

Butterfly Host Plants in the Mayfield Monarch Waystation

Note that these plants also support various other insects as well as birds.

Note also that this is not an exhaustive list of butterfly host plants native to northern Illinois.

Shrubs and Trees

Amorpha canescens (leadplant): Dogface Sulphur

Ceanothus americana (New Jersey tea): Spring/Summer Azure, Mottled Duskywing

Celtis occidentalis (hackberry): Hackberry Emperor, Tawny Emperor, Snout Butterfly, Mourning Cloak, Question Mark

Cornus racemosa (gray dogwood): Spring/Summer Azure

Lindera benzoin (spicebush): Spicebush Swallowtail

Pinus strobus (white pine): Eastern Pine Elfin

Prunus virginiana: Red-spotted Purple, Coral Hairstreak

Rhus aromatica (fragrant sumac): Red-banded Hairstreak, Spring/Summer Azure

Salix humilis humilis (prairie willow): Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

Viburnum dentatum (arrowwood): Spring/Summer Azure

Perennials

Antennaria plantaginifolia (pussytoes): American Painted Lady

Asclepias syriaca (common milkweed): Monarch

Asclepias tuberosa (butterfly weed, orange glory): Monarch

Asclepias sullivantii (prairie milkweed): Monarch

Asclepias incarnata (rose milkweed, swamp milkweed): Monarch

Asclepias viridis (short green milkweed/spider milkweed): Monarch

Asclepias verticillata (whorled milkweed): Monarch

Baptisia alba (white wild indigo): Wild Indigo Duskywing, Hoary Edge, Southern Dogface, Orange Sulfur

Dalea purpurea (purple prairie clover): Dogfaced Sulphur, Reakirt's Blue

Echinacea pallida (pale purple coneflower): Silvery Checkerspot

Echinacea purpurea (purple coneflower): Silvery Checkerspot

Ratibida pinnata (yellow coneflower): Silvery Checkerspot

Rudbeckia subtomentosa (sweet black-eye Susan): Silvery Checkerspot

Symphotrichum oblongifolium (aromatic aster): Silvery Checkerspot

Symphotrichum shortii (Short's aster): Silvery Checkerspot, Pearl Crescent

Viola sororia (common violet): various fritillary butterflies including Variegated Fritillary, Great Spangled Fritillary, Aphrodite Fritillary, Regal Fritillary, Diana, Silver-Border Fritillary, Meadow Fritillary

Zizia aurea (golden Alexander): Black Swallowtail

Grasses

Schizachyrium scoparium (little bluestem): various skippers including Dusted Skipper, Cobweb Skipper, Ottoo Skipper, Indian Skipper, Swarthy Skipper, Crossline Skipper