

Press Release

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WINGS OF ENCHANTMENT BUTTERFLY FARM JOINS WITH GREAT OUTDOORS NURSERY TO HELP MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

ALBUQUERQUE, NM, JUNE 1, 2014: Monarch butterflies are on the decline. This past winter they occupied almost 60% less space in their overwintering grounds in Mexico. Much of the decline is due to habitat loss throughout the US. To help make a difference and to celebrate the beauty and importance of these amazing creatures, the first Saturday in June is set aside as Butterfly Education and Awareness Day (BEAD).

“With the focus on water conservation, many people are putting in rocks and plants that have no local value for pollinators and not realizing that there are plants that are water wise as well as beneficial. We are forgetting how important these pollinators are to us. “If we don’t teach people to plant for the pollinators, many of our food sources are going to disappear,” said Tatia Veltkamp, a local butterfly breeder and proprietor of Wings of Enchantment, a butterfly farm based in Albuquerque. Gardening for butterflies and Monarch butterflies, in particular, can be as simple as knowing what plants to use, according to Veltkamp.

Great Outdoors Nursery 10408 2nd street NW is a great place to learn how you can bring these winged beauties to your yard and help bring back the Monarchs to New Mexico in greater numbers. On Saturday, June 1, 2014, 9am-3pm, come make clay seed balls to take home to your garden, walk thru a butterfly display as you interact with and feed the butterflies, learn what plants you need to have in your garden to attract a variety of New Mexico butterflies including the Monarch.

Wings of Enchantment Butterfly Farm (<http://www.wingsofenchantment.com/>) is the local leader in supplying Albuquerque with education on butterflies. The farm is located in NE Albuquerque and has educational programs available for all ages. The owner, Tatia Veltkamp, has been raising butterflies for more than 12 years.

Great Outdoors Nursery (<http://greatoutdoorsabq.com/>) is located at 10408 2nd Street NW Albuquerque. Phone 505-890-5311 for any questions.

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