



## BUTTERFLY HIBERNATION BOX

Many people like to place a butterfly hibernating box in their butterfly gardens. Often these boxes are referred to as butterfly houses, but they are actually meant as shelters in which certain butterfly species may overwinter. There are many other places for butterflies to choose for hibernation, most are more natural looking than a manmade hibernating box. However, it is not unheard of for the occasional butterfly to move in. Don't look for occupants in the summer months. These are hibernating boxes, not homes or shelters.

To increase your chance of attracting an occupant to your box, situate it in the woodiest section of your garden. If you can manage to site it near a host plant, you increase your chances even further. If you don't have host plants nearby, a late fall nectar source, like sedum or asters, is also good.

Your hibernation box is designed to hang on a tree or post. As for the height and color of the box, most butterflies are not that discerning. They will hibernate under logs, in tall grasses or even the eaves of your house. Since you bought your box to be attractive as well as to be obliging to butterflies, place the box to please you and then enjoy the butterfly activity knowing you tried your best to be accommodating. See what plants and shrubs you can put in your garden to begin attracting butterflies.

