Beautiful butterflies, water gardens and bromeliads are a visitor’s first experience as they enter the Extension Office garden area.

**Butterfly Garden** - Located on the west side of the office, the garden provides both nectar and larval plants for butterflies to complete their life cycle. This garden was created in 2003 with the help of a group of home school students. Master Gardener Carole Williams has taken the lead in maintaining the garden since its creation, and is now looking to pass the trowel on to another master gardener who is knowledgeable and/or interested in learning more about butterfly gardening. A commitment of once or twice a month for a couple hours is all that is needed. For information about How to Create a Butterfly Garden, click on the link below to find the 20-minute video created in April 2007 by Anita and Kate: [http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/INeedToKnow.html](http://stlucie.ifas.ufl.edu/INeedToKnow.html)

**Water Gardens** - Another focal feature of the entrance area is the ponds. These water gardens feature plants such as pickerel weed, alligator flag, spatterdock, and horse tail rush. Used concrete bricks border the ponds to demonstrate how recycled materials can be used in gardens. More recent additions to the ponds include water lilies and a few gold fish donated by Master Gardener Rolande Dahan.

**Bromeliad Gardens** - Maintained by Master Gardener Lily Bernas since 2007, these stunning gardens offer not only eye appeal, but also benches for visitors to reflect. Lily volunteers a few hours twice a month to keep up the area and needs another MG to help, particularly this spring to clean up from the January cold spell.

The face of the Extension Office and the Master Gardeners are represented by these beautiful gardens at the entrance. If you are interested in helping maintain these unique gardens, please contact Kate O’Neill at 772-462-1660.

Images by Joanna Webb

Left, from top to bottom: Queen, Zebra Longwing, Great Southern White, Gulf Fritillary, Cloudless Sulphur, Monarch, Giant Swallowtail. Images by Joanna Webb

Below: Sitting bench in the bromeliad garden at the Extension Office entrance.