

Prairie State College

Thanks to the generous support of the PSC Foundation and the fundraising efforts of the PSC Sustainability Club, Prairie State College built a butterfly garden! The garden is located near the courtyard between the main building and conference center and will run along the library windows.

On June 5, 9 and 10, volunteers worked with Alessandra Kummelehne, sustainability coordinator, Prairie State College, and Margaret Burns-Westmeyer, University of Illinois Extension Horticulture Program Coordinator, to build PSC's butterfly garden.

Together, volunteers prepared the garden site, built a two-foot high berm, and planted a variety of native plants specifically selected for our site. Annual plants were also planted this year to add a pop of color as the native plants aren't expected to be fully established in this first year.

Some of the native plants to be planted include common milkweed, spicebush, cardinal flowers, false sunflowers, Virginia bluebells, and sweet joe-pye weed. The pheromones released from this combination of native plants are likely to attract the following types of butterflies: Monarch, Swallowtail, Checkered White, Atlantis Fritillary, European Skipper, Early Hairstreak, Spring Azure, and a variety of other butterflies!

View photos of the process at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.831773206877425.1073741843.553683818019700&type=1&l=d23fb79edd>.