers: Pollinators <https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/index.shtml>
- USFS Pollinator-Friendly Best Management Practices for Federal Lands <https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/BMPs/>
- US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) Save the Monarch Butterfly (including Matching Monarchs Using Citizen Science <https://www.fws.gov/savethemonarch/>)

Regional and National Organizations Supporting Monarchs (each has a lot of additional information about monarchs, milkweeds, and/or monitoring/community science)

- AR Monarch Conservation Partnership <http://arkansasmonarchs.org>
- Journey North <https://journeynorth.org/> -- Tracks the movement of monarchs and other migratory animals with online maps based on observations contributed by community scientists. Provides educational resources and supports a "Symbolic Monarch Migration" program that links children in the US, Canada, and Mexico.
- McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity—conducts research on monarchs, milkweeds and pollinators <https://www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/index.php/mcguire/home/>
- Monarchs Across Georgia <https://www.eealliance.org/monarchs-across-ga> -- Provides educational materials, workshops, and other support primarily to educators working with K-12 and Extension. Contact Susan Meyers at mag@eealliance.org for additional information about supporting the region during the pandemic. She also coordinates the Symbolic Migration, an amazing program linking school children and (due to the pandemic) families in Canada, the U.S., and Mexico <https://www.eealliance.org/symbolic-migration.html>.

- Monarch Butterfly Habitat Exchange <http://www.monarchhabitatexchange.org/> -- Seeks to leverage private and public funds to support monarch conservation where it is most needed. Currently working in Central Texas, Northern Missouri, Iowa and California's Central Valley.
- Monarch Joint Venture <https://monarchjointventure.org/> -- Partnership of federal and state agencies, non-governmental organizations, businesses and academic programs working together to protect the monarch migration across the United States. Go-to site for the latest science-based factsheets on every aspect of monarchs. Hosts webinars.
 - FAQs on monarchs and many subjects relevant for monarch conservation <https://monarchjointventure.org/resources/faq>
 - <https://monarchjointventure.org/news-events/partner-memos/setting-targets-for-milkweed-stem-density>
 - Integrated Monarch Monitoring Program <https://monarchjointventure.org/immp>
 - Monarch Conservation Webinar Series <https://monarchjointventure.org/resources/monarch-conservation-webinar-series>
- Monarch Watch <https://monarchwatch.org/> -- Manages the monarch tagging and waystation programs, and supports monarch conservation through education and other activities in collaboration with local to international groups and individuals.
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Monarch Butterfly & Pollinator Conservation Fund <https://www.nfwf.org/programs/monarch-butterfly-and-pollinators-conservation-fund>
- Pollinator Partnership <https://www.pollinator.org/> -- Conservation and education group that sponsors Pollinator Conservation Week, creates an annual poster on pollinators with support from diverse collaborators, has regional plant lists (see plant list section), and provides teacher resources.
 - Pollinator posters available for free from the NRCS Distribution Center (limit of 10/individual private citizens) <https://nrcspad.sc.egov.usda.gov/DistributionCenter/>
- Project Monarch Health <https://www.monarchparasites.org/> -- When you tag monarchs for Journey North, collect samples for study in this citizen science project run by Dr. Sonia Altizer at the University of Georgia. To help track the spread of a protozoan parasite across North America, volunteers simply use tape to gently gather samples from wild monarchs.
- SC Coastal Monarch Study: A Citizen Science Project <https://www.dnr.sc.gov/volunteering/pdf/MonarchTagging.pdf>
- Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation <https://xerces.org/> -- Primary NRCS partner for monarch conservation. Works closely with Monarch Joint Venture to provide the best science-based information to support monarch conservation. Has created regional plant lists for monarchs, a detailed milkweed guide, a milkweed seed finder app, community science opportunities, and, as part of a project for the Federal Highway Administration, roadside recognition factsheets:
 - Milkweed FAQs <https://xerces.org/milkweed-faq> -- Answers to frequently asked questions

Plants for Monarchs & Other Pollinators (see also those c/o the NRCS links above)

