

# Pollinator Gardening

Insects play an important role in our ecosystem as part of the food web, as decomposers, as pollinators and for many other things. If you want to help pollinators and encourage more butterflies to visit your yard it is important to plant the right plants. Below are some different plant suggestions for your yard.

## Good Nectar Plants for Pollinators and Butterflies

	Iowa Natives	Non-Natives
Perennials	Milkweeds, Coneflowers, Joe-pye Weed, Ironweed, Blazing star, Clovers, Violets Goldenrods, Black-eyed Susan, Dame's Rocket, Fleabane, Leadplant, Penstemons, Mint	Non-native Milkweeds, Coneflowers, Goldenrods, and Bee Balms; Butterfly Bush, Salvia, Asters, Phlox, Globe Thistle, Hyssop, Stonecrop Sedum
Annuals		Cosmos, Lantana, Salvia, Heliotrope, Marigold, Zinnias
Nectar Trees	Basswood, Sugar & Silver Maple, Kentucky Coffee Tree	Little Leaf Linden, Flowering Dogwood
Nectar Shrubs	American Elder, Buttonbush, False Indigo, Fragrant Sumac, American Hazelnut, Ninebark, Serviceberry, Wild Pasture Rose, Rugosa Rose	Arrowood, Nannyberry, highbush Cranberry Viburnums, Silky, Gray Redosier Dogwoods, Seven-Son Flower

## Host plants are needed in Pollinator Gardens for caterpillars to feed.

*Use the following host plants to attract these butterflies.*

Butterfly Common Name	Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)
Acadian Hairstreak	Willow
American Copper	Red Sorrel
American Lady	Pussytoes, Pearly Everlasting, Helichrysum
American Snout	Hackberry
Aphrodite Fritillary	Violets
Arogos Skipper	Big Bluestem
Baltimore Checkerspot	Turtlehead
Banded Hairstreak	Oak, Hickory
Black Dash	Uptight Sedge, Tussock Sedge
Black Swallowtail	Dill, Parsley, Fennel, Golden Alexanders
Broad-winged Skipper	Hair Sedge, Wild Rice
Bronze Copper	Curly Dock
Byssus Skipper	Eastern Gramma Grass, Big Bluestem
Cabbage White	Wild Mustards, Cabbage, Broccoli
Checkered White	Wild Mustards
Clouded Sulphur	Clover, Alfalfa, other legumes
Cloudless Sulphur	Partridge Pea

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
<b>Columbine Duskywing</b>	Columbine
<b>Common Checkered</b>	Mallow, Hollyhocks
<b>Common Roadside-Skipper</b>	Bluegrass, Wild Oats
<b>Common Buckeye</b>	Toadflax, Snapdragon, Plantain
<b>Common Ringlet</b>	Grasses and sedges
<b>Common Sootywing</b>	Lamb's Quarter, Amaranth, Mints
<b>Common Wood-Nymph</b>	Purpletop
<b>Compton Tortoiseshell</b>	Birch, Aspen
<b>Coral Hairstreak</b>	Wild Cherry, Wild Plum
<b>Crossline Skipper</b>	Purpletop, Little Bluestem
<b>Dainty Sulphur</b>	Tickseed
<b>Dakota Skipper</b>	Little Bluestem, Bluegrass, Panic Grass
<b>Delaware Skipper</b>	Big Bluestem, Switchgrass
<b>Dion Skipper</b>	Hairy Sedge
<b>Dreamy Duskywing</b>	Willow, Poplar
<b>Dun Skipper</b>	Lake Sedge
<b>Dusted Skipper</b>	Little Bluestem
<b>Eastern Comma</b>	Nettles, Hops, Elm
<b>Eastern Tailed-Blue</b>	Clover

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
<b>Eastern Tiger Swallowtail</b>	Wild Cherry, Basswood, Tulip Tree, Birch, Ash, Cottonwood, Willow
<b>Edwards' Hairstreak</b>	Oak
<b>Eufala Skipper</b>	Johnson grass, Bermuda grass
<b>European Skipper</b>	Timothy
<b>Eyed Brown</b>	Tussock Sedge
<b>Fiery Skipper</b>	Crabgrass
<b>Giant Swallowtail</b>	Prickly Ash, Hop Tree
<b>Goatweed Leafwing</b>	Goatweed, Prairie Tea
<b>Gorgone Checkerspot</b>	Asters
<b>Gray Comma</b>	Gooseberry, Currants
<b>Gray Copper</b>	Curly Dock
<b>Gray Hairstreak</b>	Mallows, Clovers
<b>Great Spangled Fritillary</b>	Violets
<b>Gulf Fritillary</b>	Passionvine
<b>Hackberry Emperor</b>	Hackberry
<b>Harvester</b>	Woolly Aphid
<b>Hayhurst's Scallopwing</b>	Lamb's Quarter
<b>Henry's Elfin</b>	Eastern Redbud
<b>Hickory Hairstreak</b>	Shagbark Hickory

