



Backyard Butterfly Garden Guide

We encourage the use of several tactics to attract butterflies to your property, with planting being one of the most effective. Below are Woods of Plenty recommended caterpillar host plants for your site, with the respective butterfly that will lay its eggs on them noted to the right. Additionally, nectar-providing plants that we recommend establishing are listed below, which are enjoyed by all insects.

Caterpillar host plants

Spicebush	(Spicebush Swallowtail)
Dogwood	(Spring Azure)
Milkweeds	(Monarchs)
Violets	(Fritillaries)
Pawpaw	(Zebra Swallowtail)
Aster	(Pearl Crescent)
Parsley and Dill	(Black Swallowtail)
Willow	(Mourning Cloak, Viceroy)
Little & Big Bluestem	(Skippers)
Northern Sea Oats	(Northern Pearly Eye)

Nectar-providing plants

Common uncultivated varieties will produce more nectar

Bee balm / Monarda
Butterfly Weed
Milkweed [Swamp & Common]
Purple Coneflower
Brown Eyed Susan
Ironweed

Butterflies are attracted to weedy areas; an area left un-mowed will further entice butterflies into your yard. Warm rocks and small puddles will also provide butterflies with a warm place to bask and obtain water and minerals.

To ensure survival of both caterpillars and butterflies, no pesticides, herbicides, or chemical fertilizers should be applied in the vicinity of butterfly gardens.