- Audubon's Coleman and Susan Burke Center for Native Plants <https://www.audubon.org/plantsforbirds>
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Plants for Pollinators <https://www.wildflower.org/collections/> -- scroll down to find lists of plants with special value to bees, butterflies, and natural enemies of crop pests (predatory and parasitoid organisms)
- National Wildlife Federation
 - Native Plant Finder <https://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/>
 - Mayor's Monarch Pledge <https://www.nwf.org/garden-for-wildlife/about/national-initiatives/mayors-monarch-pledge>
- Native Plant Trust (for New England, formerly the New England Wildflower Society) <https://www.nativeplanttrust.org/>
 - Go Botany <https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/> -- tool for plant discovery
- NRCS Pollinator Friendly Plants for the Northeast United States https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/nypmctn11164.pdf

- Pollinator Partnership Ecoregional Plant Guides <https://www.pollinator.org/guides>
- UGA EcoScapes <http://marex.uga.edu/ecoscapes/>
- Xerces Society
 - Milkweed Guides <https://xerces.org/milkweed/milkweed-guides>
 - Milkweeds: A Conservation Practitioner's Guide <https://xerces.org/publications/guidelines/milkweeds-conservation-practitioners-guide>
 - Monarch Nectar Plant Guides <https://xerces.org/monarchs/monarch-nectar-plant-guides>
 - PLEASE share your observations of monarchs nectaring on plants in natural communities at <https://tinyurl.com/MonarchNectarObservations>
 - Monarch Butterfly Nectar Plant Lists for Conservation Plantings <https://xerces.org/publications/plant-lists/monarch-butterfly-nectar-plant-lists-for-conservation-plantings>
 - Conservation Status and Ecology of the Monarch Butterfly in the US <https://www.xerces.org/publications/scientific-reports/conservation-status-and-ecology-of-monarch-butterfly-in-us>
 - Pollinator Friendly Native Plant Lists <https://xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/pollinator-friendly-plant-lists>
 - Xerces Roadside Milkweed Fact Sheets <https://www.xerces.org/monarchs/roadsides>
 - Xerces Native Thistles Conservation Guide https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/2018-05/16-029_01_XercesSoc_Native-Thistles-Conservation-Guide_web.pdf

Other National and International Organizations/Agencies Supporting Monarchs & Other Pollinators

- Canada
 - Monarch Butterfly (incl. Action Plan) <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-education-centre/fact-sheets/monarch-butterfly.html>
 - Canadian Wildlife Federation <https://cwf-fcf.org/en/explore/monarchs/>
 - World Wild Fund for Nature (aka World Wildlife Federation) of Canada <https://cwf-fcf.org/en/explore/monarchs/>
- Commission for Environmental Cooperation <http://www.cec.org/background-materials/conserving-monarch-butterfly-and-promoting-sustainable-livelihoods> -- tri-lateral organization of Canada, Mexico, and the US.
- Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) <https://ipbes.net/> -- Supported by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), it assesses biodiversity and associated ecosystem services at the global level. Helps disseminate scientific research results related to biodiversity.
- International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/159971/53710727>
- Mexico
 - Action Plan to Conserve Monarchs <https://www.gob.mx/conanp/documentos/plan-de-accion-para-la-conservacion-de-la-mariposa-monarca-en-mexico-2018-2024> World Wildlife Fund of Canada: Monarch Butterfly http://www.wwf.ca/conservation/species/monarch_butterfly/
 - Soy Monarca <https://www.soymonarca.mx/>
- Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) <http://www.seafwa.org>
- eXtension--a network of the Cooperative Extension System (or contact your local Extension Service directly) <https://impact.extension.org/> for more information on monarchs and pesticides or other agriculture related issues

Regional Monarch News (about Billy McCord!)

Peterson, Bo. 2019. Endangered monarch butterflies found breeding in SC (highlights Billy McCord's work). The Post and Courier (Jan 21, 2019, updated Oct 10, 2019) https://www.postandcourier.com/news/endangered-monarch-butterflies-found-breeding-in-sc/article_82555e42-15d7-11e9-b0ed-0fe4564b0fc5.html

Other Regional Plant Resources (floras, distribution maps...)

