

The Transfer: Step-by-Step:

- 1.** 1-2 hours prior to the release take the butterflies out of their original shipping container (while the ice packs are still cold). The butterflies need to be cool while transferring. While still in their special transfer packages, place them into a refrigerator for 15 to 30 minutes to help them chill out and get sleepy enough so that they are unable to fly. **DO NOT FREEZE.**
- 2.** Afterwards, take the butterflies out of the cooled container or refrigerator to a small room set at standard room temperature (approx. 68° to 74° F) and then close the door. (*Don't worry if the room temperature is not precise*).
- 3.** Take each special transfer package and slip inside the box just under the lid or in the slot at the top of the release cage. Open the packages with the flap facing down and allow the butterflies to slide out of the envelope into the box or cage. The butterflies will be "sleepy" and will fall down to the bottom until they wake up. We normally put two butterflies in each package. It generally takes about 2-3 minutes per dozen to complete this job for an untrained "butterfly wrangler."

Note - you should be able to transfer all the butterflies into your box with no escapees. However, should a butterfly escape during the transfer process, you will need to recapture it. Butterflies are attracted to light, so the escapee will likely fly toward a window or other source of light in the room. Simply pick it up by the wings (which should be closed). Alternately, you can cup your hands around the escapee (if the wings aren't closed) and transfer it to the box. Despite what you've always been told, handling a butterfly gently will not harm it.

Viewing / Release Cage Opening Instructions:

To open, twist while gently pulling from each end. Hold the top and bottom rims of the cage and slowly twist in opposite directions. While twisting, allow the pressure from the expansion support bars to push the cage open – be careful not to "pull" the cage open as this may cause the support bars to pull out of the seam.

