

HOST PLANTS FOR BUTTERFLIES

Adult Butterflies will visit a wide variety of flowers; these are host plants for the Larvae (Caterpillars).

An incomplete list of butterfly species as there are over 50 native to New York.

Many of the butterflies omitted from this list do not use garden or landscape plants as larval hosts.

Butterfly		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Larval Native Host Plants(s)
<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	American lady	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i> (Pearly everlasting)
<i>Speyeria aphrodite</i>	Aphrodite fritillary	<i>Viola spp.</i> (Violets)
<i>Euphydryas phaeton</i>	Baltimore checkerspot	<i>Chelone glabra</i> (White turtlehead) <i>Penstemon hirsutus</i> (Beardtongue)
<i>Satyrrium calanus</i>	Banded hairstreak	<i>Carya ovata</i> (Shag-bark hickory) <i>Juglans cinerea</i> & <i>nigra</i> (Butternut & Black walnut) <i>Quercus spp.</i> (Oaks)
<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>	Black swallowtail	<i>Zizia aptera</i> (Heart-leaved Alexander) <i>Zizia aurea</i> (Golden Alexander) Non-Native Host Plants: <i>Carrots, Parsley, & Dill</i>
<i>Erynnis lucilius</i>	Columbine duskywing	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> (Columbine)
<i>Nymphalis vaualbum</i>	Compton tortoiseshell	<i>Salix spp.</i> (Willows)
<i>Satyrrium titus</i>	Coral hairstreak	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> (Black chokeberry) <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> (Pin cherry) <i>Prunus nigra</i> (Canada plum) <i>Prunus serotina</i> (Wild black cherry) <i>Prunus virginiana</i> (Choke cherry)
<i>Erynnis icelus</i>	Dreamy duskywing	<i>Salix spp.</i> (Willows)
<i>Cupido comyntas</i>	Eastern-tailed blue	<i>Desmodium canadense</i> (Showy tick trefoil)
<i>Papilio glaucus</i>	Eastern tiger swallowtail	<i>Fraxinus spp.</i> (Ash) <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> (Tulip poplar) <i>Malus coronaria</i> (Wild crab apple) <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> (Pin cherry) <i>Prunus serotina</i> (Wild black cherry) <i>Sassafras albidum</i> (Sassafras) <i>Sorbus americana</i> (American mountain ash) <i>Tilia americana</i> (Linden)
<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>	Giant swallowtail	<i>Ptelea trifoliata</i> (Hop tree) <i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i> (Prickly ash)
<i>Speyeria cybele</i>	Great spangled fritillary	<i>Viola spp.</i> (Violets)
<i>Boloria bellona</i>	Meadow fritillary	<i>Viola spp.</i> (Violets)
<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Monarch	<i>Asclepias spp.</i> (Milkweeds)
<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	Mourning cloak	<i>Betula nigra</i> (River birch) <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> (Northern hackberry) <i>Morus rubra</i> (Red mulberry) <i>Salix spp.</i> (Willows)
<i>Phyciodes cocyta</i>	Northern crescent	<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i> (Flat-topped white aster)
<i>Colias eurytheme</i>	Orange sulfur	<i>Baptisia australis</i> (E) (Blue false indigo)

Butterfly		
Scientific Name	Common Name	Larval Native Host Plants(s)
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Painted lady	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i> (Pearly everlasting) <i>Helianthus decapetalus</i> (Ten-rayed sunflower) <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i> (Woodland sunflower) <i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i> (Swamp rosemallow)
<i>Phyciodes tharos</i>	Pearl crescent	<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i> (Flat-topped white aster) <i>Eurybia</i> spp. (Wood asters) <i>Symphotrichum laeve</i> (Smooth aster) <i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i> (New England aster) <i>Symphotrichum pilosum</i> (Frostweed aster) <i>Symphotrichum puniceum</i> (Purple-stemmed aster)
<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>	Question mark	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> (Northern hackberry)
<i>Limenitis arthemis</i>	Red-spotted purple or White admiral	<i>Amelanchier</i> spp. (Serviceberry) <i>Crataegus</i> spp. (Hawthorns) <i>Malus coronaria</i> (Wild crab apple) <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> (Pin cherry) <i>Prunus serotina</i> (Wild black cherry) <i>Prunus virginiana</i> (Choke cherry) <i>Salix</i> spp. (Willows) <i>Tilia americana</i> (Linden)
<i>Chlosyne nycteis</i>	Silvery checkerspot	<i>Doellingeria umbellata</i> (Flat-topped white aster) <i>Echinacea purpurea</i> (E) (Purple coneflower) <i>Eurybia</i> spp. (Wood asters) <i>Helianthus decapetalus</i> (Ten-rayed sunflower) <i>Helianthus divaricatus</i> (Woodland sunflower) <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> (E) (Black-eyed Susan) <i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i> (Cutleaf coneflower)
<i>Papilio troilus</i>	Spicebush swallowtail	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (Spicebush) <i>Sassafras albidum</i> (Sassafras)
<i>Celastrina ladon</i>	Spring azure	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i> (New Jersey tea) <i>Cornus</i> spp. (Dogwoods) <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> (Pin cherry) <i>Rhus</i> spp. (Sumacs) <i>Viburnum</i> spp. (Viburnums)
<i>Celastrina neglecta</i>	Summer azure	<i>Ceanothus americana</i> (New Jersey tea) <i>Cornus</i> spp. (Dogwoods) <i>Viburnum</i> spp. (Viburnums)
<i>Asterocampa clyton</i>	Tawny emperor	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i> (Northern hackberry)
<i>Euptoieta claudia</i>	Variegated fritillary	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> (Mayapple) <i>Viola</i> spp. (Violets)
<i>Limenitis archippus</i>	Viceroy	<i>Amelanchier</i> spp. (Serviceberry) <i>Malus coronaria</i> (Wild crab apple) <i>Prunus pensylvanica</i> (Pin cherry) <i>Prunus nigra</i> (Canada plum) <i>Salix</i> spp. (Willows)
		(E) Eastern US Native; but not native to New York