

❑ **Question Mark** (*Polygonia interrogationis*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/4 - 3 inches (5.7 - 7.6 cm) **Identification:** Forewing hooked; upperside is red-orange with black spots. Upperside hindwing of summer form is mostly black with a short tail; that of winter form has much orange and a longer, violet-tipped tail. Underside is light brown; hindwing with pearly white question mark in center. **Habitat:** Wooded areas with some open space, parks, fencerows.

❑ **Gray Comma** (*Polygonia progne*) **Wingspan:** 1 5/8 - 2 1/12 inches (4.4 - 6.3 cm) **Identification:** Upperside is bright orange-brown; summer form has hindwing with a wide dark border, winter form has the border covering only about 1/4 of the wing; both enclosing a few small yellow spots. Underside is charcoal gray with fine dark striations; forewing with 3-4 light chevrons in a dark border. Silver mark in center of hind wing is small, slender, and L-shaped. **Habitat:** Along dirt roads, along stream sides, and within clearings in rich deciduous or coniferous woods, in aspen parks, yards, and gardens. Often in hilly terrain or canyons.

❑ **Compton Tortoiseshell** (*Nymphalis vaualbum*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/2 - 3 1/16 inches (6.4 - 7.8 cm) **Identification:** Upper side is orange-brown with darker wing bases and black spots; a single white spot on leading edge of each wing. Underside is mottled gray and brown, with dark bases and borders; hindwing with small white V at outer of cell. **Habitat:** Upland deciduous or coniferous forests.

❑ **Mourning Cloak** (*Nymphalis antiopa*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/4 - 4 inches (5.7 - 10.1 cm) **Identification:** Short projections on both wings, borders irregular. Upperside is purple-black with a wide, bright yellow border on outer margins, and a row of iridescent blue spots at the inner edge of the border. **Habitat:** Because Mourning Cloaks roam and migrate, they are found almost anywhere that host plants occur including woods, openings, parks, and especially in riparian areas.

❑ **Milbert's Tortoiseshell** (*Nymphalis milberti*) **Wingspan:** 1 5/8 - 2 1/2 inches (4.2 - 6.3 cm) **Identification:** Forewing tip squared-off. Upperside is black with a wide orange sub marginal band which grades to yellow at the inner edge of band. Narrow black marginal border both wings; hindwing border

may contain some blue spots. **Habitat:** Wet areas near woodlands, moist pastures, marshes.

❑ **Red Admiral** (*Vanessa atalanta*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 3 inches (4.5 - 7.6 cm) **Identification:** Upperside is black with white spots near the apex; forewing with red median band, hindwing with red marginal band. The winter form is smaller and duller, summer form larger and brighter with an interrupted forewing band. **Habitat:** Moist woods, yards, parks, marshes, seeps, moist fields. During migrations, the Red Admiral is found in almost any habitat from tundra to subtropics.

❑ **Painted Lady** (*Vanessa cardui*) **Wingspan:** 2 - 2 7/8 inches (5.1 - 7.3 cm) **Identification:** Upperside is orange-brown with darker wing bases; forewing with black apex patch and white bar on leading edge; hindwing sub marginal row of 5 small black spots sometimes has blue scales. Underside has a black, brown, and gray pattern with 4 small sub marginal eyespots. **Habitat:** Almost everywhere, especially in open or disturbed areas including gardens, and old fields.

❑ **American Lady** (*Vanessa virginiensis*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 2 5/8 inches (4.5 - 6.7 cm) **Identification:** Upperside with uneven brown, yellow, and orange pattern. Forewing with a black apical patch, a small white spot in the orange field below the patch, and a white bar at the leading edge of the forewing. Underside of hindwing with two large eyespots. Winter form is smaller and paler, summer form larger with brighter coloring. **Habitat:** Open places with low vegetation including dunes, meadows, parks, vacant lots, forest edges.

