

FAIRBANKS MUSEUM & planetarium



At Home Science

Starting Your Own Butterfly Garden

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The following websites and instructions represent additional resources for continued study of the topics covered in our "At Home Science" online class. All materials on each website are the property of each individual website owner and have been reviewed by a Fairbanks Museum & Planetarium educator.

1. Recent insects spotted outdoors and additional information:

- Nice photo gallery and discussion of cellophane bees:
<https://www.sharpeatmanguides.com/cellophane-bees>
- I-Naturalist & Black Firefly:
<https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/224157-Lucidota-atra>
- Grasshopper vs Cricket:
<https://www.amentsoc.org/insects/fact-files/orders/orthoptera.html>

2. Plants easy to find by roadside:

- Milkweed (Nectar plant for insects and host plant for the Monarch butterfly)
- Queen Anne's Lace (Nectar plant for insects and hostplant for the Black swallowtail butterfly)
- Black-eyed Susan (Nectar plant for insects and hostplant for the Silvery Checkerspot butterfly)

3. Recommended books to help with identification of butterflies and moths:

- Cech, Rick & Guy Tudor. (2005) *Butterflies of the East Coast, An Observer's Guide*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.
<https://www.amazon.com/Butterflies-East-Coast-Observers-Guide/dp/0691090564>
- Beadle, David & Seabrooke Leckie. (2012) *Peterson: Field Guide to Moths of Northeastern North America*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.
https://www.amazon.com/Peterson-Field-Southeastern-America-Guides/dp/054425211X/ref=sr_1_2?dchild=1&keywords=Peterson%3A+Field+Guide+to+Moths+of+Northeastern+North+America&qid=1586189012&s=books&sr=1-2

4. Please find the newspaper pot building instructions attached below.

Instead of newspaper pots, you can use recyclables like aluminum cans and plastic containers as well. Just do not plant the container into the ground like you would do with the newspaper pots. They will not break down and decompose plus the plant's roots will be contained limiting its growth.

HOW TO MAKE NEWSPAPER POTS:

Step 1: Gather quarter sheets of newspaper and paper towel roll.



Step 2: Fold newspaper in half.



Step 3: Place end of roll in the middle of the newspaper at one end.



Step 4: Begin rolling newspaper around the paper towel roll.



Step 5: Roll newspaper completely around the paper towel roll.



Step 6: Fold over hanging newspaper into center of the paper towel roll.



Step 7: Fold entire base in.



Flip over for rest of directions →

Step 8: Remove paper towel roll.



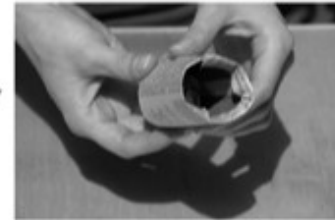
Step 9: Look inside pot and press down folded in paper to make a flat base.



Step 10: Fold over top edge of pot to secure pot together.



Step 11: Here is your fully functional pot ready for dirt and seeds.



The final step is to add water (have a shallow plate to catch excess water) or place right into the ground, water, and watch your plant grow. The newspaper pot will disintegrate into the ground, recycling your newspaper while growing food for your local pollinators!