

What is a host plant and why are they important?

Most butterfly and moth young eat only one or just a few species of plants. The plant species where the females lay their eggs and that the larvae eat are called host plants. By planting host plants in our gardens, we can turn our yards in to havens for pollinating butterflies and moths.

Spicebush
(*Lindera benzoin*)



Spicebush Swallowtail Larva



Adult Spicebush Swallowtail



Eastern Black Walnut
(*Julgans nigra*)



CalScape

Walnut Sphinx Larva



Adult Walnut Sphinx



Royal Tyler



Learn more at pollinator.org/nappc/lepidoptera/

POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP

Protect their lives. Preserve ours.



Host plant guide for supporting pollinating moths and butterflies

Indiana

Common Blue Violet
(*Viola sororia*)



Mary Crickmore

Virginia Creeper
(*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)



Daniel Atha

Evening Primrose
(*Oenothera biennis*)



Sara L. Giles

Great Spangled Fritillary Larva



Chrissy McClarren and Andy Reago

Eight Spotted Forester Larva



Mirko Schoenitz

White-lined Sphinx Larva



Zoltán Stekkelpak

Great Spangled Fritillary Adult



Sue Elwell

Eight Spotted Forester Adult



Vicki Miller

White-lined Sphinx Adult



Your garden can make a big difference in the fight against pollinator decline!