

NYPENN Pathways  
Brownie Troop 136  
Hornell NY

03/23/2012

Dear Superintendant,

My name is Keri Campbell, I am co-leader for the Hornell Brownie Troop 136. I am writing to express our troops hope to plant milkweed plants at Shawmut Park in Hornell. Milkweed is the main source of food for Monarch Butterflies in their catapiller stage. The Monarch population is in steady decline and we as a girl scout troop would like the opportunity to help this beautiful species. We understand the concern over upkeep of a garden so we would like the opportunity to plant individual milkweed plants through out the North end of the park. Milkweed is a native plant of our area so we would not be introducing a new species to the environment.

Milkweeds are perennial plants, that grow each Spring from not only seeds but also rootstock. There are more then 110 species of Milkweed in North America. We will be using the seed for Asclepias Tuberosa, also known as Butterfly weeds, that can be purchased at our local Hornell Walmart. This form of Milkweed is indiginoues to Eastern North America.

We have approximately thrity scouts and would like them each to plant a few seeds and try and sprout a young milkweed, after the sprout is strong enough we would like to take the seedlings to Shawmut and plant them in the less recreational area of the park. Thus hoping to attract Monarchs and create a more breeding friendly environment. We as a troop are taking some time in April to learn about helping our environment and becoming more Earth friendly. This project would be the perfect opportunity to allow our girls the chance to not only help a dwindling species population but also to give them the chance to learn to make a difference in our environment.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to bring this to your attention and please contact either leader for more information or any questions that you may have concerning this project.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

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