

Creating a Butterfly Garden

“For caterpillars--the larva stage, you will need to choose plants which attract the adult for egg laying. Adults are choosy and specific. Don't forget, caterpillars will be chewing on foliage, so remember to plant enough for you and the caterpillars.”

Nectar Plants That Attract Adult Butterflies

Annuals

Ageratum (*Ageratum houstonianum*)
Cosmos (*Cosmos Bipinnatus*), ‘Sensation’
Heliotrope (*Heliotropium arborescens*)
Lantana (*Lantana camara*)
Marigold, French marigold (*Tagetes patula*)
Mexican sunflower (*Tithonia rotundifolia*)
Nicotiana, flowering tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*)
Pentas (*Pentas lanceolata*) – subshrub
Petunia (*Petunia x hybrid*)
Scabiosa, pincushion flower (*Scabiosa atropurpurea*)
Statice (*Limonium sinuatum*)
Verbena (*Verbena x hortensis*, *V. x hybrid*)
Zinnia (*Zinnia elegans*)

Perennials – Early Season

Allium (*Allium spp.*) – bulb
Chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*)
Forget-me-not (*Myosotis sylvatica*) – biennial, perennial

Perennials – Mid Season

Bee balm (*Monarda didyma*)
Black-eyed Susan, gloriosa daisy (*Rudbeckia spp.*) – biennial, perennial
Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)
Catmint (*Nepeta mussinii*)
Coreopsis (*Coreopsis spp.*)
Lavender (*Lavandula angustifolia*)
Liatris, blazing-star, gay-feather (*Liatris spp.*)
Lily (*spp.*)
Mint (*Mentha spp.*)
Phlox (*Phlox sp.*)
Purple coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)
Red valerian (*Centranthus ruber*)
Sunflower (*Helianthus spp.*)
Veronica (*Veronica spp.*)
Yarrow (*Achillea filipendulia*)

Perennials – Late Season

Aster (*Aster spp.*)
Globe thistle (*Echinops exaltatus*)
Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*)
Joe-Pye weed (*Eupatorium spp.*)
Obedient plant (*Physotegia virginiana*)
Sedum (*Sedum spectabile*)
Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)

Butterfly Larval Plants

Butterfly

Black Swallowtail
Tiger Swallowtail
Monarch Butterfly
Great Spangled Fritillary
Buckeye
Morning Cloak
Viceroy
Red-Spotted Purple
Hackberry Butterfly

Larval Food

Carrots, parsley, dill
Wild cherry, birch, poplar, ash, apple trees, tulip tree
Milkweeds, butterfly weed
Violets
Snapdragon
Willows, elms
Pussy willow, plums, cherries
Willows, poplars
Hackberry