

Butterfly Gardening

Butterflies in your garden are a sure way of adding color and life to your backyard, patio or window sill. Gardening for butterflies is a natural way to enhance your garden and intensify its beauty and splendor. A butterfly garden in your yard will also attract birds and small mammals, adding to the diversity of wildlife in your backyard habitat.

How to get Started

■ Observe and identify butterflies: Learn which butterflies visit your garden so that you can provide the correct foods for both the caterpillars and adults.

■ Provide water, shelter from wind, food sources for caterpillars, and flowering plants for adults.

■ Butterflies are most attracted to flowers with strong scents and smells. Plant a variety of flowers that bloom throughout the growing season; yellow, mauve or lavender flowers work best; red and purple flowers are good too.

■ Plant your garden in a sunny, wind free location.

■ Plant flower species with different, but overlapping blooming seasons:

Spring- lilacs, azaleas, violets, phlox

Spring/Summer- clovers, vegetables and herbs (dill, parsley)

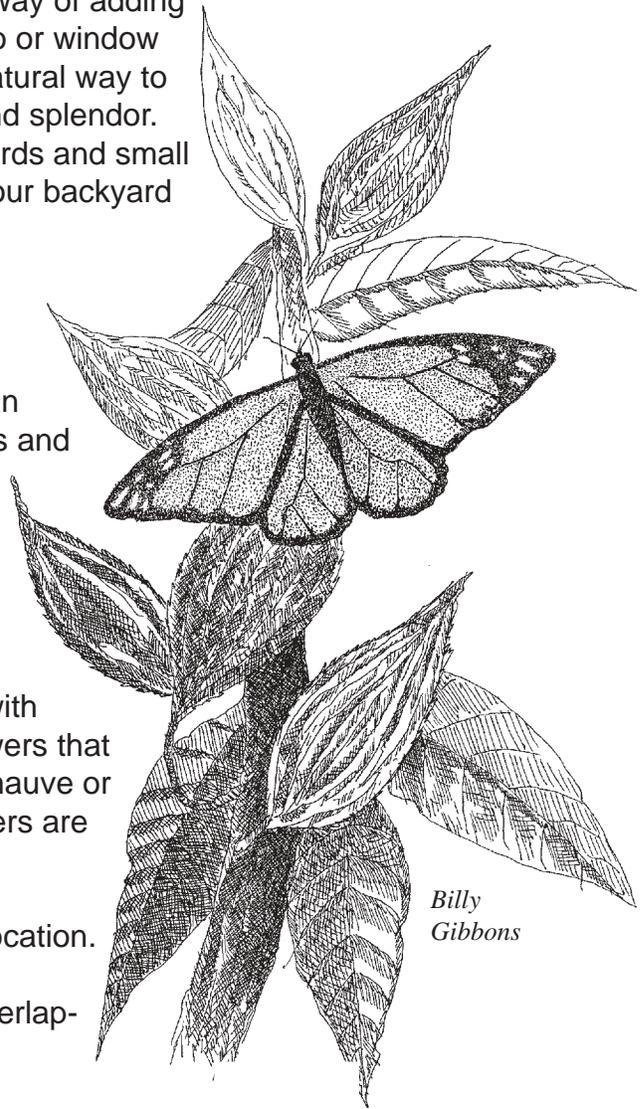
Summer- daisies, coneflowers, milkweeds, butterflyweed, sunflowers

Fall- ironweed, native thistles, joe-pye-weed, asters, goldenrods, bee balm, mint, cardinal flowers, vetch, nettles, yarrow.

■ Plant native plants whenever possible: Don't dig wild native plants.

- Purchase seeds or plants from reputable nurseries
- Collect only seeds from the wild (take only a few)
- Get permission to move native plants from planned construction sites

Remember: Butterflies are sensitive to herbicides and pesticides.



*Billy
Gibbons*

Suggested Native Plants for Caterpillars and Butterflies of West Virginia

Butterfly Species	Larval Host Plant	Native Nectar Sources
Pipevine Swallowtail	Dutchman's pipe	Milkweed, joy-pye-weed, T
Zebra Swallowtail	Pawpaw	Dogbane, redbud, milkweed, T
Spicebush Swallowtail	Spicebush, sassafras	Joe-pye-weed, dogbane
Black Swallowtail	Carrots, parsley, dill, fennel, W	Milkweed, phlox, T
E. Tiger Swallowtail	Black cherry, yellow poplar	Milkweed, T
Clouded Sulphur	Clovers	Aster, goldenrod
Orange Sulphur	Legumes, clover	Ttickseed, dogwood
E. Tailed-blue	Red cover, legumes	Cinquefoil, dogbane, aster
Spring Azure	Dogwood, black cherry	Holly, willow, spicebush
Great Spangled Fritillary	Violets, pansies, W	Dogbane, ironweed, T
Aphrodite Fritillary	Violets, pansies, W	Dogbane, milkweed, T
Pearl Crescent	Asters	Aster, ironweed, dogbane, T
Meadow Fritillary	Daisy, mallow family	Aster, ironweed, goldenrod, T
American Painted Lady	Pearly everlasting	Yarrow, goldenrod, aster
Monarch	Milkweed	Milkweed, dogbane, goldenrod
West Virginia White	Toothworts, mustard	Spring beauty, toothwort
Common Wood Nymph	Grasses	Sap, dung, milkweed, F
Little Wood Satyr	Grasses	Sap, carrion, dung, F
Red-spotted Purple	Black cherry, poplar, oaks	Sap, dung, carrion, cherry, F
Mourning Cloak	Willows, elms, aspens	Sap, dung, minerals from soil, F
Comma	Nettle, elm	Sap, dung, carrion, F
Question Mark	Nettle, elm, hackberry	Sap, dung, carrion, aster, F
Red Admiral	Nettle	Sap, dung, carrion, F
Hobomok Skipper	Panic grass	Blackberry, milkweed
Tawny-edged Skipper	Panic grass	Coneflower, dogbane
Silver-spotted Skipper	Black locust, stick tights	Joe-pye-weed, ironweed
Dreamy Duskywing	Willow	Redbud, blueberry, strawberry
Juvenal's Duskywing	Scrub oak, white oak	Vetch, cinquefoil, wild plum
Viceroy	Willow, cottonwood	Aster, carrion, sap, dung, T, F
Peck's Skipper	Grasses	Dogbane, ironweed, vetch
European Skipper	Timothy, orchard grass	Fleabane, daisy, milkweed
Cross Line Skipper	Grasses	Dogbane, ironweed, vetch
Long Dash	Grasses	Milkweed, tick-trefoil
Northern Broken Dash	Panic grass, switch grass	New Jersey tea
Sleepy Duskywing	Scrub oak	Blueberries, azalea, redbud
Little Glassywing	Grasses	Ironweed, dogbane, milkweed



W- plants that are not native to WV, but are not aggressive invaders
 T- native thistles
 F- rotting fruit