



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media, Pa. (August 16, 2011) – Families are invited to bid goodbye to the butterflies at Tyler Arboretum’s **Butterflies and Buggy Buddies** event on **Sunday, September 4**, from **11:00 am – 3:00 pm**. The event is free with regular admission and includes oodles of insect-related activities to entertain kids of all ages.

Unlike other local butterflies, monarchs end the summer with migration, flying thousands of miles to overwinter in the mountainous cloud forests of Mexico. Come say farewell to these black-and-orange flutterers as they are released from Tyler Arboretum’s **Butterfly House Exhibit** to begin their amazing journey. As the butterflies depart, they will be tagged for **Monarch Watch**, an educational outreach program that uses citizen scientists to track migration patterns.

Monarchs may be the stars of this family-friendly celebration, but they are not the only buggy buddies you will find. Discover **live insects displays**, learn about **worm composting**, play **insect games**, and have fun with **make-and-take crafts**. Use your imagination to draw insect **chalk murals** on Arboretum sidewalks under the guidance of local artists. Create your own buggy costume (or bring one along) and join us for the colorful **Butterfly Parade**. Families are invited to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy on the grounds.

About Monarch Watch (<http://www.monarchwatch.org>)

Monarch Watch is an educational outreach program based at the University of Kansas that engages citizen scientists in large-scale research projects. Its monarch tagging program produces real data and gets children of all ages involved in science. Since its inception in 1992, Monarch Watch has evolved into an electronically-based program with an award-winning website, an active e-mail discussion list, and a growing online community forum. The program involves more than 2,000 schools, nature centers, and other organizations in the United States and Canada, and we estimate 100,000+ students and adults participate in tagging activities each fall.

About the *Butterfly House Exhibit*

Visitors can get up-close-and personal with native monarchs, great spangled fritillaries, painted ladies and swallowtails in Tyler Arboretum's 1,400 square foot Butterfly House, featuring native butterflies in all stages of their life cycles. Filled with the best plants to feed both butterflies and caterpillars, the exhibit is a great resource for home gardeners who want to add beautiful magic to their landscapes. The exhibit is free with admission and is open during regular Arboretum hours through Sunday, September 4.

About Tyler Arboretum

One of the oldest arboreta in the United States, Tyler Arboretum encompasses 650 acres of renowned plant collections, champion trees, rare plant specimens, a butterfly house, historic buildings and 20 miles of hiking trails through woodlands, wetlands, and meadows. Tyler Arboretum is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve, develop, and share its diverse horticultural, historic, and natural site resources in order to stimulate stewardship and an understanding of the living world. The Arboretum offers educational programs, workshops, tours, and special events throughout the year for children and adults.

High resolution images are available by contacting Rebecca Pineo at ckuhn@tylerarboretum.org.