

Butterfly Garden

and

South Bluff Nature Center

Bellevue State Park
Bellevue, Iowa

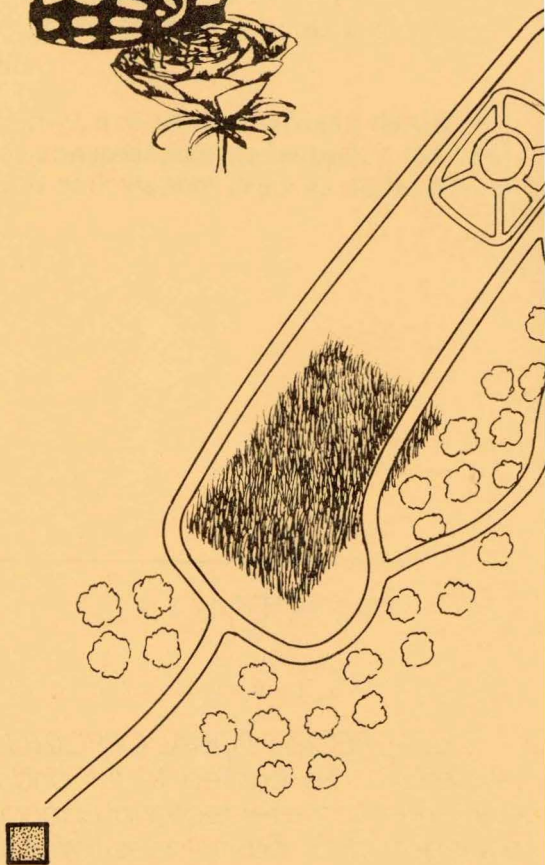
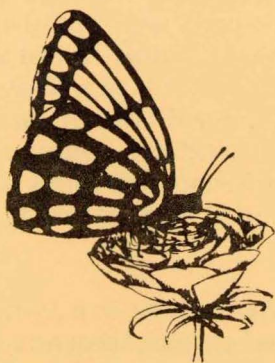
Butterflies found in Iowa are either in the process of migration or are completing one of the various stages of their life cycle. Approximately 60 species of butterflies of various sizes and colors can be expected to make their appearance each year at the Butterfly Garden located in Bellevue State Park, Bellevue, Iowa.

The garden has been designed specifically to attract butterflies by providing nectar plants for the adults and host plants for the caterpillars. It is also being used as a teaching tool for schools as well as a research project to gather data on Iowa's butterflies.

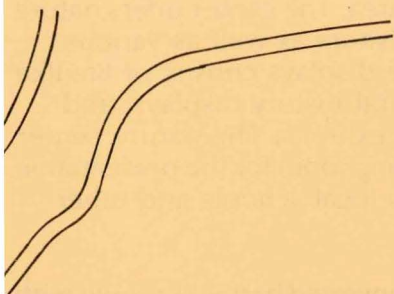
The garden is nestled in an area already rich in natural foodstuffs such as wild aster, ragweed, goldenrod, lambsquarters, daisy fleabane, and milkweed. Surrounding the garden are cottonwoods, wild cherry, hackberry and willows. All of these plants serve as host plants for the butterflies. It is one of only a handful of such gardens in the United States.

Adjacent to the garden is a three-acre prairie site and wildlife food plots. Several species of shrubs such as ninebark, honeysuckle, two species of olive, dogwood, and a variety of hardwoods and conifers have been added to the area to provide food and shelter for other wildlife as well.

Two miles of foot trails traverse the area to allow viewing of the various wildlife that abounds in the park. An area has been established next to the garden to allow close-up viewing of the butterflies.



SOUTH BLUFF
NATURE CENTER



LEGEND



— BUTTERFLY GARDEN



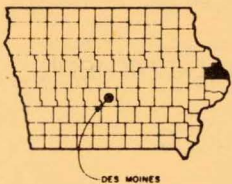
— PRAIRIE



— SHRUBS

PARK LOCATION

21 miles S.E. of Dubuque on U.S. 52
20 miles N.E. of Maquoketa on Iowa 62
35 miles N of Clinton on IA 67 & U.S. 52



DES MOINES



JACKSON COUNTY

The South Bluff Nature Center located nearby contains information and exhibits relative to the area. The center offers nature guides to its visitors as well as various displays. These displays consist of life-like dioramas, natural history displays, and stuffed animal exhibits. The nature center also has a meeting room for the presentation of programs to local schools and other groups.

The center, a converted barracks rebuilt with mostly donated labor and supplies, has been open to park visitors since its dedication in 1984.

NATURE CENTER HOURS

1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays

(other times by appointment)

(319) 872-4019

NOTES

*EQUAL RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:
All persons are entitled to full and equal
enjoyment of the recreational opportunitites,
privileges and advantages available in
Iowa's great outdoors.*

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Wallace State Office Building
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