❑ **White Admiral** (*Limenitis arthemis arthemis*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/4 - 4 inches (5.7 - 10.1 cm) **Identification:** The typical subspecies of *Limenitis arthemis* and some "hybrids" with subspecies *astyanax* have prominent white bands on both wings. The range of this subspecies is shown because it looks so different from the red-spotted purple form. The fact that both forms interbreed over a broad zone and produce fertile offspring is why they are treated under the single species. **Habitat:** Open areas with brambles for nectar.

❑ **Red-spotted Purple** (*Limenitis arthemis*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/4 - 4 inches (5.7 - 10.1 cm) **Identification:** These

two very different forms had once been considered separate species. **WHITE ADMIRAL:** Upperside is black with broad white median bands on both wings; hindwing has a marginal row of blue dashes and a sub marginal row of red dots. Under- side is reddish-brown with white median bands as on the upperside. **RED-SPOTTED PURPLE:** Upperside is blue to blue-green with much iridescence on the outer part of the hindwing. Underside is dark brown. Forewing has 2 red-orange bars near the base of the leading edge; hindwing has 3 red-orange spots near the base and a sub marginal row of red-orange spots. The two forms hybridize where their ranges overlap, creating various intermediate forms which may be found in or near the overlap zone. **Habitat:** The White Admiral form is usually found in the north in deciduous broad-leaf or mixed evergreen forests dominated by aspen or birch. The Red-Spotted Purple form is usually found further south than the White Admiral, in deciduous or mixed forests.

❑ **Monarch** (*Danaus plexippus*) **Wingspan:** 3 3/8 - 4 7/8 inches (8.6 - 12.4 cm) **Identification:** Upperside of male is bright orange with wide black borders and black veins; hind wing has a patch of scent scales. Upperside of female is orange-brown with wide black borders and blurred black veins. Both sexes have white spots on borders and apex. **Habitat:** Many open habitats including fields, meadows, weedy areas, marshes, and roadsides.

For Books on Butterflies Consult:

Peterson Field Guide To Eastern Butterflies, by Paul A. Opler, 1992

Handbook For Butterfly Watchers, by Robert M. Pyle, 1992

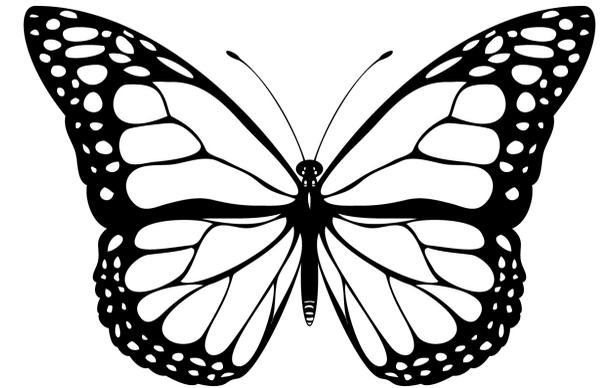
Learning About Butterflies, by Carolyn Klass and Bob Dirig, 1992

The Butterflies of North America, by J.A. Scott, 1986

Butterflies and Skippers, by A.M Shapiro, 1974 Cornell Univ.

Butterflies Through Binoculars, by J. Glassberg, 1993

Inlet Has Butterflies



Butterfly Checklist

Inlet Information Office
160 Route 28, PO Box 266
Inlet, NY 13360
315-357-5501
1-866-GO INLET
Fax: 315-357-3570
Tourism: InletNY.com
Government: TownofInlet.org
Facebook: [Inlet, NY Information & Events](https://www.facebook.com/InletNYInformation&Events)
info@inletny.com

❑ **Spicebush Swallowtail** (*Papilio troilus*) **Wingspan:** 3 - 4 inches (7.5 - 10 cm) **Identification:** Upper surface of forewing, mostly black with ivory spots along margin. Upper surface of hindwing, orange spot on costal margin & sheen of bluish (female), bluish-green (male) scales. Under- side of hindwing, pale green marginal spots. **Habitat:** Deciduous woodlands, fields, roadsides, yards, pine barrens, wooded swamps, and parks.

