

Board of County Commissioners

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News Release

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For Immediate Release

Bear Branch Nature Center prepares for Monarch Madness Festival

August 23, 2010 - Celebrate the arrival of autumn at Bear Branch Nature Center's 4th annual Monarch Madness festival and learn about the amazing annual migration of Monarch butterflies to and from Mexico. The festival will be held at the Nature Center, located on the grounds of Hashawha Environmental Center, on Sunday, Sept. 19, from noon to 4 p.m. Hashawha is located at 300 John Owings Road, north of Westminster.

Activities include special guest speakers talking about Monarch way stations, native gardening, and integrated pest management. Meet a life-sized Monarch butterfly and caterpillar, and take a guided walk and learn about native and invasive plants and butterfly habitat. Children will enjoy a variety of crafts, games, face painting, and butterfly storytelling.

Native plants, butterfly items, food, beverages, and souvenirs will be available to purchase. Be sure to allow time to browse the various exhibits in the Nature Center during your visit.

A \$5 per vehicle parking donation will be collected. This event is co-sponsored by the Carroll County Outdoor School and the Friends of Hashawha/Bear Branch.

The Board of County Commissioners sponsors these and other activities at the Hashawha Environmental Center through the Department of Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit <http://ccgovernment.carr.org/recreation>.

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