Leave the Leaves

Most butterflies and moths overwinter all around us, as eggs, caterpillars, chrysalises, or even adult butterflies. Many of these butterflies rely on leaves that have fallen to the ground for protection and cover throughout the winter—they burrow into leaf litter in the fall and emerge in the spring when temperatures warm. Bumblebees and fireflies also rely on the insulation of leaf litter to survive the winter. If you rake and bag up your leaves in the Fall, all those butterflies, moths, and fireflies go with them to be composted.

Butterflies, Moths and Fireflies Need Them