❑ **Eastern Tiger Swallowtail** (*Papilio glaucus*) **Wingspan:** 3 5/8 - 6 1/2 inches (9.2 - 16.5 cm) **Identification:** Male is yellow with dark tiger stripes. Female has 2 forms: one yellow like the male & the other black with shadows of dark stripes. Hind wing of both female forms has many iridescent blue scales & an orange marginal spot. On underside of forewing of both female forms the row of marginal spots merged into a continuous band. **Habitat:** Deciduous broadleaf woods, forest edges, river valleys, and parks.

❑ **Black Swallowtail** (*Papilio polyxenes*) **Wingspan:** 3 1/4 - 4 1/4 inches (8 - 11 cm) **Identification:** Upper surface of wings mostly black; on inner edge of hind wing is a black spot centered in larger orange spot. Male has yellow band near edge of wings; female has row of yellow spots. Female hind wing with iridescent blue band. In the Southwest, yellow forms predominate in the subspecies *P. coloro*. southern regions. **Habitat:** A variety of open areas including fields, marshes, and roadsides.

❑ **Mustard White Sulphur** (*Pieris oleracea*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/2 - 2 1/4 inches (3.8 - 5.7 cm) **Identification:** Summer form is pure white above and below; spring form has black-tipped upper fore- wing. Underside of hindwing and apex of forewing have veins edged with yellow-green. **Habitat:** Open forests and fields, deciduous woods, bogs, streamsides.

❑ **Cabbage White Sulphur** (*Pieris rapae*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 2 1/4 inches (4.5 - 5.8 cm) **Identification:** Upper side of wings white; forewing with black tip. Two sub marginal black spots in fe- male, one in male. Underside of hindwing and fore- wing apex evenly yellow-green or gray-green. Spring and fall short-day form is smaller, less yellow, with reduced black areas. **Habitat:** Almost any type of open space including weedy areas, gardens, and roadsides.

❑ **Pink-edged Sulphur** (*Colias interior*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/2 - 2 5/8 inches (3.9 - 6.6 cm) **Identification:** Both

sexes with conspicuous pink wing edges. Male yellow; female yellow or white (very rarely). Upper side of male with black border; border on female may be incomplete or only seen at tip of wing. Underside of hindwing clear yellow with single silver cell spot circled in pink. **Habitat:** Shrubby openings in woods, bogs, or scrub areas; often in burned or logged sites.

❑ **Little Yellow Sulphur** (*Eurema lisa*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/4 - 1 3/4 inches (3.2 - 4.4 cm) **Identification:** Upper side of male forewing yellow with wide black apex. Hindwing with black border. Female yellow or white (rare) with black borders. Both sexes with small black spot in forewing cell. **Habitat:** Dry, open areas including roadsides, sandy fields, abandoned fields, along railroad tracks, and occasionally open woods.

❑ **Harvester** (*Gossamer*) (*Feniseca tarquinius*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/8 - 1 1/4 inches (3 - 3.2 cm) **Identification:** Upper side has black spots and orange- brown areas surrounded by black. Underside hindwing is orange- brown to orange-purple with small, faint white circles. **Habitat:** Deciduous or mixed woodlands along streams.

❑ **American Copper** (*Lycaena phlaeas*) **Wingspan:** 7/8 - 1 3/8 inches (2.2 - 3.5 cm) **Identification:** Upper surface of forewing shiny, fiery orange-red with black spots; hindwing gray with orange-red outer margin. Underside gray; hindwing with sub marginal row of orange-red zigzags. **Habitat:** In disturbed places in the East including pastures, landfills, vacant lots, road edges, old fields; rocky places in alpine habitats.

❑ **Bronze Copper** (*Lycaena hyllus*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/4 - 1 7/8 inches (3.2 - 4.8 cm) **Identification:** Upperside of male iridescent copper- brown; female forewing yellow- orange with black spots. Underside forewing of both sexes orange with black spots; underside hindwing is gray-white with black spots and a broad orange outer margin. **Habitat:** Wet areas such as bogs, marshes, meadows, ponds.

