Common Tidewater Butterflies and Their Native Host Plants

Butterfly name Caterpillar Native Host Plant

American Lady everlastings, pussytoes, daisy family, sunflowers

Black Swallowtail carrot family

Buckeye plantain, wild petunias, verbenas

Cabbage White mustard family

Cloudless Sulphur cassia, clover, pea family, other legumes

Common (Clouded) Sulphur legumes, clover, vetch, lupine

Giant Swallowtail hop-tree
Gulf Fritillary passion vines
Monarch milkweeds
Mourning Cloak willow, birch, elm

Painted Lady thistle, mallow, nettles

Pipevine Swallowtail pipevine, VA snakeroot, wild ginger, knotweed

Red Admiral nettles, false nettle, thistle

Red Spotted Purple black cherry, chokecherry, poplar, black oak

Silver Spotted Skipper black locust, wisteria, legumes Spicebush Swallowtail spicebush, sassafras, various bays

Tiger Swallowtail black cherry, spicebush, sweet bay, tulip tree, ash

Variegated Fritillary violet, maypop, passionflower, plantain

Viceroy willow Zebra Swallowtail pawpaw

Caterpillar Native Host Plant Butterfly Name

Cherry Red-spotted Purple, Tiger Swallowtail Clover Sulphurs, Painted Lady, Skippers

Dutchman's pipe, pipevine Pipevine Swallowtail Hop-tree Giant Swallowtail

Lupine Sulphurs, Painted Lady, American Lady, Skippers

Magnolia Spicebush Swallowtail, Tiger Swallowtail

Mallow Painted Lady Milkweed Monarch

Nettles Red Admiral, Painted Lady, American Lady

Passion Flower Gulf Fritillary, Variegated Fritillary

Paw Paw Zebra Swallowtail
Red Bay Tiger Swallowtail
Sassafras Spicebush Swallowtail

Spicebush Spicebush Swallowtail, Tiger Swallowtail
Thistles Red Admiral, Painted Lady, American Lady

Verbena Buckeye

Violets Fritillaries (8 species in VA)

Virginia Snakeroot Pipevine Swallowtail
Wild Carrot Black Swallowtail
Wisteria Silver-spotted Skipper