

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



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

For more information, visit the Butterfly Society of Virginia's website: [www.butterflysocietyofva.org](http://www.butterflysocietyofva.org) and join us on Facebook.

[This list was prepared by BSV members. For membership information, email [admin@butterflysocietyofva.org](mailto:admin@butterflysocietyofva.org) or join online.

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