- Biota of North America Program (BONAP) (for regional distribution) <http://bonap.org>
- Flora of the Southern and Mid-Atlantic States <http://www.herbarium.unc.edu/flora.htm> (available as an app as FloraQuest) by Alan Weakley
- Name That Plant plant ID for the Carolinas and Georgia by Jamie Marlow (website and mobile app) <http://www.namethatplant.net/>
- NC Audubon Native Plants <http://nc.audubon.org/conservation/bird-friendly-communities/bird-friendly-native-plants>
- Pollinator Paradise Garden created by Debbie Roos in Pittsboro, NC (virtual tours and tons of excellent resources) www.carolinapollinatorgarden.org
- Southeastern Flora: Southeastern US Plant Identification Resource <http://www.southeasternflora.com/>
- Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas: A New Guide for Plant Identification & Use in the Coastal Landscape, Paul Hosier <https://uncpress.org/book/9781469641430/seacoast-plants-of-the-carolinas/>
- SouthEast Regional Network of Expertise and Collections (SERNEC) <https://herbarium.appstate.edu/sernec>
- State Botanical Garden of GA Monarch Butterflies <https://botgarden.uga.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/milkweedinformation.pdf>
- UGA EcoScapes <http://marex.uga.edu/ecoscapes>
- Cover crops:
 - Cover Cropping for Pollinators & Beneficial Insects <http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Bulletins/Cover-Cropping-for-Pollinators-and-Beneficial-Insects>
 - Xerces' Habitat Planning for Beneficial Insects <https://xerces.org/publications/guidelines/habitat-planning-for-beneficial-insects>
 - SARE Managing Cover Crops Profitably, 3rd Edition <https://www.sare.org/resources/managing-cover-crops-profitably-3rd-edition>
 - Southern SARE: Choosing and Managing Cover Crops to Support Beneficial Insects for Pest Control and Pollination <https://southerncovercrops.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Choosing-and-Managing-Cover-Crops-Pest-Protection.pdf>

Regional Conservation Organizations

- AL Wildflower Society <http://www.alwildflowers.org/>
- AR Native Plant Society <https://anps.org/>
- FL Native Plant Society <https://www.fnps.org/>
- GA Native Plant Society <http://gnps.org/>
- Greater Atlanta Pollinator Partnership <https://gapp.org/>
- KY Native Plant Society <https://www.knps.org/>
- LA Native Plant Society <https://www.lnps.org/>
- Longleaf Alliance <http://www.longleafalliance.org/>
- MD Native Plant Society <https://mdflora.org/>
- MS Museum of Natural History <http://mmnsfoundation.com/>
- MS Native Plant Society <http://www.mississippinativeplantsociety.org/> and native plant sources <http://www.mississippinativeplantsociety.org/native-plant-resources.html>
- NC Botanical Gardens (showcases regional native plant communities) <http://ncbg.unc.edu/>
- NC Native Plant Society <http://www.ncwildflower.org/>
- NC Pollinator Conservation Alliance <http://ncpollinatoralliance.org/>
- SC Native Plant Society <http://scnps.org/>
- Southeastern Grasslands Initiative <https://www.segrasslands.org/>
- State Botanical Garden of GA Connect to Protect <https://outreach.uga.edu/connect-to-protect/>
- TN Native Plant Society <http://tnps.org/>
- TN Valley Chapter of Wild Ones <https://tennesseevalley.wildones.org/>
- VA Native Plant Society <http://vnps.org/>

- WV Native Plant Society <http://www.wvnps.org/>
- UGA EcoScapes <http://marex.uga.edu/ecoscapes>

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Grants for Pollinator Habitat (please share additional ideas with nancy.adamson@xerces.org and she'll update this list)

- Bee Friendly Farming - Flow Native Seed Grant <https://www.pollinator.org/bff/flow-seed-grant>
- Burt's Bees Greater Good Foundation <https://www.burtsbees.com/content/outreach/out-reach-asset.html>
- Garden Club of America
- National Garden Clubs <https://www.gardenclub.org/awards-and-grants>
- Native Plants and Wildflower Education Grant <https://www.gardenclub.org/wildflower-education-grant>
 - Youth Pollinator Gardens Grant <https://www.gardenclub.org/youth-pollinator-gardens-grant>
- NC
- NC Native Plant Society <https://ncwildflower.org/grants-and-scholarships/>
- Seed Money for food gardens (note the emphasis on food) <https://seedmoney.org/apply/>
- US Fish & Wildlife Service <https://www.fws.gov/pollinators/programs/assistance.html>