



Attracting Monarchs Green Mountain National Forest 2012 Accomplishments

The existing northern hardwoods garden at the Rochester District Office of the Green Mountain National Forest was maintained in 2012. A number of native plant species are thriving there, including many spring ephemerals, ferns, shrubs, and milkweed.

A second native plant garden developed at the Manchester District Office in 2010 continued to thrive in 2012, with milkweed being one of the many native plant species planted there.

A third native plant garden was designed and implemented in 2011 at the Middlebury District Office, and was thriving in 2012..

Milkweed plants are not uncommon on the Vermont landscape, and it is apparent that they have no trouble finding newly established host plants in nearby native plant gardens.



Figure 2. Milkweed is one of several species growing in the Manchester District Office garden (photo by seasonal botanist Melissa Green).



Figure 1. A chrysalis formed on milkweed plants in the Rochester District Office garden (photo by seasonal botanist Melissa Green).

Year Project Initiated

- Rochester Garden was begun in 2008, moved in 2009, and maintained through 2012
- Manchester Garden was initiated in summer 2010 and maintained through 2012.
- Middlebury Garden was initiated in 2011 and maintained in 2012..

Project completion: Garden maintenance and continued development will be ongoing.

Report number: 3 of 3

Expenditures (in 2012):

- Expenditures for gardens include costs of planting and maintaining all species; an estimated cost planting and encouraging milkweed for monarchs is \$50. Overall native plant garden costs are in a separate report.

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