



Read More About It!

So many people ask members of the Butterfly Society of Virginia to recommend books and information sources about butterflies, moths and butterfly gardening that we put together this list. While only a partial listing of what is available, we hope it proves helpful in getting started. So take it along to your local library or favorite book store and have fun learning!

General

Burris, Judy, and Richards, Wayne. The Life Cycles of Butterflies. North Adams, MA: Storey Publishing, 2006. [An extensively photographed, well-organized study of every life stage of 23 common garden butterflies. Good info on host and nectar plants. [Great for the beginning or seasoned butterflyer.]

Mikula, Rick. The Family Butterfly Book. Pownal, VT: Storey Books, 2000. [An easy and complete guide for the beginning butterflyer; aimed at the whole family. Limited number of species listed, but well-done illustrations show each phase of the life cycle. This book touches on all aspects; includes projects.]

Stokes, Donald & Lillian with Justin L. Brown. Beginner's Guide to Butterflies. Little, Brown and Co. [A pocket-size, brilliantly colorful, simple-to-use guide to butterflies, containing dozens of full-color photographs that enable readers of all ages to identify the most common species.]

Stokes, Donald & Lillian and Ernest Williams. The Butterfly Book. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Co., 1991. [An easy guide to butterfly gardening, identification, and behavior. Good info on attracting butterflies and larvae; beautiful illustrations and photographs.]

Butterfly Gardening

Ajilvsgi, Geyata: Butterfly Gardening for the South. Dallas, TX: Taylor Publishing Company, 1990. [Timeless info including the needs and life cycle of the butterfly, garden design, lists of host and nectar plants, and much more. A great reference and resource book.]

Potter-Springer, Wendy. Grow a Butterfly Garden. Pownal, VT: Storey Publishing Bulletin, 1990. [Good "How To" info, especially host plant list.]

Tallamy, Douglas W. Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife With Native Plants. Portland, OR: Timber Press, Inc., 2009. [An eloquent and updated explanation of the unbreakable link between native plant species and native wildlife, including helpful lists to help gardeners provide a welcoming environment for wildlife of all kinds.]

Field Identification Guides

Brock, Jim P., and Kaufman, Kenn. Butterflies of North America. New York, NY: Houghton Mifflin Co., 2006. [More than 2,300 images of butterflies; range maps on the text pages and similar species arranged side-by-side for easy comparison. User-friendly format.]

Carter, David. Eyewitness Handbooks: Butterflies and Moths. New York, NY: Dorling Kindersley, Inc., (2nd edition), 2000. [Guide to 500+ species from around the world; organized by family names (in Latin); color illustrations accompany text.]

Covell, Charles V., Jr. Peterson Field Guides: Eastern Moths. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1984. [One of few completely moth books covering 1300 of them; color plates

separate from text.]

- Glassberg, Jeffrey. Butterflies Through Binoculars — The East. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 1999. [This guide has 630 color photographs of live butterflies in their natural settings well organized into 72 color plates; range maps adjacent to plates very helpful; emphasizes conservation over collection.]
- Opler, Paul A. Peterson Field Guides: Eastern Butterflies. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998. [Descriptions of 500+ species, with 348 color range maps; color plates separate from text.]
- Opler, Paul A. Peterson First Guides: Butterflies and Moths. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., (2nd edition), 1998. [A simplified guide to common butterflies and moths of North America; for all ages; easy to use; illustrations accompany text.]
- Pyle, Robert M. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Butterflies. New York, NY: Chanticleer Press, Inc., 1981. [This guide organizes color plates with thumb tabs to quickly identify by silhouette, pattern, or color; color plates separate from text.]
- Wagner, David L. Caterpillars of Eastern North America. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2005. [A highly detailed, yet easy-to-use field guide to caterpillars of nearly 700 butterflies and moths found east of the Mississippi River; includes image of the adult.]
- Wagner, David L., Giles, Valerie, Reardon, Richard C., and McManus, Michael L. Caterpillars of Eastern Forests. U. S. Dept of Agriculture, Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team, Publication No. FHTET-96-34, 1997. [Descriptions and color plates of dozens of caterpillars, mostly moths; includes info on collecting eggs/caterpillars, rearing and preserving.]
- Wright, Amy B. Peterson First Guides: Caterpillars. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1998. [A simplified guide to caterpillars of common butterflies and moths of North America; for all ages; easy to use; illustrations accompany text.]

Internet Addresses

For a wealth of information, pictures, news of Society activities, and links to other helpful sites, make your first Internet visit to the Butterfly Society's website:

www.butterflysocietyofva.org

www.butterflies.si.edu - Smithsonian Institution Butterfly Website

<http://www.gardens.si.edu/our-gardens/pollinator-garden.html> - Smithsonian Butterfly Habitat on the Mall

www.kidsbutterfly.org - A children's butterfly website maintained by the Big Sky Institute at Montana State University with support from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

www.naba.org website for the North American Butterfly Association

www.monarchwatch.org — University of Kansas monarch project website; general and tagging information

www.carolinabutterflysociety.org — Carolina Butterfly Society website

www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch/ - Journey North Monarch Butterfly (Citizen scientists track the monarch butterfly migration each fall and spring as the monarchs travel to and from Mexico. Report your own observations of migrating butterflies to real-time migration maps.)