



# Butterfly Garden Tour

The garden has numbered posts around the surfaced outside that match the list below and is universally accessible. Please remember that the plants and flowers are here for our animals, bugs and butterflies and shouldn't be picked or eaten. So far we have identified 27 different species of butterflies visiting this garden.

1. On both side of the entrance are Jasmine bushes. To the left is a Milkweed. Watch for a black and yellow striped butterfly. It is the Zebra longwing, the State butterfly of Florida. The purple flowers are Salvia, the red are Penta and the light blue are Plumbago.
2. On the left is Milkweed and right Coontie. The purple is Porterweed whose purple flowers are a favorite of several species of skipper butterflies.
3. The taller tree on the left is the Tamarind that produces brown, pod-like fruits containing a sweet, tangy pulp, which is used in cuisines and medicines. On the right is a Sweet Almond. Next to the number 3 is a milkweed and the ground cover is Asian jasmine. Watch around the large limestone rock for the Curly tail lizard or the Black spiny tailed iguana.
4. At this time the raised bed contains a mix of wild flowers, Angelonia and some Cranberry hibiscus. You may see a small green lizard, the Carolina anole, on tree trunks in the garden. Its home has changed to the trees because of pressure from the invading Curlytails and Iguanas.
5. In front of you is a Yesterday, today and tomorrow plant. The flowers start out purple and gradually fade to lavender and then white. Behind it with the thin narrow leaves is a Yellow Oleander and in the back a Fiddlewood tree. Look behind you at the three large trees on the other side of the walk. These are Black Olive trees. They are highly tolerant to salt, insects, fungus, wind, and air pollution but their roots are able to dig up paving stones and damage foundations. Notice that the bark is ringed with small holes. Woodpeckers drill these holes and then visit them later when bugs have made the holes their home.

6. This area has been taken over by Spanish needle, the small white flower with the yellow center, and is visited by every butterfly in the garden. To the right is another yellow Oleander.
7. The larger bushes from left to right are the tall Jasmine with its fragrant white clusters of flowers. Look for gold colored Ruddy Daggerwings around the top. The yellow flowers to the back right belong to the Necklace pod tree. Its seeds look like the pop together plastic children's necklace.
8. Chase the lizard off the limestone in front of you and prop your foot on the rock to rest a moment. The brick bed contains Jamaican mint, and Rue. On the ground to your back right with the small dark green leaves is Mexican Spinach.
9. The trellis fence in front of you is covered with a vine called Dutchman's Pipe because of the large pipe shape flower pod. Look for a large mottled brown flower the size of a plate. This vine is the host plant of the Black gold rim Swallowtail. The bush on the left with the white patches is called the Snow bush. It is a favorite of the Polka dot wasp moth caterpillars. DHL Corp. has donated three trees to this area: a Coral Honeysuckle, a Bahama Strongbark, and a Lignum Vitae.
10. On the right are several full Jamaican Capers. The yellow and green leaves on the left are variegated Schefflera and there is a Sable Palm growing up in the middle with its broad fan leaves.
11. The small tree in back right is a Wild Lime, the host for the Giant Swallowtail butterfly. Next to it is another yellow Oleander. The spiky green plants are Pineapple. Since the 1820s, pineapple has been commercially grown in greenhouses and many tropical plantations. It is the third most important tropical fruit in world production. We have planted Poinsettias in front.
12. The two small full trees in back are Chaya trees, between them is a yellow Oleander. The bushes with the purple seeds are Beautyberry. The berries are an important survival food for birds and other animals, though they will not eat them until other sources are depleted. The berries are bitter but can be made into wine and jelly. The Beautyberry has been used as a folk remedy to prevent mosquito bites. We have added a Panama Rose in front.
13. The small yellow flowers are Thryallis and white ones Spanish Needle. There is another Beautyberry to the left and a Candlestick Senna with its thick green leaves and candle shaped yellow flowers. It is a host to Sulpher butterflies.

