













Butterfly Attracting Perennials and Annuals

(Most are represented in REAL's butterfly garden)

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|  |  |  |  |
| <p>Swamp Milkweed (<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>) Host plant for Monarch</p> | <p>Milkweed Weed (<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>) Host plant for Monarch</p> | <p>Tropical milkweed (<i>Asclepias curassavica</i>) Host plant for Monarch</p> | <p>Yarrow (<i>Achillea</i>)- host plant for camouflaged loopers, striped garden caterpillars, blackberry loopers, common pugs, cynical quakers, olive arches, and voluble darts</p> |
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| <p>Common Boneset (<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>) Host plant for Burdock Borer, Three lined flower moth, Blackberry Looper, and Clymene Moth)</p> | <p>Blue False Indigo (<i>Baptisia Australis</i>) Host plant for - Frosted Elfin, Orange Sulphur, Eastern Tailed Blue and Wild Indigo Duskywing, Canadian Skipper</p> | <p>Black Eyed Susan (<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>) Host Plant for Silvery Checkerspot and Gorgone Checkerspot)</p> | <p>Tickseed- <i>Coreopsis</i>- Nectar plant for many species of butterflies</p> |
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| <p>Blue Flag Iris- (<i>Iris Vericore</i>) Height: Likes wet soil. attract hummingbirds, butterflies, beneficial insects, and native bees;</p> | <p>Common thistle -up to 2 metres high- Host to Painted Lady</p> | <p>Nettle-<i>Urtica dioica</i> - About 2-4 feet tall. Has stinging hairs along the stem. Host plant to Red Admiral, Milbert's Tortoiseshell butterfly</p> | <p>Goldenrod, genus <i>Solidago</i> - Host plant for asteroid, the brown-hooded owlet, the camouflaged looper, the common pug, the striped garden caterpillar, and the goldenrod gall moth.</p> |



Pearly everlasting
Anaphalis margaritacea —
Host plant- American lady
butterfly



Chokecherry *Prunus virginiana* —
Host plant for
swallowtail, hairstreak
butterfly



Dogwood family
(*Cornaceae*) host
plant for -Azure, Lucia
butterfly



Asters (genus *aster*)- host
plant for pearl crescents,
northern crescents, tawny
crescents, field crescents,
silvery checkerspot,
asteroids, brown-hooded
owlets, camouflaged
loopers, common pugs,
and striped garden
caterpillars.



Turtlehead- *Chelone obliqua*- host plant to
Baltimore Checkerspot



Pacific ninebark
Physocarpus capitatus-
Host plant for tiger
swallowtail butterfly



Square-stemmed
Monkey Flower -
Mimulus ringens



Cranesbill *Geranium*,
host plant Virginia- tiger
moth the mouse moth,
and the tobacco budworm



Blanket flower (*gaillardia*)
hosting a wide range of
butterflies like the
Bordered Patch and the
Painted Shinia moth.



Gayflower - *Liatris spicata*- attracts a wide
variety of butterflies.



Mexican Sunflower-
tithonia - attracts
butterflies and bees



Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*)-nectar plant-
attracts butterflies and
bees



Obedient plant
(*Physostegia virginiana*)
Nectar plant for butterflies,
bees and hummingbirds)



Cardinal flower, *Lobelia
cardinalis*,
Attracts hummingbirds



Bottle brush grass
Host plant for northern
pearly eye



Tall Verbena (*Verbena
bonariensis*)
Attracts butterflies and
bees



State Fair Zinnia
Annual with large blooms
that make it easy for
butterflies to land on
Not native to Ontario



Sunflower-
multibranching
Can get 6-7 feet tall-
multi flowering
Attracts butterflies and
bees and birds



Coneflower- (*echinacea
purpurea*)
Host plant for black
swallowtail and
american lady butterfly
2-5 feet tall
Native Ontario
perennial



Pussy willow (*salix
discolor*)
6-20 feet high
Host plant for viceroys
and red spotted purples

Last Updated: July 2021