

# Vermont Butterfly Taxonomy Guide

This is not a comprehensive species list of butterflies in Vermont, but will help you learn to recognize groups and their names, which is especially useful when you are in the field!

## Swallowtail Family Papilionidae

### Subfamily: Papilioninae

*Heraclides cresphontes* (Giant Eastern Swallowtail)

*Papilio* spp. (4) (all others)



Spicebush Swallowtail  
*P. troilus*



Eastern, Canadian,  
Midsummer Swallowtails  
(*Papilio* species)



Black Swallowtail  
*P. polyxenes*

## Brush-footed Family Nymphalidae



Subfamily: **Apaturinae** (Emperors)  
*Asterocampa* spp. (2)



Subfamily: **Nymphalinae** (Nymphs, Checkerspots)  
*Nymphalis* spp. (3) (Tortoiseshells & Mourning Cloak)  
*Aglais milberti* (Milbert's Tortoiseshell)  
*Polygonia* spp. (4) (Commas & Question Mark)  
*Phyciodes* spp. (2) (Northern & Pearl Crescents)  
*Euphydryas phaeton* (Baltimore Checkerspot)  
*Chlosyne* spp. (2) (Harris's & Silvery Checkerspot)  
*Vanessa* spp. (3) (Ladies & Admirals)  
*Junonia coenia* (Common Buckeye)



Subfamily: **Heliconiinae** (Fritillary)  
*Euptoieta claudia* (Variegated Fritillary)  
*Argynnis* spp. (3)  
*Boloria* spp. (2)  
*Speyeria* spp. (4)



Subfamily: **Limenitidinae** (Admirals & Viceroy)  
*Limenitis* spp. (3)



Subfamily: **Satyrinae** (Satyrs)  
*Coenonympha inornata* (Common Ringlet)  
*Megisto cymela* (Common Wood-Nymph)  
*Oeneis jutta balder* (Jutta Artie)  
*Lethe* spp. (3)



Subfamily: **Libytheinae**  
*Libytheana carinenta* (American Snout)  
\*rare subfamily



Subfamily: **Danainae** (Milkweed)  
*Danaus plexippus* (Monarch)

# Skippers

Family Hesperidae

**Subfamily: Heteropterinae (Skipperlings)**  
*Carterocephalus mandan* (Arctic Skipper)



**Subfamily: Hesperinae (Grass Skippers)**  
Includes +20 species from 12 genera of Grass Skippers.  
Includes most of the Grass Skippers with relatively bright colors and orange/yellow on wings; however, see Silver-spotted Skipper and Arctic Skipper



**Subfamily: Eudaminae (Dicot Skippers)**  
*Epargyreus clarus* (Silver-spotted, shown in image)  
*Thorybes pylades* (Northern Cloudywing)

**Subfamily: Pyrginae (Spread-wing Skippers)**  
Almost all are very dark colored  
*Burnsius communis* (Common Checkered-Skipper)  
*Pholisora catullus* (Common Sootywing)  
*Erynnis* spp. (4)



# Gossamer-winged

Family Lycaenidae

**Subfamily: Theclinae (Hairstreaks)**  
*Satyrion* spp. (6) (Satyrid Hairstreaks)  
*Callophrys* spp. (5) (Green Hairstreaks)  
*Erora laeta* (Early Hairstreak)  
*Strymon melinus* (Gray Hairstreak)  
*Parrhasius m-album* (White-m Hairstreak)



**Subfamily: Polyommatae (Blues)**  
*Polyommatus icarus* (Common Blue)  
*Glaucopsyche lygdamus* (Silverly Blue)  
*Cupido comyntas* (Eastern Tailed-Blue)  
*Celastrina* spp. (3) (Holarctic Azures)



**Subfamily: Lycaeninae (Coppers)**  
*Lycaena* spp. (3)  
*Tharsalea* spp. (2)



**Subfamily: Miletinae (Harvesters)**  
*Feniseca tarquinius* (Harvester)



# Whites & Yellows

Family Pieridae



**Subfamily: Pierinae (Whites)**  
*Pieris virginianensis* (West Virginia White)  
*Pieris rapae* (Cabbage White) [abundant]  
*Pieris oleracea* (Mustard White)



**Subfamily: Coliadinae (Yellows)**  
*Colias* spp. (3) (Sulphurs)  
*Pyrisitia lisa* (Little Yellow) [very rare]  
*Phoebis sennae* (Cloudless Sulphur) [very rare]