

Moths

Nature's Nighttime Pollinators



Moths are pollinators,
just like bees and butterflies.

Moth caterpillars are food for many creatures; birds, bats, other insects

Moths are sensitive to changes in their environment; when they are doing well, we know ecosystems are healthy!

GARDENING FOR MOTHS

Include many flowering plants in your garden to provide nectar for moths. Moths often visit night blooming flowers that are white or pale in color, such as soap lily and evening primrose. Remember to account for caterpillars that will turn into moths and provide plenty of plants for food and shelter.



Evening Primrose (*Oenothera Elata*)

Leave the leaves! Moths use leaf litter, small brush piles and branches as shelter.

Avoid using pesticides to protect all living creatures

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

MOTHS

VS.

BUTTERFLIES

12,000

moth species

800

butterfly species

Mainly nocturnal, or active at night

Mainly diurnal, or active during the day

Feathery or comb-like antennae

Club shaped antennae



White-lined Sphinx

Hyles lineata

Sacramento area native



Ceanothus Silkmoth

Hyalophora euryalus

Sacramento area native

PROTECTING MOTHS

You can protect our nocturnal friends by making some simple changes at home:

- Only use outdoor lighting where and when it's actually needed.
- Use light covers so light only shines down, not out in all directions.
- Use motion-detectors and timers so lights are only on when needed.
- Use dimmer, warmer toned bulbs (yellow or red) or cover bulbs with a filter.



**CALIFORNIA NATIVE
PLANT SOCIETY**
Sacramento Valley Chapter