## Identifying butterfly host plants

National Wildlife Federation www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder

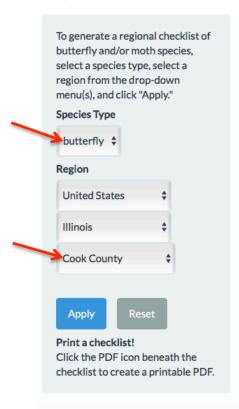
Gardens with Wings http://www.gardenswithwings.com/index.html

Butterflies of Cook County, Illinois <a href="https://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklists?species\_type=0&tid=45970">https://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/checklists?species\_type=0&tid=45970</a>

Select options that will show you only butterflies of Cook County:



### **Regional Species Checklists**



#### Butterflies and Moths of Cook County, Illinois, United States

The BAMONA database currently includes verified sighting records for 254 species from this region.

#### Hesperiidae Skippers

Epargyreus clarus Silver-spotted Skipper Thorybes pylades Northern Cloudywing Thorybes bathyllus Southern Cloudywing Erynnis icelus Dreamy Duskywing Erynnis brizo Sleepy Duskywing Erynnis juvenalis Juvenal's Duskywing Erynnis horatius Horace's Duskywing Erynnis martialis Mottled Duskywing Erynnis baptisiae Wild Indigo Duskywing Pyrgus centaureae Grizzled Skipper Pyrgus communis Common Checkered-Skipper Pholisora catullus Common Sootywing Ancyloxypha numitor Least Skipper Thymelicus lineola European Skipper Hylephila phyleus Fiery Skipper Hesperia leonardus Leonard's Skipper Hesperia sassacus Indian Skipper Atalopedes campestris Sachem Polites peckius Peck's Skipper

Polites themistocles Tawny-edged Skipper



# **Butterfly Host Plants**

Butterfly caterpillars are <u>very</u> picky eaters! Some will only eat the plants in a specific genus.

Others may enjoy a broader selection but still limit their diet to plants in a certain taxonomic family.

The following list includes host plants for some of the common butterfly species.

www.butterflyjane.com



Common Name	Genus	Host Plants	Common Name	Genus	Host Plants
monarch	Danus plexippus	Genus <i>Asclepias</i> milkweeds	red admiral	Vanessa atalanta	nettles, false nettles, hops
tiger swallowtail	Papilio glaucus	many trees - birch, lilac, cherry, tulip, willows	painted lady, American painted lady	Vanessa cardui Vanessa virginiensis	composites, mallows, thistle
black swallow- tail	Papilio polyxenes	carrot family - <i>Angelica, Zizia</i> , dill, parsley, fennel	buckeye	Junonia coenia	plantain, snapdragon, vervain, stonecrop, <i>Ruellia</i>
spicebush swallowtail	Papilio troilus	spicebush, sassafras, bays	red-spotted pur- ple	Limenitis arthemis	apple, aspen, cherry, hawthorn, poplar, willow
giant swallowtail	Papilio cresphontes	prickly ash, citrus, rue, hops tree	viceroy	Limenitis archippus	willow, poplar, aspen, apple, cherry, plum
pipevine swallowtail	Battus philenor	pipevines, Virginia snakeroot	pearl crescent	Phyciodes tharos	asters
cabbage white	Pieris rapae	cabbage, cleome, mustards, nasturtium	gray hairstreak	Strymon melinus	wide variety of plants - corn, oaks, strawberry, legumes and mallow
sulphurs	Colias spp., Nathalis iole Phoebis sennae	legumes - alfalfa, clovers, false indigo, sennas, vetch, marigold, sneezeweed	spring azure	Celastrina argiolus	blueberry, dogwood, viburnum, new jersey tea, wild cherry, spirea
morning cloak	Nymphalis antiopa	willow, aspen, elm, birch, hackberry	eastern tailed blue	Everes comyntas	legumes including vetches, clovers, alfalfa
comma, question mark	Polygonia comma, Polygonia interrogationis	hops vine, nettles, elm, hackberry	silver-spotted skipper	Epargyreus clarus	wisteria, locusts, beans, tick trefoil
fritillaries	<i>Boloria</i> spp. <i>Speyeria</i> spp,	violets	fiery skipper, European skipper	Hylephila phyleus Thymelicus lineola	assorted grasses