

Monarch Events & Volunteering



Pod Patrol: Pre-Monarch Prep!

July 13, 6:00-8pm, meet at volunteer trailer

Help us patrol the reservation for **black swallow-wort**, an *invasive, non-native plant that threatens monarch butterflies*. We will be releasing monarchs later this summer to help a struggling wild population: getting rid of black swallow-wort will help our Fresh Pond Monarchs thrive! We will pod-pluck our way around the pond at a moderate pace, sunscreen & water bottle recommended.

Caterpillar Craft Craze

July 18, 1-2pm - meet outside Ranger Station

When our Monarch caterpillars arrive they'll need places to eat, grow, and form chrysalides to become butterflies! Help us build some enclosures to keep them safe and happy. All ages welcome, materials will be provided.

Milkweed Planting in Weir Meadow

July 20, 6-7:30pm - meet at volunteer trailer

To kick off Fresh Pond Monarch Watch this summer, let's plant some food for the butterflies. Milk weed is a native plant species that is essential for the growth and development of monarch caterpillars. We will be receiving our caterpillars this week, so help us establish more butterfly-friendly habitat to welcome them to!

➔ **STAY TUNED: Caterpillar check-ups & Monarch release party coming in August!**

Be Our Eyes on the Reservation!

Contact us if you see monarchs as:



Larvae (caterpillars)



Pupas (in cocoon)



Adult butterflies

Please, leave them as you find them - they belong where they are.

Thank you for your help!

Join the 2nd annual Fresh Pond Monarch Watch!



What's This All About?

This project is aimed at protecting and boosting the monarch butterfly population at Fresh Pond through community teamwork between Reservation staff and folks like you. We're raising monarch caterpillars for release in August, **but while they grow, we need help improving habitat for them (and other wildlife!) during volunteer sessions listed on the back of this flyer - please join us!**

Why Monarchs, Why Here?

Migratory monarchs are in decline. Milkweed loss (the plant they depend on) and loss of overwintering habitat in Mexico are probable causes. Since eastern monarchs migrate from maritime Canada all the way to Mexico, each habitat link along their way is crucial! We're ensuring that Fresh Pond is a good "waystation" on their journey - as well as a good place for their young.



Take Part!

Join a volunteer session, **learn more** about the monarchs at our "caterpillar check-ups" and **visit** them at the Ranger Station as they grow! **Be our eyes on the Reservation** - let us know if you see a monarch here, and we'll post your find at the Station and on the web.



For more info and to report a sighting:

Contact Julie at (617) 349-7712 / jcoffey@cambridgema.gov. Or, check out updates and great online resources on the project page at: www.cambridgema.gov/water/freshpondreservation.

Events, Butterfly Release and Volunteer Sessions on Reverse!

