



Common Butterflies of Minnesota





Black Swallowtail



Tiger Swallow Tail

Host Plant: Cherry, aspen and other trees



Giant Swallowtail*



Habitat: Open areas

Host Plant: Umbelliferae; wild parsnip, wild carrot, parsley, dil

Size: Medium - Large



Clouded Sulphur *



Habitat: Open areas

Habitat: Wet grasslands

Host Plant: Turltehead, plantain

Size: Medium

Size: Medium

Host Plant: Alfalfa and relatives

Size: Large

Habitat: Woods edge

Sulfur *

Orange



Habitat: Dray grasslands

Host Plant: Sorrel, dock and relatives

Size: Very Large

Host Plant: Prickly ash

American Copper *

(and other conners)



Habitat: Open areas Host Plant: Clover, alfalfa

Size: Medium



Great Spangled Fritillary *



Checkerspots





Habitat: Open areas

Size: Small to Medium

Host Plant: Asters

Size: Tinv

Pearl Crescent



Habitat: Grasslands, woods edge

Host Plant: Violets Size: Large



American Lady



Question Mark





Eastern Comma



Habitat: Open areas with flowers

Host Plant: Thistles and many other plants

Size: Medium



Habitat: Woods edge

Host Plant: Elm, hackberry, nettles

Size: Medium



Habitat: Woods edge Host Plant: Elm, nettles

Size: Medium



Painted Lady



Monarch *



Viceroy *



Habitat: Open areas with flowers

Host Plant: Thistles and many other plants

Size: Medium



Habitat: Open areas Host Plant: Milkweed

Size: Large



Host Plant: Willows, aspens, some fruit trees

Size: Medium - Large

* Discussion Ideas:

Look for distinctive or bright colors. Look for patterns. Look for unique wing edges and shape. Look for dots and parts of the butterfly.

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