



CREATE YOUR OWN BUTTERFLY GARDEN

It is easy to create or convert your garden into a private retreat for native butterflies. Butterflies use plants during each stage of their life cycle - egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis) and adult (butterfly). A butterfly garden that includes plants for the entire life cycle will attract the greatest number and variety of native butterflies. Flowers provide a good source of nectar to attract the adults. When a butterfly detects something sweet, it will extend its coiled proboscis and probe into the flower for nectar. It is important when choosing plants to select a variety that will bloom at different times of the season to make your garden more attractive to a wider assortment of butterflies. Plant the flowers in clusters of each species and create a garden that includes several different colors and flower heights. Clusters of flowers are easier for the butterflies to locate than individual plants. A mixture of annuals, perennials and biennials will allow you to experiment with different flower combinations each year as you discover which species work best for your area.

Most caterpillars are specific about the plants they feed on, and female butterflies will only lay their eggs on the caterpillar food plants. Since you cannot have butterflies without caterpillars, be sure to provide a variety of caterpillar food plants to meet the needs of the species in your area. Some plants, like milkweed and alfalfa, provide both nectar for adults and food for many species of caterpillar. Another important aspect of butterfly gardening is the need to provide sources of shelter for the butterflies. Tall trees can provide a place for butterflies to roost at night or during cloudy weather (willows, ash, and chokecherry are also caterpillar food plants for some species). Or, try one of our beautiful butterfly houses. Plant your garden in a sunny place to increase blooming, and provide rocks for butterflies to bask in the sun. Butterflies bask to heat up their wing muscles for flight. Most Important: DO NOT USE PESTICIDES in or near your garden.

REGIONAL PLANTINGS FOR BUTTERFLY GARDENS

Mid-Atlantic

BUTTERFLIES

Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)
 Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
 Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
 Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)
 Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
 Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
 Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*)
 Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)
 Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)

HOST PLANTS

milkweeds
 willow, poplar, cherry
 (*Viola*) species
 willow, poplar, elm
 various mallows, thistles
 clovers
 clovers and other legumes
 willow, poplar, alder
 Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia*)

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Monarda (*Monarda*) species
Goldenrods (*Solidago*) species
Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Verbena (*Verbena*) species
Joe-pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*)
Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)

California

BUTTERFLIES

Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*)
Anise Swallowtail (*Papilio zelicaon*)
West Coast Lady (*Vanessa annabella*)
Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)
Variable Checkerspot (*Euphydryas chalcedona*)
Sara Orangetip (*Anthocharis sara*)
Acmon Blue (*Plebejus acmon*)
Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, elm
various parsleys
various mallows
willow, poplar, elm
Scrophularia, *Mimulus*
various mustards
buckwheats
passion vine
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Heliotrope (*Heliotropum arborescens*)
Yerba Santa (*Eriodictyon californicum*)
Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)
Thistles (*Cirsium* species)
Lantana (*Lantana camara* and others)
Statice (*Limonium* species)
Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)
California Buckeye (*Aesculus californicus*)
Yarrow (*Achillea* species)

Florida

BUTTERFLIES

Eastern Tiger Swallowtail *Papilio glaucus*
Queen (*Danaus gilippus*)
Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*)
Palamedes Swallowtail (*Papilio palamedes*)
Zebra Longwing (*Heliconius charitonius*)
Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*)
Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, alder
milkweeds
citus, hop tree, prickly ash
redbay and other laurels
Passion vine
mallows and legumes
Dutchman's Pipe
Passion vine
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)
Verbena (*Verbena braziliensis*)
Blazingstar (*Liatris* species)
Joe-pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)
Phlox (*Phlox drummondii*)
Firewheel Blanketflower (*Gallardia pulchella*)

Great Lakes

BUTTERFLIES

Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)
Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
Common Buckeye (*Junonia coenia*)
Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*)
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, cherry
willow, poplar, elm
clovers
plantago, snapdragons
various violets
various mallows and thistles
Dutchman's Pipe
citrus, hop tree, prickly ash
willow, poplar, alder
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)
False Indigo (*Baptisia leucantha*)
Lilac (*Syringia vulgaris*)
Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)
Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Blazingstars (*Liatris* species)
Phlox (*Phlox paniculata*)

Midwest

BUTTERFLIES

Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*)
Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
Silver-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*)
Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*)
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, cherry
various violets
clovers and other legumes
various mallows and thistles
various violets
Dutchmans' Pipe
citrus, hop tree, prickly ash
willow, poplar, alder
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia davidii*)
Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)
Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)
Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)
Joe-pye Weeds (*Eupatorium* species)

New England

BUTTERFLIES

Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*)
Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
Baltimore Checkerspot (*Euphydryas phaeton*)
Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, cherry
carrot family
various violets
penstemon, plantago, ash, viburnum
various mallows, thistles
willow, poplar, elm

