

# Monarch Butterfly Project

In 2016, the EAC began a new project to address the growing concern about the drastic decline of the Monarch butterfly population to near extinction levels.

Milkweed plants are essential for the ability of Monarchs to thrive and reproduce but these have been greatly reduced in number by increased development as well as by the use of herbicides. We are attempting to create Monarch waystations by preserving known stands of milkweed plants on township property by signposting these areas and not mowing them during the growing season. In addition, new milkweed seedlings were planted in select locations such as in the field adjacent to the Thornbury township Farmer's Market to further encourage monarch habitats. We are pleased to report that numerous residents participated by informing us of existing milkweed plants and informing us when Monarchs were sighted.

