## Florida Wildflowers & Butterflies

Florida is home to a spectacular array of wildflowers and butterflies. There are some 2800 native plants and more than 180 species of butterflies for residents and visitors to enjoy year round. This diversity is due in part to Florida's geographic location — it is suitable for many temperate and subtropical species. Invite butterflies to your yard by gardening with native plants. Cater to their life cycle needs by including nectar plants for adult butterflies and host plants for their larvae.

Butterflies have four life stages: egg, larva (caterpillar), pupa (chrysalis), and adult. By planting host plants, you are providing food for caterpillars and can enjoy watching them grow and transform into adult butterflies. The life cycle below shows the egg, larva, pupa, and adult stages of the Zebra Longwing on its host plant, Purple Passionflower.



state butterfly. Found throughout the state, the delicate adults may live for several months. Females deposit small, yellow eggs on young leaves and tendrils of Purple Passionflower. They may produce numerous generations each year.

## Our State Wildflower

The genus *Coreopsis* is Florida's state wildflower. Often called tickseeds, the plants' small seeds cling to clothing or pet hair and resemble insects. Thirteen Coreopsis species occur in Florida, two of which are found only in Florida. *Coreopsis* is frequently planted in gardens, and can often be seen along roadsides.



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail arval host plants include: Wild Cherry







Pipevine Swallowtail Battus philenor



Palamedes Swallowtail

Giant Swallowtail

Larval host plants include

Zebra Longwing Heliconius charitoniu Larval host plants include: Corky-stemmed Passionflower



Iulia Drvas iulia Larval host plants include: Corky-stemmed Passionflower



Queen Danaus gilippus Larval host plants include: White Swamp Milkweed, Butterflyweed





Monarch Danaus plexippus Larval host plants include: White Swamp Milkweed, Butterflyweed



Corky-stemmed Passionflower

Red-spotted Purple Limenitis arthemis astyanax Larval host plants include:

Wild Cherry

**Gulf Fritillary** 

Agraulis vanillae Larval host plants include:

**Hackberry Butterfly** 



Phyciodes phaon



Spicebush Swallowtail





American Painted Lady





Question Mark



Common Buckeye Larval host plants include: False Foxalove, Twinflower, Carolina Wild Petunia



Red-banded Hairstreak Calvcopis cecrops







Southern Dogface

Larval host plants include:

Bastard Indigo, Summer

Zerene cesonia

Forewell

Cloudless Sulphur



Sleepy Orange Orange-barred Sulphu



Red Admiral



**Banded Hairstreak** 



White-M Hairstreak



Ervnnis horatius



Long-tailed Skipper Urbanus proteus



Calephelis virginiensis Larval host plants include Purple Thistle





Little Metalmark







**Barred Sulphur** 



Great Southern White



Epargyreus clarus Larval host plants includ

Bastard Indigo

Little Wood Satyr





Checkered White



Ceraunus Blue Hemiaraus ceraunus



Cassius Blue



Eumaeus atalo Larval host plants include: Coontie

## Gardening with Native Plants

A great variety of Florida native plants are excellent for landscaping. They can be planted in small containers or over several acres.

Native plants:

Conserve water by requiring less irrigation once established

Are adapted to Florida's soil types and climate

Provide food and shelter for butterflies, birds, and other wildlife

Help your pocketbook by reducing maintenance and pest control costs Add beauty and interest to your landscape

## Designing Your Garden

As you plan your garden, follow these guidelines to attract the greatest diversity of butterfly species:

- Plant both larval host plants and adult nectar sources for butterflies at all stages of their lives
- Garden in full sun and partial shade
- Select a variety of plants that bloom at different times
- Choose plants with different heights and growth habits Group plants of the same species
- Use a mixture of flower colors, shapes, and sizes
- Check the sunlight, water, and soil needs of each plant

to determine the best location

Only butterfly host plants included in this brochure are listed under the butterfly images. Most butterflies have several host plants — this brochure is not comprehensive. For more information about Florida wildflowers and butterflies, visit http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/wildflower.



moderate water wetland plant

larval host plant











This brochure is an educational project developed in cooperation with the State of Florida and the Florida Wildflower Foundation, Inc. You can support research, education, and community planting projects by purchasing a State Wildflower Specialty License Plate



UF Cultural Plaza SW 34th Street & Hull Road

Gainesville, FL 32611-2710 352-846-2000 www.flmnh.ufl.edu





White Swamp Milkweed Asclepias perennis



Rattlesnake Master





Summer Farewell

Dalea pinnata



Leavenworth's Tickseed Coreopsis lanceolata



Sweet Acacia



Lance-leaved Tickseed Narrowleaf Sunflower Yellow Buttons Helianthus angustifolus Balduina angustifolia



Passiflora incarnata

Carolina Wild Petunia Centrosema virginianum





Conoclinium coelestinum



Twinflower



Dyschoriste oblongifolia



**₩** 



Wild Coffee



Aristolochia serpentaria



**Snow Squarestem** 



Scorpion-tail

New Iersey Tea Ceanothus americanus



Wild Cherry Prunus serotina



**Button Sage** 

**₽** 

Lantana involucrata









Seaside Goldenrod

Solidago sempervirens



Black-eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta

Cercis canadensis 



Liatris tenuifolia

Eupatorium fistulosum

Ruellia caroliniensis

Gayfeather

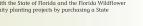


































Rhododendron canescens



Cirsium horridulum