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
<b>Hoary Edge</b>	False Indigo, Bush Clover
<b>Hobomok Skipper</b>	Panic Grass, Crabgrass, Bluegrass
<b>Horace's Duskywing</b>	Oak
<b>Juniper Hairstreak</b>	Red Cedar
<b>Juvenal's Duskywing</b>	Oak
<b>Least Skipper</b>	Bluegrass
<b>Leonard's Skipper</b>	Little Bluestem
<b>Little Glassywing</b>	Purpletop, Little Bluestem
<b>Little Wood-Satyr</b>	Orchardgrass
<b>Little Yellow</b>	Partridge Pea
<b>Long Dash</b>	Bluegrass
<b>Marine Blue</b>	Leadwort, Alfalfa, Milkvetch
<b>Meadow Fritillary</b>	Violets
<b>Melissa Blue</b>	Lupine
<b>Mexican Yellow</b>	Partridge Pea
<b>Milbert's Tortoiseshell</b>	Nettles, Hops, Elm
<b>Monarch</b>	Milkweeds
<b>Mottled Duskywing</b>	New Jersey Tea
<b>Mourning Cloak</b>	Willow, Birch, Cottonwood, Hackberry

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
<b>Mulberry Wing</b>	Upright Sedge, Tussock Sedge
<b>Northern Broken-Dash</b>	Panic Grass, Crabgrass, Bluegrass
<b>Northern Cloudywing</b>	Bush Clover, Clover, Tick
<b>Northern Pearly-eye</b>	Rice-cutgrass, Bottlebrush grass
<b>Olympia Marble</b>	Rock Cress
<b>Orange Sulphur</b>	Clover, Alfalfa, other Legumes
<b>Ottoe Skipper</b>	Little Bluestem
<b>Painted Lady</b>	Thistle, Nettle, Sunflowers, Mallow
<b>Pearl Crescent</b>	Asters
<b>Peck's Skipper</b>	Rice cutgrass, Panic Grass
<b>Pepper and Salt Skipper</b>	Bluegrass, Indiangrass
<b>Persius Duskywing</b>	Lupine
<b>Pipevine Swallowtail</b>	Virginia Snakeroot, Dutchman's Pipe
<b>Poweshiek Skipperling</b>	Spikerush
<b>Purplish Copper</b>	Knotweed
<b>Queen</b>	Milkweeds
<b>Question Mark</b>	Elm, Hackberry, Nettles
<b>Reakirt's Blue</b>	Lead plant, Yellow Sweet Clover, Rattleweed
<b>Red-spotted Purple</b>	Poplar, Aspen, Oak

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
Red Admiral	Nettles, Hops, Elm
Regal Fritillary	Prairie Violet, Bird's Foot Violet
Sachem	Crabgrass, Bluegrass
Silver-bordered Fritillary	Violets
Silver-spotted Skipper	Black Locust
Silvery Blue	Vetches, Legumes
Silvery Checkerspot	Asters, Black
Sleepy Duskywing	Oak
Sleepy Orange	Cassia species
Southern Cloudywing	Bush Clover, Clover, Milkvetch
Southern Dogface	Lead plant, Prairie Bush Clover, Baptisia
Spicebush Swallowtail	Spicebush Swallowtail
Spring Azure	Dogwood, Viburnums, New Jersey Tea
Striped Hairstreak	Hawthorn, Wild Cherry, Wild Plum, Ironwood
Swarthy Skipper	Little Bluestem
Tawny-edged Skipper	Panic Grass, Crabgrass, Bluegrass
Tawny Emperor	Hackberry
Two-spotted Skipper	Tussock Sedge
Variegated Fritillary	Violets

<b>Butterfly Common Name</b>	<b>Host Plant (Iowa Native Species)</b>
<b>Viceroy</b>	Willow, Aspen
<b>White Admiral</b>	Poplar, Aspen, Oak
<b>White M Hairstreak</b>	Oak
<b>Wild Indigo Duskywing</b>	Wild Indigo
<b>Zabulon Skipper</b>	Purpletop, Bluegrass, Orchardgrass
<b>Zebra Swallowtail</b>	Pawpaw