



Butterfly Garden Spring Maintenance Checklist

Below are the supplies/tools needed to complete each maintenance task along with an estimated cost, an estimated amount of time needed to accomplish each task, and the frequency each task should be done.

Task Description	Supplies/Tools Needed	Estimated Cost	Est. Time Needed	Frequency of Task
WEEKLY SPRING MAINTENANCE TIPS				
Water plants after they emerge from dormancy.	Garden hose	n/a	20-30 minutes	Twice per week
Pull weeds and clean out garden. Scan the QR Codes on the plant ID signs to learn what the plant species look like to help you avoid removing any host plants.	n/a	n/a	15 minutes	Once
Fill the puddling stations. (March-May)	1:4 Sugar water	\$5	5 minutes	Once
JANUARY				
Clean up from winter. Remove diseased/damaged plants. Contact your local ACES Extension office for advice. www.aces.edu/counties/	Gloves and Pruners	n/a	30 minutes	Once
Review AWF's Funding & Support webpage for funding opportunities for improving the habitat, add educational signage or create activity kits. www.alabamawildlife.org/habitat-lab-funding-support/	AWF Website	n/a	3-4 hours	Once
FEBRUARY				
Prune woody shrubs/bushes if necessary. Do not prune spring blooming plants such as camellias which may have buds.	Gloves and Pruners	n/a	1 hour	Once
If replanting seeds from last fall or starting new ones, now is the time to plant in trays inside.	Seeds, Soil & Containers	\$10	1 hour	Once
MARCH				
Apply Preen Weed Preventer Plus Plant Food.	Fertilizer	\$15	15 minutes	Once
Add 2" of mulch as a weed barrier if needed.	Mulch	\$2 per bag	1 hour	Once
APRIL				
Look for caterpillars and chrysalises on host plants. Optional: Report your findings on Journey North's website	n/a	n/a	30 minutes	Once or twice per week
Plant new annuals and/or replace dead perennials. Divide and share any overgrown perennials.	Hand Spade and Plants	Plant Costs Vary	30 minutes - 1 hour	Once
Prune the spring flowering bushes immediately after they finish blooming.	Handheld Pruners	n/a	1 hour	Once
MAY				
Update your Garden Plant ID Map if needed. Contact your HLL Specialist or Master Gardeners for ID assistance.	Your Garden Plant ID Map	n/a	Up to 1 hour	Once

