

Bergen County Audubon Society

Native Plant Backyard Gardening

Habitat for Birds (resident & migratory) and Butterflies

The **Native Plants** below can be used to create a backyard habitat for birds and butterflies.

Butterfly Definitions:

Host Plant: Used by a **specific** butterfly species to lay eggs. Butterflies are specialists. Only host plant leaves can be the food source for the emerging caterpillar. Host plants can be heavily eaten by the growing caterpillars.

Nectar Plant: Food source for adult butterflies of many species.

(H) = HOST plant Noted in the list along with the butterfly species it serves.

Large Trees

Tulip (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) **(H)**

American Hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) **(H)**

Wild Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) **(H)**

Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*) **(H)**

White Oak (*Quercus alba*) **(H)**

Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) **(H)**

Butterfly(s)

E. Tiger Swallowtail

American Snout,

Question Mark, & Mourning Cloak

Red-spotted Purple.

Spring Azure, & E. Tiger Swallowtail

Spicebush Swallowtail

Banded Hairstreak

Gray Hairstreak

Small Trees

Serviceberry/Shadbush (*Amelanchier spp.*) **(H)**

Pagoda Dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*) **(H)**

Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*) **(H)**

Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*)

Butterfly(s)

Red-spotted Purple

Spring Azure

Spring Azure

Shrubs

Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*) **(H)**

Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*) **(H)**

Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Clethra "Summersweet" (*Clethra alnifolia*)

Redosier Dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) **(H)**

Silky Dogwood (*Cornus amomum*)

Virginia Sweetspire "Itea" (*Itea virginica*)

Butterfly(s)

Summer Azure

*Hummingbird Clearwing Moth

Spicebush Swallowtail

Spring Azure

Oakleaf Hydrangea (*Hydrangea quercifolia*)

Winterberry Holly (*Ilex verticillata*)

Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*) (H)

Elderberry (*Sambucus Canadensis*)

American Cranberry Viburnum (*Viburnum opulus*) (H)

Red Chokeberry (*Photinia pyrifolia*)

Black Chokeberry (*Photinia melanocarpa*)

Northern Bayberry (*Morella pensylvanica*)

New Jersey Tea (*Ceanothus americanus*) (H)

Mapleleaf Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*) (H)

Native Azaleas

*Snowberry Clearwing Moth

Spring Azure

Spring Azure & Summer Azure

Spring Azure

Vines

Pipevine (*Aristolochia macrophylla*) (H)

Dropmore Honeysuckle (*Lonicera x brownii*) (H)

Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) (H)

Trumpet Vine (*Campsis radicans*)

Butterfly(s)

Pipevine Swallowtail

Spring Azure

*Snowberry Clearwing Moth

*various Sphinx Moths

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Grasses

Switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*) (H)

Big Bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) (H)

Little Bluestem (*Andropogon scoparius*) (H)

Butterfly(s)

Least Skipper & various other Skippers

Delaware Skipper

Indian Skipper & various other Skippers

Host Flowers (Nectar source also)

Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) (H)

Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) (H)

Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) (H)

False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*) (H)

New York Aster (*Symphyotrichum novi-belgii*) (H)

New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*) (H)

Violets (*Viola spp.*) (H)

White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*) (H)

Golden Zizia (*Zizia aurea*) (H)

Butterfly(s)

Monarch

Monarch

Monarch

Wild Indigo Duskywing

Pearl Crescent

Pearl Crescent

Great Spangled Fritillary & Meadow Fritillary

Baltimore Checkerspot

Black Swallowtail

Flowers – Perennials - Nectar sources for butterflies & Hummingbirds (where noted)

Anise Hyssop (*Agastache foeniculum*.)

Yellow Giant Hyssop (*Agastache nepetoides*)

New York Ironweed (*Vernonia noveboracensis*)
 Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium purpureum*)
 Little Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium dubium*)
 Common Boneset (*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)
 Late Bloom Boneset (*Eupatorium serotinum*)
 Wild Ageratum (*Eupatorium coelestinum*)
 White Snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum*)
 Purpletop Vervain (*Verbena bonariensis*)
 Goldenrod (*Solidago spp.*)

Flowers – Perennials (continued)

Bee Balm – Jacob’s Cline (<i>Monarda didyma</i>)	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Wild Bergamot (<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>)	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Cardinal Flower (<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>)	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Great Blue Lobelia (<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>)	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Rose Mallow (<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>)	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Mountain Mint (<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>)	
Obedient Plant (<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>)	
Culver’s Root (<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>)	
Blazing Star (<i>Liatris spicata</i>)	
Queen of the Prairie (<i>Filipendula rubra</i>)	
Ox-Eye “False Sunflower” (<i>Heliopsis helianthoides</i>)	
Tall Coneflower (<i>Rudbeckia nitida</i>)	
Thread Leaf Coreopsis (<i>Coreopsis verticillata</i>)	
Gaillardia (<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>)	
Purple Coneflower (<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>)	
Sneezeweed (<i>Helenium spp.</i>)	
Pink Turtlehead (<i>Chelone lyonii</i>)	

Flowers – Annuals (Nectar sources)

Cosmos (*Cosmos parviflorus*)
 Lantana (*Lantana urticoides*)
 Zinnia (*Zinnia spp.*)
 Nasturtiums
 Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia rotundiflora*)

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