14. Usually the showiest flower in this group is the Pink Powder Puff on the far right with its lacy leaves. The tallest tree in this group is a purple Trumpet while the Firebush is the one with the bright orange flowers. Look closely under the Firebush branches and you will see some Spanish Moss that looks like a beard hanging down. Spanish moss has no roots and takes in nutrients and water through its leaves. The wooden box is a compost bin and the wood chips are used as mulch to help the plants retain moisture.
15. This bed contains Blue Cypress and Salvia. The purple flowers are the wild petunia, Ruellia, a favorite to the common Buckeye and Malachite butterflies.
16. To the back left is a Roebelini palm with its sharp spikes. In the foreground are Pentas and Milkweed. Milkweeds produce some of the most complex flowers in the plant kingdom and are generally toxic to humans. They are the host plants for the Monarch family of butterflies. The yellow green leaves are Golden Mountain Alyssum.
17. The nitrogen fixing ground cover has yellow Perennial peanut, Blanket flowers and white Scorpion tail, a favorite of Cassius Blue and Hairstreak butterflies. The delicate blooms are Twin flower.
18. Giant Milkweed: The latex of these plants has been used in Africa as an arrow poison. It is a host plant for the Monarch butterflies.
19. Red flower on right is Firespike. These flowers attract many species of butterflies as well as hummingbirds.
20. On the right is a Mussaenda. Notice that there is a modified leaf called a bract under the flowers that also acts to attract pollinators.
21. Hidden in front of you is the Corky stem passion vine, the host plant for Zebra longwings, Gulf fritillary, and Julia butterflies. It likes to grow under cover of another plant when possible. We have planted a Turnera with its bright yellow flowers to help. Longwing caterpillars are white with black hairs while Gulf cats are orange with black. The bright round booms are Blanket flowers
22. Day blooming Jasmine tree: a nectar source for many species of butterfly. The essential oil of *Jasminum officinale* is used in aromatherapy and its heavy, sweet scent is loved by most people. The smaller tree is a Simpson Stopper.
23. We are starting some Coontie and milkweed in this Incubation Nursery. This bed is used to start plants that will be moved to other areas in the park. The dark leaved plants in the back are wild Coffee.
24. Pentas, Blue mist and the light green plants are Texas Sage.

25. The Porterweed in front of the sign is very rich in nectar and is very popular with many butterflies, especially the skippers. Watch for the small brown butterflies.
26. This bed contains Milkweed with yellow flowers, and a native Porterweed with its purple flowers.
27. Simpson stopper is a native of Florida. Its leaves give off a subtle nutmeg fragrance. At its base is the purple Mexican Heather.
28. This trellis is being replanted with passion fruit vines. Passion vines are host plants for Zebra Longwings, Gulf Fritillary, and Julia butterflies. We have planted Mexican Oregano and parsley at the bottom to discourage iguanas.
29. Look for a bright blue flower. This is a butterfly pea vine that can be used to make an herbal tea. One of the most distinctive characteristics of butterfly pea flower tea, and indeed other drinks that use the butterfly-pea flower extract, is that it will change color when the pH balance changes. A deep blue tea will turn purple with the addition of lemon juice, turning a deeper shade of purple the more lemon juice is added. Mixed with fuchsia roselle hibiscus leaves the tea will turn a bright red color.
30. Coreopsis are planted at the base. Growing on the trellis is Dutchman's Pipe, the host plant for the Gold-rim swallowtail. It produces huge colorful flowers. Look for dark brown caterpillars in clusters.
31. The spiky plants Pineapple. Since the 1820s, pineapple has been commercially grown in greenhouses and many tropical plantations. It is the third most important tropical fruit in world production. This red flowered nectar tree in back is a *Jatropha*, which I like better than its common name: Nettlepurge. Plants produce separate male and female flowers. *Jatropha* species have traditionally been used in basketmaking, tanning and dye production. In the 2000s, one species, *Jatropha curcas*, generated interest as an oil crop for biodiesel production and also medicinal importance when used as lamp oil.
32. The herb Rosemary has inch long grey leaves. Rub one and smell. That is a Milkweed in front.
33. Angelonia and purple Salvia are here and low on the ground is Mimosa, the sensitive plant whose compound leaves fold inward and droop when touched or shaken, defending themselves from harm, and re-open a few minutes later.
34. Necklacepod: Look for the characteristic string of seed pods that develop after its yellow flowers germinate into seeds. The bright yellow flowers are Turnera.

35. Florida Keys Blackbead: Look for its fruit, a long coiled bean.
36. Fiddlewood: a favorite of the Atala butterfly. Its wood has been used for musical instruments.
37. This is a Bahama Cassia. The yellow flowers on the right are Turnera, one of the most visited nectar plants in the garden. The ground cover that has taken over is Spanish Shawl *Heterocentron elegans* with its purple flowers.
38. Sedum as ground cover. Sedum can be used to provide a roof covering in green roofs where they are preferred to grasses. Examples include Ford's Dearborn, Michigan Truck Plant, which has a living roof with 454,000 square feet (42,200 m<sup>2</sup>) of sedum. Nintendo of America's roof is covered in some 75,000 square feet (7,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of Sedum.
39. We complete our "Circle of Life" back where we started. We have a Corky-stem Passion vine and newly planted Phlox.