



# Friends of Deerfield Island Park

November 2021 Newsletter

## SAVE THE DATE

Our next meeting: Friday, November 12 at 10:00 am.  
Watch for more information. Meeting will either be on the island  
or via Zoom.

## News and Events



### Ambassador Training Session

The Island is expected to open on Nov 12. We have set up our first Ambassador Training Session on the Island for Friday, Nov 5 from 10am-12pm.

Volunteering as a FoDIP Ambassador is a fun way to get to know the island, and to meet and chat with families who come to visit, and spread the word about our organization.

Learn how to set up the kiosk with our materials, some basic facts about the island and tips on greeting and interacting with visitors. Space is limited, so Registration is a "must". Trainees must commit to signing up as Ambassador for at least one shift per month. (Friday, Saturday, or Sunday either from 10am-1pm or 1pm-4pm). Information on how to sign up for a shift will be given at the training session.

To register for the training session, contact Fred Kraske at 610-716-3761 or [fred.kraske@gmail.com](mailto:fred.kraske@gmail.com)

Official FoDIP shirts will be available for purchase for those who do not have one.

## Raising Monarch Butterflies

by Pat McGonigal



It was about a year ago that I started to breed Monarchs on my screened patio.

My neighbor, Hector, has been breeding butterflies for quite awhile.

The first step is to acquire some Milkweed plants. I keep them in pots instead of putting them in the ground.

At first, I found the Monarchs laid so many eggs on the milkweed that the multitude of caterpillars soon consumed the entire plant. This caused many to starve before forming the chrysalis. I was disheartened but determined to persevere.

I now leave one Milkweed outside and as the caterpillars start to grow I transfer them to a larger Milkweed inside my screened patio. Here they grow and form the Chrysalis. It is quite amazing. I have found some chrysalis on the screen's ceiling, hanging from the side of a flower pot and even on the underside of an orchid leaf.

Once hatched, the Monarch usually clings to the screen and flutters its wing to dry them. I do not touch them until they start to fly around the room.

After a day or 2, I catch them and release them outside.

I rotate the milkweeds between the outside and the patio to allow them to regenerate. Right now, my milkweeds are inside so they can regrow.

Over the past year I have released at least 80 Monarchs. It gives me great pleasure to be a part of their life. It really is a simple hobby and so gratifying as I watch the chrysalis grow .



Monarch inside Chrysalis

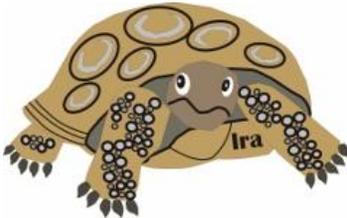


Caterpillar on Milkweed

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[Click here](#) for more information on Monarch Butterflies

You can now view the past 2021 newsletters on our website. [Click here](#)



### Friends of Deerfield Island Park (FODIP)

Formed in March 2015

We are dedicated to preserving and protecting our unique green island as a natural habitat for native plants and for the island's animal inhabitants. We have been approved by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for this purpose.

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