

July is “Monarch Month” at the Point!

As a part of our 2025 Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, the Borough of Cape May Point has once again designated July as “Monarch Month” at the Point. All residents are encouraged to:

1. **Plant milkweed!** Milkweed and monarch butterflies have an intrinsic connection. What's so special about milkweed? Milkweed is the sole host plant of the monarch butterfly. Monarchs lay eggs only on milkweed, the eggs hatch into caterpillars and the caterpillars eat the foliage.

Every year, the Warren Garden Club donates milkweed plugs to our community. Beginning July 4th weekend, they will be offered on a cart across the street from Borough Hall for a nominal donation. We encourage you to stop by.



Above: Butterfly Weed

The three most common species in our region are common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*), and swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*). *Avoid planting “tropical milkweed.” Please do NOT use herbicides on your milkweed.*

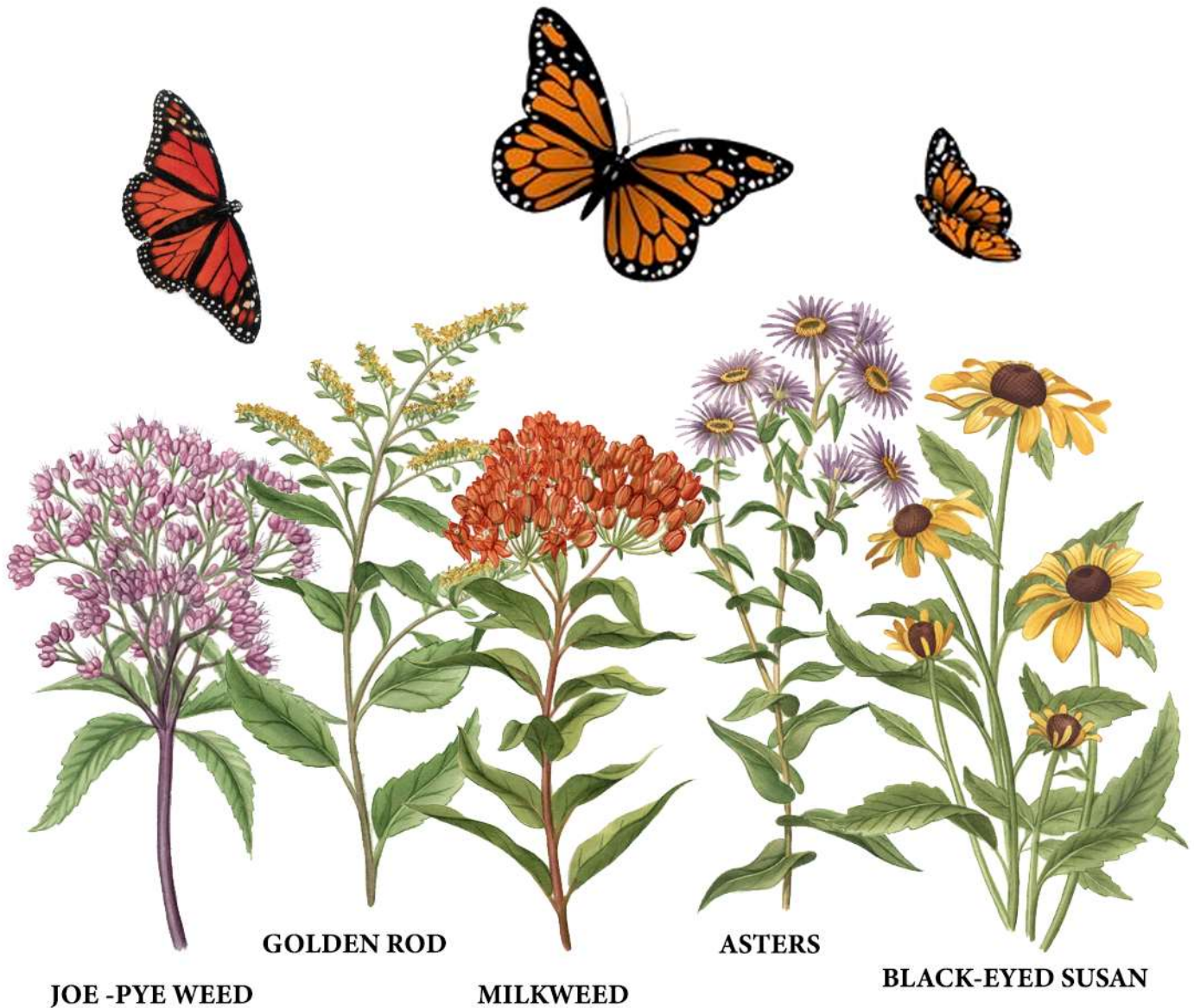
2. **Plant late blooming, nectar-producing plants!** According to the Xerces Society, “Monarchs are in decline across their range in North America, and one of the most significant actions you can take to support monarch populations is providing nectar-rich flowers and milkweed host plants. Adult monarchs depend on diverse nectar sources for food during all stages of the year, from spring and summer breeding to fall migration and overwintering. Caterpillars, on the other hand, are completely dependent on their milkweed host plants. Inadequate milkweed or nectar plant food sources at any point may impact the number of monarchs that successfully arrive at overwintering sites in the fall.”

In addition to milkweed, we urge you to plant one or more of the late-blooming perennials shown on the attachment below (Joe Pye Weed, Golden Rod, native aster and Black-eyed Susan); they provide much-needed nectar for monarchs passing through the Point during their fall migration.

As we continue to support the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, keep an eye out for the **Monarch Minute** section in the Cape May Point Taxpayers' Bulletin to learn more about the monarch butterflies and what we can do to help them thrive in our community.

The CMPT Environmental Commission

MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE



PLANT NATIVE NECTAR-PRODUCING PLANTS

for more information

www.nwf.org

