

## Real Diamonds Are in Our Own Backyards!

After doing some live presentations and by attending local Horticultural groups gatherings, etc... in the last 5 years, I've decided to spend more time in educating gardeners in our communities on how to create habitats for the butterflies and pollinators instead of arguing and getting ridiculed by strangers through some of the facebook groups. Here are some pictures from the past years: [CLICK HERE](#)



Typical Horticultural Society Presentation



Our typical set up to any gardening event in our city-counties. We give out info and lots of free seeds.

The real diamonds that could help the monarchs are right in our own communities, and if we all did more of this across North America the fall migratory population could increase dramatically.

Besides, it's a lot easier giving out seeds and info in person to local friendly gardeners rather than convincing strangers online to do the same by writing complicated articles that most people will not understand.

Thinking back to all the different names some strangers have called me online (sometimes not so nice) but the best one is when people hear my voice from eye to eye and call me "passionate" about our cause and that is what gets them inspired to plant more for the monarch and pollinators.

After showing flowers and milkweed plants pictures from our own cemented backyard with many different butterflies and pollinators on them all summer long, most of them gets even more inspired to do more in their own gardens.

I would like to encourage you to do the same in your community, reach out to all your family, friends, neighbors, etc... giving away free seeds and or small plants will build trust and friendships that will last for ever. I look at it this way, It may not making me any money but it will make me rich knowing that others will soon experience something wonderful by seeing butterflies and pollinators visiting their gardens. :-)

Spending the last five years in many Facebook groups and by reading the gazillions of scientific studies and reports I've finally made up my own decision for the best practices to help the monarch butterfly.

Once I realized that monarch butterfly will never disappear or go extinct in North America due to their ability to recolonize, once they migrate north in the spring even when their numbers are lower than the previous year.

In fact, some scientific reports have mentioned many times that the only disadvantage with the smaller numbers migrating north it may take sometimes to recolonize the whole North America breeding grounds, therefore some areas may not see any of them until later in the summer.

Therefore by increasing the fall migration starting numbers there is a better chance to have more of them coming up north in the spring. ( With mother nature and climate change help everyone should see some monarch activity in their own garden earlier rather than later.)

For that reason we've decided to work in spreading this message to local communities to plant more habitats and to get involved in rearing a few healthy monarchs in order to increase the migratory population. Science may or may not agree with the hundreds of thousands of folks already doing it all over North America, and if they don't have any other clear better plan in my humble opinion they should at least help us to do it better instead of treating us like toddlers and or calling us by nasty names among social media groups.

We're all God's creation's, we're humans with a good hearth and sounded minds and **NO ONE** will ever change our minds while doing something good for nature, regardless of the gazillion negative articles science throws at us in order to prove their findings or to satisfy their ego. (At least that is my personal feeling after observing some social media latest activities.)

I'm sure glad that I made the right move to leave so many facebook groups and to concentrate more on my backyard Diamonds. ( Tips from Acres of Diamonds Book.)  
Leo Silvestri [www.savethemonarchbutterfly.ca](http://www.savethemonarchbutterfly.ca)



Fall Drying Common, Swamp and Butterfly Weed Milkweed to be giving out for free.



Milkweed seeds ready packed to be giving out or mailed to whoever wants to plant them.



Watching a caterpillar growing gives humans a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.



Releasing a monarch butterfly makes humans happy and puts a smile to Kids faces of all ages.