

BUTTERFLIES MOST LIKELY TO BE SEEN IN TIDEWATER VIRGINIA AND THEIR HOST PLANTS



Common Name	Host Plant	Scientific Name
American Copper	sheep sorrel	<i>Lycaena phlaeas</i>
American Lady	everlastings, pussy toes, daisy family	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>
Black Swallowtail	carrot family: parsley, fennel, dill; also, rue	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>
Broad-winged Skipper	common reed, wild rice, marsh millet	<i>Poanes viator</i>
Buckeye	snapdragon, toadflax, plantain, ruellia, gerardia	<i>Junonia coenia</i>
Common Checkered Skipper	mallow, hollyhock	<i>Pyrgus communis</i>
Clouded Skipper	grasses	<i>Lerema accius</i>
Cloudless Giant Sulphur	cassia, clover, other legumes	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>
Comma/Hop Merchant	nettle, hops, elm	<i>Polygonia comma</i>
Common (Clouded) Sulphur	legumes, clover, alfalfa, vetch, lupine	<i>Colias philodice</i>
Common (Lg.) Wood Nymph	purple top, other grasses	<i>Cercyonis pegala</i>
Common Sooty Wing	lamb's quarter, amaranthus, cockscomb	<i>Pholisora catullus</i>
Creole Pearly Eye	switch cane	<i>Enodia creola</i>
Eastern Tailed Blue	variety of herbaceous legumes	<i>Everes comyntas</i>
European Cabbage White	cabbage (and other crucifers), mustard family, nasturtium, cleome	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Fiery Skipper	weedy grasses — crabgrass, bermuda	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>
Giant Swallowtail	rue, citrus	<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>
Gray Hairstreak	pea and mallow families	<i>Strymon melinus</i>
Great Purple Hairstreak	mistletoe	<i>Atlides halesus</i>
Hackberry Emperor	sugarberry, hackberry	<i>Asterocampa celtis</i>
Holly Azure	American holly, yaupon, Virginia sweetspire	<i>Celastrina idella</i>
Horace's Dusky Wing	oaks	<i>Erynnis horatius</i>
Little Wood Satyr	grasses	<i>Megisto cymela</i>
Long-Tailed Skipper	beans and other legumes, crucifers, canna lilies	<i>Urbanus proteus</i>
Monarch	milkweeds	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>
Mourning Cloak	willow, birches, cottonwood, elm, hackberry	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>
Olive Hairstreak	red cedar and other junipers	<i>Mitoura gryneus</i>
Orange Sulphur	legumes, clover, alfalfa	<i>Colias eurytheme</i>
Painted Lady	thistle, mallow, hollyhock, legumes	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
Palamedes Swallowtail	red bay, swamp bay	<i>Papilio palamedes</i>
Pearl Crescent	asters	<i>Phyciodes tharos</i>
Pipevine Swallowtail	pipevine	<i>Battus philenor</i>
Question Mark	nettle, hops, elm, hackberry	<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>
Red Admiral	nettles, false nettle, hops	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Red Banded Hairstreak	fallen leaves — sumacs, wax myrtle, oak	<i>Calycopis cecrops</i>
Red Spotted Purple	willow, wild cherry, poplar, aspen, black oak, cottonwood	<i>Limenitis arthemis astyanax</i>
Sachem	grasses — bermuda	<i>Atalopedes campestris</i>
Scalloped Sooty Wing	lamb's quarter	<i>Staphylus hayhurstii</i>
Silver Spotted Skipper	black locust, wisteria, legumes	<i>Epargyreus clarus</i>
Sleepy Orange	cassia	<i>Eurema nicippe</i>
Snout Butterfly	hackberry, sugarberry	<i>Libytheana bachmanii</i>
Southern Pearly Eye	giant cane, switch cane	<i>Enodia portlandia</i>
Spicebush Swallowtail	spice bush, sassafras	<i>Papilio troilus</i>
Spring Azure	flowering parts — dogwood, wild cherry, viburnum	<i>Celastrina ladon</i>
Summer Azure	wide variety of plants, mainly shrubby dogwoods	<i>Celastrina neglecta</i>
Tawny Emperor	sugarberry, hackberry	<i>Asterocampa clyton</i>
Tiger Swallowtail	tulip poplar, wild cherry, sweet bay, lilac	<i>Papilio glaucus</i>
Variegated Fritillary	violet, passionflower (maypop), pansies, plantain	<i>Euptoieta claudia</i>
Viceroy	willow, poplar, aspen, apple, cherry, plum, cottonwood	<i>Limenitis archippus</i>
Zebra Swallowtail	pawpaw	<i>Eurytides marcellus</i>
Zabulon Skipper	grasses	<i>Poanes zabulon</i>

For more information, visit the Butterfly Society of Virginia's website: www.butterflysocietyofva.org and join us on Facebook/Twitter.
 [This list was prepared by BSV members. For membership information, email butterflysocietyofva@yahoo.com or join online.
 The Butterfly Society of Virginia is a non-profit organization dedicated to education, conservation, gardening (both private and public), and
 volunteering for the benefit of the butterfly and moth populations of the Commonwealth of Virginia.]