White Admiral(*Limenitis arthemis*)
Striped Hairstreak(*Satyrium liparops*)
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail(*Papilio glaucus*)
Monarch(*Danaus plexippus*)

willow, birch, poplar
oak, willow, blueberry, cherry
willow, poplar, alder
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Wild Indigo (*Baptisia tinctoria*)
Lance-leaved Goldenrod (*Solidago graminifolia*)
Common Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)
Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia serotina*)
Thistles (*Cirsium* species)
Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*)

Rocky Mountains

BUTTERFLIES

Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)
Weidemeyer's Admiral (*Limenitis*)
Orange Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*)
Melissa Blue (*Lycaeides melissa*)
Clodius Parnassian (*Parnassius clodius*)
Western Tiger Swallowtail(*Papilio rutulus*)
Anise Swallowtail (*Papilio zelicaon*)

HOST PLANTS

Scrophularia, mimulus
clovers
willow, poplar, elm
willow, poplar
clovers and other legumes
legumes, mallows
legumes
Bleeding Hearts
willow, poplar, elm
parsleys

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed(*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Pincushion Flower(*Scabiosa* species)
Butterfly Bush(*Buddleia davidii*)
Buckwheats(*Eriogonum* species)
Verbena(*Verbena* species)
Lantana(*Lantana camara*)and others
Purple Coneflower(*Echinacea purpurea*)

Southeast

BUTTERFLIES

Red-spotted Purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Silver-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*)
Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)
Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes*)
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)
Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, cherry
Viola species
clovers
Dutchman's Pipe
Viola species
carrot family
willow, poplar, alder
milkweeds
willow, poplar, elm

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed(*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Butterfly Bush(*Buddleia davidii*)
Lilac(*Syringia vulgaris*)
Hoary Mountain Mint(*Pycnanthemum incanum*)

Purple Coneflower(*Echinacea purpurea*)
Lanceleaf Coreopsis(*Coreopsis lanceolata*)
Phlox(*Phlox subulata*)

Pacific Northwest

BUTTERFLIES

Mourning Cloak(*Nymphalis antiopa*)
Sara Orangetip(*Anthocharis sara*)
Painted Lady(*Vanessa cardui*)
Common Buckeye(*Junonia coenia*)
Westo Coast Lady(*Vanessa annabella*)
Gary Haristreak(*Strymon melinus*)
Clodius Parnassian(*Parnassius clodius*)
Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*)
Anis Swallowtail (*Papilio zelicaon*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, elm
various mustards
mallows, thistles
plantago, snapdragons
mallows
mallows and legumes
Bleeding Hearts
willow, poplar, elm
parsleys
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Weed(*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Butterfly Bush(*Buddleia davidii*)
Globe Amaranth(*Gomphrena globosa*)
Annual Statice(*Limonium* species)
Verbena (*Verbena bonariensis*)
Golden Marguerite(*Anthemis tinctoria*)

Southwest

BUTTERFLIES

Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*)
Queen (*Danaus gilippus*)
Marine Blue (*Leptotes marina*)
Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)
Sara Orangetip (*Anthocharis sara*)
Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*)
Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
Giant Swallowtail (*Papilio cresphontes*)
Two-tailed Swallowtail (*Papilio multicaudata*)
Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*)

HOST PLANTS

mallows, thistles
milkweeds
Plumbago
Passion Vine
various mustards
mallows and legumes
Dutchman's Pipe
citrus, hop tree, prickly ash
choke cherry, hop tree,
milkweeds

NECTAR PLANTS

False Indigo (*fruticosa*)
Lantana (*Lantana camara*)
Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Narrowleaf Milkweed (*Asclepias angustifolia*)
Wooly Butterfly Bush (*Buddleia marubifolia*)
Yarrow (*Achillea* species)
Verbena (*Verbena* species)

Texas

BUTTERFLIES

Red-spotted Purple(*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)
Gulf Fritillary(*Agraulis vanillae*)
Clouded Sulphur(*Colias philodice*)

HOST PLANTS

willow, poplar, cherry
Passion Vine
clovers

Queen(<i>Danaus gilippus</i>)	milkweeds
Marine Blue(<i>Leptotes marina</i>)	Plumbago
Pipevine Swallowtail(<i>Battus philenor</i>)	Dutchman's Pipe
Giant Swallowtail(<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>)	citrus, hop tree, prickly ash
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail(<i>Papilio glaucus</i>)	willow, poplar, alder, tulip tree
Zebra Longwing(<i>Heliconius charitonius</i>)	Passion Vine

NECTAR PLANTS

- Antelope Horn(*Asclepias asperula*)
- Butterfly Bush(*Buddleia davidii*)
- Viburnum(*Viburnum rufidulum*)
- Verbena(*Verbena* species)
- Purple Coneflower(*Echinacea purpurea*)
- Tall Boneset(*Eupatorium altissimum*)
- Elbow Bush(*Foresteria pubescens*)