

Native Plant & Monarch Butterfly Waystation

AT LANTERN HILL COMMUNITY

New Providence, NJ

June 12, 2024



Arciszewski's committee believed this pocket garden would also be a place where residents would enjoy watching the butterflies, bees and other pollinators feed on the nectar plants.

Beth visited the Lantern Hill property and met with Arciszewski to evaluate the site, review the objectives of the committee and discuss budget and implementation



plans. Together they discussed ideas supplied by the committee members and to that expanded the plant collection, extending the seasonality of this future garden and that of its ability to

Beth Riley, owner of The Potted Garden donated her time and expertise to assist Pollinator Garden Chair, Elaine Arciszewski, to assist with the development and design of a new garden. Arciszewski, a resident of the Lantern Hill Community in New Providence, NJ and a talented gardener, requested Riley's assistance to create a native garden.

The committee's focus was to plant primarily native plants that would support the life cycle of the monarch butterfly as well as other pollinators.



attract pollinators. All of these critical elements were utilized as a baseline as Beth created the design. Arciszewski commented, “Beth truly does impressive work.”

The garden was implemented in June 2024. Local experts including Lantern Hill’s Director of General Services identified a garden location on their site, the firm of David Rosen prepared a site survey, Beth created a pollinator rich plant design and collection, the garden was installed by Lantern Hill’s garden maintenance team and The Jim Davis Well Being fund provided generous contributions and support for this new garden. From initial planning sessions led by Arciszewski in 2023, to the detailed plan developed by a collaborative team the garden was planned, planted and is now being enjoyed by residents as well as pollinators! Many hands helped to make the garden a reality.

The garden has been recognized and certified as a Monarch Waystation. Monarch Waystations are places that provide resources necessary for monarchs to produce successive generations and sustain their migration. Without milkweeds throughout their spring and summer breeding areas in



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North America, monarchs would not be able to produce the successive generations that culminate in the migration each fall. Similarly, without nectar from flowers these fall migratory monarch butterflies would be unable to make their long journey to overwin-

tering grounds in Mexico. The need for host plants for larvae and energy sources for adults applies to all monarch and butterfly populations around the world. To learn more please visit <https://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/>

The plant collection developed for this mixed border includes perennials and shrubs. The perennials included in the collection, totaling (60) at implementation: *Asclepias incarnata* (Swamp Milkweed), *Asclepias tuberosa* (Butterfly Weed), *Asclepias syriaca* (Common Milkweed), *Rudbeckia* ‘American Gold Rush’ (Black eyed Susan), *Solidago nemoralis* (Old field Goldenrod), *Echinacea purpurea* ‘Magnus’ (Purple Coneflower), *Agastache* ‘Blue Fortune’ (Giant Hyssop), *Pycnanthemum muticum* (Mountain Mint), *Eutrochium dubium* “Little Joe’ (Joe Pye Weed), *Symphotrichum oblongifolium* ‘Raydon’s Favorite’ (Aromatic Aster) and shrubs: *Clethra alnifolia* (Sweet Pepperbush) and *Viburnum nudum* ‘Brandywine’ (Smooth Viburnum). The combination of the flowering perennials and flowering and fruiting shrubs extends the season of nectar available for pollinators. 🦋

