

Monarch Events & Volunteering at Fresh Pond Reservation



Milkweed Planting in Lusitania Meadow

July 11, 5:30-7pm - meets at Lusitania Meadow

To kick off Fresh Pond Monarch Watch this summer, let's plant some food for the butterflies. Milkweed is a native plant species that is essential for the growth and development of monarch caterpillars. Help us establish more butterfly-friendly habitat to welcome them to!

Pod Patrol: Pre-Monarch Prep!

July 16, 1-3pm & July 18, 5:30-7:30pm, 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! Sunscreen & a water bottle recommended.

Caterpillar Check Ups & Release Prep

July 14th, 20th, and 28th, 1-3pm, meets at Ranger Station

Learn more about Monarch butterflies and see how our caterpillars are growing! We will be designing signs and crafting materials for the monarch parade when we release our butterflies into the wild.

Fresh Pond Monarch Release and Parade!

Saturday, August 6th, 2-3:30pm, Rain date Sunday. Parade starts at 2pm

Join us to celebrate the growth of our monarch caterpillars into beautiful butterflies, and wish them luck on their long migration to Mexico. A parade, open to all (costumes and noisemakers welcome) will take us from the Water Treatment Facility to Lusitania Meadow, where we'll send our butterflies off into the flowers. Feel free to just meet us at the meadow too! **Volunteers needed** to help with decorations and costumes!

RSVPs and/or questions? Contact Martine at (617) 349-6489 or fpr@cambridgema.gov.

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! More info at cambridgema.gov/monarchwatch.

Join the 3rd 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, and **working to improve meadow habitat around the reservation while they grow**.

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 Martine at (617) 349-6489 / mwong@cambridgema.gov.

Or, check out updates and great online resources on the project page at: www.cambridgema.gov/monarchwatch.