

Milkweeds are plentiful in dry sunny fields over much of eastern North America—but because of the many housing developments, our area’s fields are being replaced and native landscapes are being altered with substantial ecological disturbances. We are distributing seeds in hopes of replenishing some of the disappearing milkweed, a plant that many living things, like the monarch butterfly, exclusively depend on.

Milkweed leaves are usually undamaged, but large yellow, white, and black-striped monarch caterpillars may be munching on them by midsummer and it is because of this we are passing out the seeds of **common milkweed**. We are hoping to replace some of the many milkweed plants being decimated by development in nearby fields.

Not only do monarch caterpillars benefit from common milkweed the milkweed beetle and milkweed bug occur only on common milkweed; a variety of butterflies and moths nectar on common milkweed flowers as well.

We see common milkweed in open dry fields, and suggest you plant your milkweed seeds in a similar area. Common milkweed requires little care, if any. Push the seed ½-inch into the ground and lightly rub the soil over it, or just broadcast the seeds right on the ground.

Thank you for taking the time to plant and dedicate a little corner of your garden or field for common milkweed, thus ensuring monarch butterflies and other insects and bugs will have abundant host plant (that they depend on) for their offspring and a place to nectar when they return next summer.

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