



## Common Eastern North American Butterflies and Associated Host Plants\*\*

\*non-native

Butterfly	Caterpillar Host Plants	
	Botanical Name	Common Name
American Lady	Antennaria*	Pussytoes
	Vernonia noveboracensis	Ironweed
American Snout	Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
Appalachia Brown	Carex	Sedge
Baltimore Checkspot	Chelone glabra (early instar)	Turtlehead (early instar)
	Penstemon (later instar)	Beardtongue (later instar)
	Fraxinus (later instar)	Ash (later instar)
	Viburnum (later instar)	Viburnum (later instar)
Black Swallowtail		Dill*
		Parsley*
		Fennel*
		Rue*
Checkered White		Cabbage
Clouded Sulfur	Robinia pseudoacacia	Black Locust
	Trifolium repens*	White Clover
	Baptisia	False Indigo
Common Buckeye	Ruella humilis	Wild Petunia
	Penstemon digitalis	Beardtongue
Common Wood Nymph	Schizachyrium	Little Bluestem Grass
Delaware Skipper	Panicum	Switch Grass
	Schizachyrium	Little Bluestem Grass
Eastern Comma	Ulmus	Elm
Eastern Tailed Blue	Trifolium repens*	White Clover
	Baptisia	False Indigo
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	Magnolia virginiana	Sweetbay Magnolia
	Liriodendron tulipifera	Tuliptree
	Fraxinus	Ash
Giant Swallowtail		Rue*
Gray Hairstreak	Alcea rosea*	Hollyhock
	Quercus	Oak
	Trifolium repens*	White Clover
Great Spangled Fritillary	Viola labradorica	Violet
	Viola pedata	Violet
Hackberry Emperor	Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
Horace's Duskywing	Quercus	Oak



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	Botanical Name	Common Name
	Carya	Hickory
Least Skipper	Panicum	Switch Grass
	Schizachyrium	Little Bluestem Grass
Meadow Fritillary	Viola labradorica	Violet
	Viola pedata	Violet
Monarch	Asclepias incarnata	Swamp Milkweed
	Asclepias purpurescens	Purple Milkweed
	Asclepias tuberosa	Butterfly Weed
Mourning Cloak	Salix	Willow
	Ulmus	Elm
	Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
Orange Sulphur	Baptisia	False Indigo
	Trifolium repens*	White Clover
Northern Pearly Eye	Chasmanthium latifolium	Northern Sea Oats
	Carex	Sedge
	Muhlenbergia	Muhly Grass
Painted Lady	Centaurea*	Star Thistle
	Echinops*	Globe Thistle
	Helianthus	Sunflower
	Wormwood	Artemisia
	Alcea rosea*	Hollyhock
Pearl Crescent	Aster	Aster
Question Mark	Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
	Ulmus	Elm
Red Banded Hairstreak	Quercus	Oak
	Rhus	Sumac
	Myrica cerifera	Southern Bayberry
Red Spotted Purple Admiral	Quercus	Oak
	Crataegus	Hawthorn
	Amelanchier	Serviceberry
	Betula	Birch
Silvery Checkerspot	Rudbeckia	Black-eyed Susan
	Helianthus	Sunflower
Spicebush Swallowtail	Sassafras albidum	Sassafras
	Lindera benzoin	Spicebush



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	Botanical Name	Common Name
Spring Azure	Cornus	Dogwood
	Vaccinium	Blueberry
	Viburnum	Viburnum
Striped Hairstreak	Quercus	Oak
	Rhus	Sumac
	Myrica cerifera	Southern Bayberry
Tawny Emperor	Celtis occidentalis	Hackberry
Variegated Fritillary	Viola labradorica	Violet
	Viola pedata	Violet
	Passiflora incarnata	Passion Flower
	Podophyllum peltatum	Mayapple
	Sedum ternatum	Woodland Sedum
Viceroy	Salix	Willow
White M Hairstreak	Quercus	Oak
Zebra Swallowtail	Asimina triloba	Pawpaw

\*\*Note: This list is a quick reference and starting point for gardeners interested in raising common butterflies right in their own backyards. It is not an exhaustive list by any means. Several plant genus are non-native and others encompass both native and non-native species. Use maps at <https://plants.usda.gov> to determine a plant's native origin. A few plant species as well as some common butterflies were eliminated if their caterpillar host plants were not readily available in the nursery trade. For a thorough commentary on our butterflies and moths, refer to David Wagner's book Caterpillars of Eastern North America. Keep in mind, you will need nectar plants for the adults as well.