

Common Butterflies of Southeast Minnesota



Black	Tiger	Giant
Swallowtail	Swallow Tail	Swallowtail*
Habitat: Open areas	Habitat: Woods edge	Habitat: Woodlands and open areas near woodlands
Host Plant: Umbelliferae; wild parsnip, wild carrot, parsley, dill	Host Plant: Cherry, aspen and other trees	Host Plant: Prickly ash
Size: Medium - Large	Size: Large	Size: Very Large
Clouded	Orange	American
Sulphur *	Sulfur *	Copper *
Habitat: Open areas Host Plant: Clover, alfalfa	Habitat: Open areas Host Plant: Alfalfa and relatives	(and other conners) Habitat: Dray grasslands Host Plant: Sorrel, dock and relatives
Size: Medium Great Spangled Fritillary *	Size: Medium Checkerspots	Size: Tiny Pearl Crescent
Habitat: Grasslands, woods edge	Habitat: Wet grasslands	Habitat: Open areas
Host Plant: Violets	Host Plant: Turltehead, plantain	Host Plant: Asters
Size: Large	Size: Medium	Size: Small to Medium
American Lady	Question Mark	Eastern Comma
Habitat: Open areas with flowers	Habitat: Woods edge	Habitat: Woods edge
Host Plant: Thistles and many other plants	Host Plant: Elm, hackberry, nettles	Host Plant: Elm, nettles
Size: Medium	Size: Medium	Size: Medium
Painted Lady	Monarch *	Viceroy *
Habitat: Open areas with flowers	Habitat: Open areas	Habitat: Moist shrubby areas
Host Plant: Thistles and many other plants	Host Plant: Milkweed	Host Plant: Willows, aspens, some fruit trees
Size: Medium	Size: Large	Size: Medium - Large

*Indicates the species is abundant in Se Minnesota.

Host Plant noted is for the pupa/caterpillar stage as adult butterflies are generalists and will nectar on most flowers available.

Milbert's Tortoiseshell	Red Admiral	Common Buckeye
Habitat: Moist woods edge	Habitat: Moist woods edge, although possible anywhere	Habitat: Grasslands and weedy areas
Host Plant: Nettles	Host Plant: Nettles	Host Plant: Snapdragons, plantains
Size: Medium	Size: Medium	Size: Medium
Eastern Tailed Blue *	Spring/ Summer Azure *	Cabbage White *
Habitat: Lawns, grasslands	Habitat: Woods edge, shrubs	Habitat: Open areas
Host Plant: Legumes	Host Plant: Dogwood, cherry, meadowsweet	Host Plant: Mustards, cabbage family
Size: Tiny	Size: Small	Size: Medium
Hairstreaks (Coral, Edwards, etc)	Little Wood Satyr *	Eyed Brown
Habitat: Flowery meadows	Habitat: Grassy woods	Habitat: Wet meadows
Host Plant: Each has specific requirements	Host Plant: Grasses	Host Plant: Sedges
Size: Small - Medium	Size: Medium	Size: Medium
Common Wood	Northern Pearly	Silver-Spotted
Nymph *	Eye	Skipper *
Habitat: Grassy meadows	Habitat: Woods edge, esp near water	Habitat: Woods edge
Host Plant: Grasses	Host Plant: Grasses	Host Plant: Locust, woody legumes
Size: Medium	Size: Medium	Size: Small - Medium
Hackberry Emperor *	Red-spotted Purple	Mourning Cloak *
Habitat: Open woods	Habitat: Moist woods	Habitat: Open areas in or near woods
Host Plant: Hackberry	Host Plant: Cherry, aspen, poplar, etc	Host Plant: Willows, aspens, birches, elm, etc
Size: Medium	Size: Medium	Size: Medium

Whitewater State Park, 2011.