Butterflies delight us with their grace and beauty, while playing an essential role in pollinating a broad range of plants. Of the 90-some butterfly species found in Northern Virginia, nearly half have been reported at Dyke Marsh. They can be seen in the spring through fall, on many warm, sunny days. You may see them in a variety of habitats but most prominently where plants like grasses, trees and wildflowers are in bloom.

Butterflies may take nectar from several sources but are more selective in choosing plants on which to lay eggs. Butterflies have evolved over time with particular plant species important to their survival. They depend on certain host plants to provide appropriate shelter for eggs and food for subsequent larvae and caterpillar growth. With this checklist, a field guide and possibly binoculars, a few walks along the trails and boardwalks of Dyke Marsh can start to familiarize you with the most common butterflies. The listed host plants reflect the food and larval preferences of the butterfly species.

Friends of Dyke Marsh, the National Park Service, Earth Sangha and other partners are restoring an upland section of Dyke Marsh to better control invasive, nonnative plants like English ivy and porcelain berry. They have planted native shrubs, flowers and forbs to support wildlife, including pollinators such as native butterflies and bees. Contact the Friends of Dyke Marsh if you would like to help. Visit www.fodm.org and www.nps.gov/gwmp.



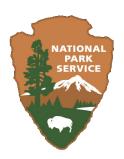


Prepared by the Friends of Dyke Marsh, Naturalist Survey Group, and the National Park Service.

This survey started in 2016.

For more information, email the Friends of Dyke Marsh: info@fodm.org

National Park Service George Washington Memorial Parkway Turkey Run Park Mclean, VA 22101 www.nps.gov/gwmp



Checklist of the **Butterflies** of Dyke Marsh



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly

BUTTERFLIES	LARVAL HOST PLANTS
Swallowtails (Papilionoides)	
Black Swallowtail (<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>) Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (<i>Papilio glaucus</i>). Spicebush Swallowtail (<i>Papilio Troilus</i>) Pipevine Swallowtail (<i>Battus philenor</i>) Zebra Swallowtail (<i>Eurytides marcellus</i>)	Queen Anne's Lace, Carrot Family Black Cherry Tree, Tulip-Yellow Poplar Tree Spicebush and Sassafras Pipevine Pawpaw

Whites and Sulphurs (Pieridae)

Cabbage White (Pieris rapae)	Mustard Species, Cabbage
Falcate Orangetip (Anthocharis midea)	Wild Mustard Species, Rockcress
Clouded Sulphur (Colias philodice)	Clovers, Alfalfa
Orange Sulphur (Colias eurytheme)	Pea, Alfalfa, Clovers, Vetches
Cloudless Sulphur (Phoebis sennae)	Partridge Pea, Wild Senna
Sleepy Orange (Eurema nicippe)	Partridge Pea, Wild Senna
Cloudless Sulphur (Phoebis sennae)	Partridge Pea, Wild Senna

Gossamer Wings (Lycaenidae)

Gray Hairstreak (<i>Strymon melinus</i>) Red-banded Hairstreak (<i>Calycopsis</i>	Clover, Lespedeza, Mallows, Vetches
cecrops) Eastern Tailed Blue (Everes comyntas)	Sumac Species Vetches, Clovers, Bush Clovers
Spring/Summer Azure (Celastrina laden) (complex)	Dogwood, Sumac, Wingstem, Viburnum

Brush-footed (Nymphalidae)

Variegated Fritillary (Euptoieta Claudia) Silvery Checkerspot (Chlosyne nycteis) Pearl Crescent (Phyciodes tharos) Question Mark (Polygonia interrogationis). Eastern Comma (Polygonia comma) Mourning Cloak (Nymphalis antiopa)	Passionflowers, Violets Sunflowers, Wingstem, Other Composites Asters Elms, Hackberry, Nettles Willows, Hackberry Tree, Elms Birch, Elms, Hackberry, Willows
Mourning Cloak (<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>) American Lady (<i>Venessa virginiensis</i>) Painted Lady (<i>Venessa cardui</i>)	Birch, Elms, Hackberry, Willows Cudweed, Pussytoes, Sweet Everlasting Sunflowers, Thistles, Other Composites

NAME

Brush-footed (cont.)

Red Admiral (Venessa atalanta)
Common Buckeye (Junonia coenia)
Red-Spotted Purple (Limenitis arthemis)
Viceroy (Limenitis archippus)
Hackberry Emperor (Asterocampa celtis)
Appalachian Brown (Satyrodes
Appalachia)
Carolina Satyr (Hermeuptychia sosybuis)
Common Wood Nymph (Cercyonis
pegala)
Monarch (Danaus plexippus)

Nettle Species

Plantains, Figwort, Vervains Serviceberry, Willows, Black Cherry Serviceberry, Willows, Black Cherry Tree Hackberry

Tussock sedge, Sedge Species **Grass Species**

LARVAL HOST PLANTS

Purpletop, Kentucky Bluegrass Milkweed Species

Skippers (Hesperiidae)

Silver-spotted Skipper (<i>Epargyreus clarus</i>). Juvenal's Duskywing (<i>Erynnis juvenalis</i>) Horace's Duskywing (<i>Erynnis Horatius</i>) Wild Indigo Duskywing (<i>Erynnis</i>	
baptisiae)	
Common Checkered Skipper (<i>Pyrgus communis</i>)	
Sachem (Atalopedes campestris)	
Zabulon Skipper (Poanes zabulon)	
Broad-winged Skipper (<i>Poanus viator</i>)	
Dion Skipper (Euphyes dion)	,
Dun Skipper (Euphyes vestris)	
Ocoloa Skipper (Panoquina ocolo)	
Clouded Skipper (Larema accius)	
Least Skipper (Ancyloxypha numitor)	
Fiery Skipper (<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>)	
Peck's Skipper (<i>Polites peckius</i>)	
Tawny-edged Skipper (<i>Polites Themistocles</i>)	
Little Glassywing (Pompeuis verna)	

Black Locust, Hog Peanut, Kudzu White Oak and Other Oak Species White Oak and Other Oak Species

Crown Vetch, Yellow Wild Indigo

Mallow, Velvetleaf Bermuda and Crab Grass, Grass Species Purpletop, Purple Lovegrass, Other Grasses Phragmites, Wild Rice Tussock Sedge, Woodgrass Sedges Rice Cutgrass Barnyard Grass, Other Grass Species Bluegrass, Rice Cutgrass Bermuda Grass, Other Grass Species Kentucky Bluegrass, Rice Cutgrass Purple Coneflower, Chicory, Panic Grass Purpletop, Other Grasses