INVITE BUTTERFLIES TO YOUR GARDEN

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* Design your garden around the **sun** and **wind**: maximize sunny areas
  and minimize the impact of the wind

* Plant for the **caterpillars** -- recognize they are "eating machines"
  -- and because many of our northern butterfly species have trees
  and shrubs as their caterpillar hosts, you may want to place your
  garden to take advantage of these nearby hosts

* Plant adult nectar sources with these points in mind:
  oo Different generations of butterflies are on the wing from **early**
    spring until the frosts of fall ... so a long season of blooms
    is an important factor
  oo **Nectar** content of flowers may be more important than any **color**
    preferences butterflies may have -- many "horticultural" varie-
    ties do not produce enough nectar to entice butterflies
  oo **Caution**: many of the area's most popular "natural" nectar
    sources along our roadways are alien exotics (the only true
    "weeds"), such as Spotted Knapweed, and should not be planted
    in your garden
  oo Watch **how** butterflies are using the flowers in your garden be-
    cause some of the most popular "butterfly flowers" you may read
    or hear about don't always work in everyone's garden -- see
    what does in yours ... and **which** butterflies are found in your area
  oo **Don't use any** pesticides -- let the diversity of nature do its
    thing

* For both caterpillars and adult butterflies, plant as generously
  as possible of each type of plant you put in your garden

* Accommodate what adult butterflies "do" in your gardening plans --
  i.e. basking in sun, nectaring, mating, laying eggs ... and some-
  times sipping water, mud, sap and even rotting fruit

* Make room for a **comfortable** place to sit and watch butterflies eat,
  court and lay eggs in your garden -- an up-to-date butterfly **guide**
  (such as recommended on other side of this sheet) and close-
  focusing (less than 8 feet) **binoculars** will aid your enjoyment of
  these winged wonders

* Even though you are planting for **butterflies**, your efforts will
  benefit many other living things ... as well as providing many
  hours of pure enjoyment and nature education for adults and
  children alike

* Preferred nectar sources for northern Minnesota gardens:
  
  milkweeds
  common yarrow
  asters
  daisies
  purple coneflower
  cosmos
  Joe-Pye weed
  sunflowers
  blazing stars/
  gayfeathers
  Black-eyed Susan
  zinnias
  wild bergamot/bee balm/monarda
  mints
  buddleia/butterfly bush (not
  hardy in far north)