



Photo courtesy of <http://fws.gov>

Chincoteague Island, VA Oyster Bay II Community Newsletter Spring 2020

Hello OB II,

Welcome to Spring 2020 on Chincoteague. I hope this newsletter finds everyone feeling well and staying healthy. We've all watched and experienced our world practically being turned upside down over the last couple of weeks and I want to thank our OB II friends and neighbors who have been in touch to see if there was anything they could help my mom and I with. Constant reminders of what a great community we live in.

Looking forward to seeing everyone once our current situation has subsided. Until then, I wish everyone well.

News From The Town ...

Due to the Coronavirus, the Town of Chincoteague is basically closed to all except full-time residents. The text of Mayor Leonard's executive order can be found at <http://www.chincoteague-va.gov>. For those of you who have 2nd homes in our community, the Chincoteague Police Department is willing to check on your home if you are worried about it. Call 757-336-3115 and you will be placed on a list of homes to be checked on.

Neighborhood News ...

Congratulations to Arlene and Joe Dougherty on the sale of their lot (#218) as well as to High Tide Properties for their purchase of it. Can't wait to see what gets built!

Updates From The Boards ...

The meetings of the BoD of the OB II Property Owners Association and the OB Water & Sewer Co. that were scheduled for April 18th have been postponed. Once a new date has been established, you will be notified.. All OB II members are welcome to attend these meetings.

Meeting Minutes from the **OB II POA** BoD meeting held on October 19th, are available at <http://www.ob2poa.org> under the members section.

OB Water & Sewer Co., Inc.: The Annual Shareholders Meeting Minutes and the W&S Co. Board meeting minutes from the October 19th meeting are also posted on the community website;

Important OB II Reminders ...

- * **Brush was scheduled to be collected on April 2nd.** However, since the Town is closed until further notice, please call (757.336.6519) once everything is back up and running to schedule your pick up.
- * **Any construction on your property** requires the approval of the Architectural Committee and town permits. The ob2poa.org website contains the OBII Building Plan Process as well as links to the Town's website for Forms and Applications in the Resources (<https://ob2poa.org/Resources/Index/html>) and the members (<https://ob2poa.org/Members/Index.html>) sections.

What's Good For The Butterfly Is Also Good For The Bee ...

Content & photos are courtesy of <http://www.fws.gov>

Monarch butterflies are an iconic species, easily recognized by their large and vibrant orange wings. Monarchs carry out one of the most incredible cross-continental journeys in the animal kingdom, travelling upwards of 3000 miles from Canada and the northern United States to the oyamel fir forests in the mountains of Mexico. Unfortunately, the monarch butterfly migration is declining and work needs to be done to protect and sustain future populations.



For decades, many hundreds of millions of monarchs flooded the continental United States and southern Canada each spring and summer after wintering in Mexico. Their population has decreased by as much as 90 percent in recent years. Scientists believe that's primarily because monarchs have lost much of their habitat – particularly their host plant, milkweed – to agriculture and development



The annual migration of the monarchs' eastern population is amazing. That migration involves four or five generations of the butterfly, beginning in spring in

Mexico, continuing through summer in the United States and Canada, and ending in fall back in Mexico.

Monarchs, like other butterflies and moths, undergo complete metamorphosis, meaning that they have an egg, larva, (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis) and adult stage. The egg and caterpillar stages occur only on species of milkweed (genus *Asclepias*) whereas adults survive by nectaring on a variety of flowering plants.



Female monarchs only lay eggs on milkweed plants since monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed. The milkweed plant provides both food and shelter for a caterpillar for approximately two weeks (dependent on temperature), while it eats almost constantly, pausing only to shed its skin. The period between each shedding of the skin, or molt, is called an instar. Monarchs have five larval instars and grow to almost 2,000 times their original mass.

A late fifth instar monarch will generally crawl away from the milkweed plant it was feeding on to find a secure location where it forms a silk pad and hangs upside down in a J shape before shedding its skin one last time to expose the bright green chrysalis. In 8 to 15 days, an adult emerges, pumps fluid to its wings to give them shape, and spends several hours drying before it is ready to venture off.

Creating a pollinator garden is a great way to help provide essential habitat. Milkweed and other native wildflowers provide nectar for pollinators. Butterflies like to bask in the sun and some of their favorite wildflowers grow best in full or partial sun with some protection from the wind. Take a look at your soil. You can check out the soil mapper for Accomack County to learn more. The soil type and the amount of sunlight it gets will help determine the kinds of plants grown. Research which varieties of milkweed and wildflowers are native to our area. Native plants are the ideal choice, because they require less maintenance and tend to be heartier. It's essential to choose plants that have not been treated with pesticides, insecticides or neonicotinoids. You'll also want to focus on selecting perennials to ensure your plants come back each year and don't require a lot of maintenance. Remember to think about more than just the summer growing season. Pollinators need nectar early in the spring, throughout the summer and even into the fall. Choosing plants that bloom at different times will help you create a bright and colorful garden that both you and pollinators will love for months.

Remember, if you help monarchs, you help other pollinators that are vital to the human food chain, too.

**OB II Community Property Owners Association
2020 Board of Directors & Membership Committees**

President
Kathy Bradley

Vice President
Buford T. Rowland

Secretary
Andy Suchoski

Treasurer
Michelle Ruane

Terry Bradley

Jean Hubbard

Dave Hudgins

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Ethan Simonson

Budget Audit

Michelle Ruane (Chair)

Kathy Bradley

Jean Hubbard

Communications

Jean Hubbard (Chair)

Andy Suchoski (Webmaster)

Community Improvement/Maintenance

Kathy Bradley (Chair)

Terry Bradley

Jean Hubbard

Ethan Simonson

Documentation/Records

Monica Suchoski (Chair), Historian

Carol Welsh

Diane Wien

Utilities Committee

Dave Hudgins (Chair)

Jean Hubbard

**Corporate Registered Agent for Oyster Bay II Community
Property Owners Association**

Terry Bradley

**OB Water & Sewer Company
2020 Board of Directors & Membership Committees**

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Vice President
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Jean Hubbard

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Miranda Duston

Robert Kasper

Jim Smith

Operations & Maintenance

Jim Smith

*Corporate Registered Agent for Oyster Bay Water & Sewer Co., Inc.

Please Check Your Information ...

Please check and confirm that your contact information featured on the website is correct and current. If you have forgotten your login and/or password, please contact Andy Suchoski at andy.suchoski@verizon.net.

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