



# Native Plant & Pollinator Gardens Manistee National Forest

## 2010 Accomplishments

Installation of native plant and pollinator gardens began on the Cadillac-Manistee Ranger District of the Manistee National Forest in 2008. So far, two gardens have been established at the District office, four gardens have been established at the Chittenden facility, and this year a garden was established at the Lake Michigan Recreation Area. The Lake Michigan Recreation Area is typically visited by 10,000 people every year, so it is a prime location to teach people about pollinators, native plants, and butterfly-host plant relationships. Each garden contains at least one species of milkweed and a variety of flowering plants to provide nectering opportunities throughout the spring, summer, and fall. Visitors have been very curious about the gardens and are generally very excited to learn about them. In addition to the gardens, 25 acres of seedbeds have been planted with native grasses and wildflowers to provide habitat and grow seed for restoration efforts across the Forest. This fall eight additional acres will be planted for more intense production of common milkweed, butterfly milkweed, coreopsis, and bee balm. The gardens at Chittenden and the Manistee District office were registered as Monarch Waystations. If all goes well with the Lake Michigan Recreation Area garden, it will be registered next year.



Figure 2. Monarch caterpillar on butterfly milkweed in a Chittenden native plant and pollinator garden

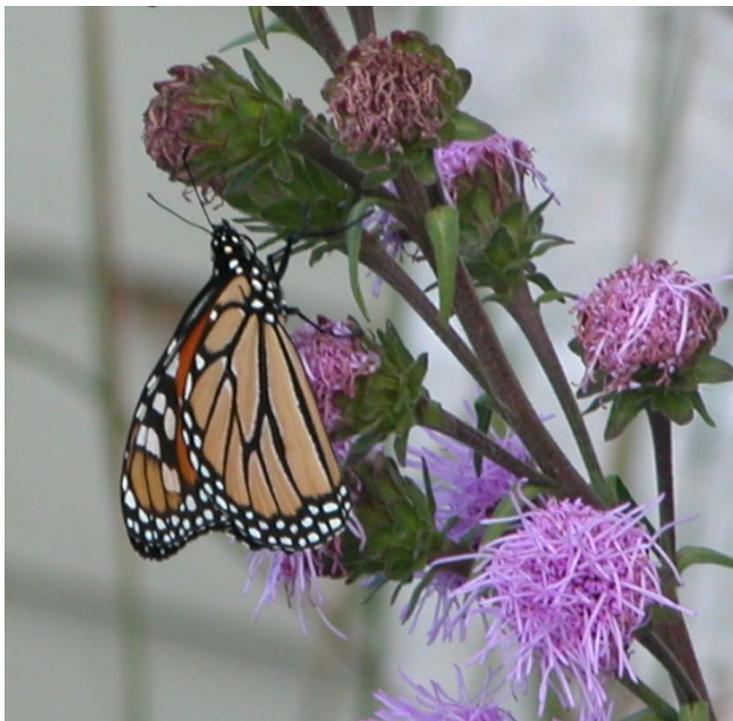


Figure 1. Monarch butterfly on blazing star at Manistee Ranger District Native Plant & Pollinator Garden

Year Project Initiated: 2008

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 10/2010): \$48,900

FY10 funding: \$8,050

Contact Person & phone number:  
Carolyn Henne (231) 723-2211



**Manistee National Forest**  
Manistee Ranger District  
412 Red Apple Rd  
Manistee, MI 49660