

MONARCH MIGRATION & TAGGING PROGRAM

September 24, 2016, 10:00 A.M.



Presented by



Master Gardeners of the Ozarks

Demonstration Garden

122 Felkins Ave. Forsyth, MO

Tom Riley, retired Professor of Entomology and Master Gardener will discuss the annual migration of the monarch butterfly and ways that you can assist them as they travel through Missouri. Demonstrating how attendees can participate in the tag and release program developed by "Monarch Watch" will be the focus of the program. We will demonstrate how to capture, tag, and release monarch butterflies using the tags from Monarch Watch.

Monarch Watch <http://www.monarchwatch.org/> is a program that allows participants to tag and release monarch butterflies as part of a nation-wide, citizen-science initiative to track monarch butterflies on their annual fall migration from breeding grounds in the United States and Canada, to their overwintering sites in Mexico. Monarch Watch was started and is coordinated by the University of Kansas.

Tagging kits will be available to the first 40 attendees/families. In addition to the general public, we would like to invite science and biology teachers, and other group leaders young and old to participate and take this information back to their classrooms and organizations to further promote the Monarch Watch Program.

Kits include official Monarch Watch adhesive tags, a data sheet to record when and where tagging took place, and instructions on how to properly catch, tag, and release monarch butterflies without harming or otherwise impeding the butterfly's ability to continue on with its migration. A limited number of nets will also be available on a first come first served basis.

Since we cannot predict exactly when monarchs will be migrating through our area, live butterflies may or may not be available. We will however still be able to demonstrate the techniques using models, allowing the attendees to practice and be ready once the migrating butterflies appear.

This program is free and open to the public as a community service. For further information contact the Taney county University of Missouri Extension center at 417-546-4431.

