Butterflies and Host Plants

Butterflies need certain native plants to lay their eggs on, called host plants. The butterfly larvae (caterpillars) need these specific host plants to complete their development into a chrysalis, then adult butterfly. Butterfly

larvae species have evolved with a certain family of plants and will only consume those plants. If they don't have their host plant, butterfly populations decline because their food source is gone. Include host plants (for larvae) and nectar plants (for adult butterflies) to attract a wide variety of species and support their entire life cycle!						
	Host Plant	Caterpillar	Chrysalis	Butterfly		
Monarch Host Plant: Milkweeds —>						
Silver Spotted Skippers: Host Plant: Legumes- Showy Tick Trefoil —> Canada Milk-vetch						
Black Swallowtail Host Plant: Golden Alexander—> Fennel, Dill						
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Host Plant: Tulip Tree -> Cherries, Ashes, Willows, Poplars, Birches						
Silvery Checkerspot Host Plant: Blackeyed Susan—> Asters				No. Company of the Co		

	Host Plant	Caterpillar	Chrysalis	Butterfly
Great Spangled Fritillary Host plant: Violets ->				
Clouded Sulphur Host plant: Legumes- Wild Senna -> Clovers				
Eastern Tailed Blue Host plant: Legumes- Purple Prairie Clover —> Marsh Vetchling				
Viceroy Host plant: Willows —> Poplars, Apples, Cherries				
Mourning Cloak Host plant: Hackberry —> Willows, Elms, Poplars				
Red Admiral Host plant: Stinging Nettle —> Wood Nettle				
Host plant: Common Hops —> Stinging Nettle, Elms, Hackberry				