❑ **Bog Copper** (*Lycaena epixanthe*) **Wingspan:** 7/8 - 1 inch (2.2 - 2.5 cm) **Identification:** Upper side of male brownish with purple iridescence; female dull gray- brown. Underside of both sexes white or pale tan; hindwing with very small black spots and red zigzag border on outer margin. **Habitat:** Bogs with cranberries and other *Ericaceae*.

❑ **Striped Hairstreak** (*Satyrium liparops*) **Wingspan:** 1 - 1 1/2 inches (2.5 - 3.9 cm) **Identification:** Hindwing with 1 long and 1 short tail. Upper side dark brown; male with a long, oval spot along forewing costa. Underside of both wings with rows of widely separated white stripes; blue spot near tails topped with orange. Outer margin of hindwing indented above short tail. **Habitat:** Deciduous forest openings and edges, prairie streamsides, shaded swamps, acid barrens, prairie coves.

❑ **Eastern Pine Elfin** (*Callophrys niphon*) **Wingspan:** 1 - 1 1/4 inches (2.5 - 3.2 cm) **Identification:** Tailless. Upperside dark brown; female with dark borders. Underside banded dark brown; hindwing with sub marginal gray band outside row of black crescents. **Habitat:** Areas with small to medium pines such as forest openings and edges, and old fields.

❑ **Eastern Tailed-Blue** (*Everes comyntas*) **Wingspan:** 7/8 - 1 1/8 inches (2.2 - 2.9 cm) **Identification:** One narrow tail on hind wing. Upperside of male iridescent blue; summer females uniformly brown, spring females smaller with much blue at the wing bases. Underside of hindwing pale gray with black bar at end of cell, distinct black spots, and three large orange spots at outer margin near tail. **Habitat:** Many open, sunny places including weedy are- as and disturbed habitats.

❑ **Great Spangled Fritillary** (*Speyeria cybele*) **Wingspan:** 2 1/2 - 4 inches (6.3 - 10.1 cm) **Identification:** Large. Upper side of male tan to orange with black scales on forewing veins; female tawny, darker than male. Underside of hindwing with wide pale sub marginal band and large silver spots. **Habitat:** Open, moist places including fields, valleys, pastures, right-of-ways, meadows, open woodland, prairies.

❑ **Northern Pearl Crescent** (*Phyciodes cocyta*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/4 - 1 7/8 inches (3.2 - 4.8 cm) **Identification:** Antennal clubs of male are orange. Females are darker than males. Upper side is orange- brown with dark borders; median orange-brown areas are mostly open, with few dark markings. Underside of hindwing is orange with a tan patch surrounding the pale marginal crescent. **Habitat:** Moist open areas in rocky places, wooded streams, marsh edges, and shale barrens.

❑ **Northern Pearly Eye** (*Enodia anthedon*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 2 5/8 inches (4.5 - 6.7 cm) **Identification:** Antennal clubs are black. Upper side is brown with

dark eyespots. Underside is brown; sub marginal row of 4 black spots on forewing is straight and the dark line inside it is sinuous. Spots are not surrounded by diffuse white. **Habitat:** Damp deciduous woods, usually near marshes or waterways; mixed or grassy woodlands.

❑ **Little Wood Satyr** (*Megisto cymela*) **Wingspan:** 1 1/2 - 1 7/8 inches (3.8 - 4.8 cm) **Identification:** Light brown. Forewing has 2 yellow-rimmed black eyespots both above and below. Hindwing has 2 eyespots on upper side; but may have smaller spots below. **Habitat:** Grassy woods and openings, old fields; especially in limey or basic soils.

❑ **Silver-spotted Skipper** (*Epargyreus clarus*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 2 5/8 inches (4.5 - 6.7 cm) **Identification:** Wings are brown-black; hindwing is lobed. Forewing has transparent gold spots; underside of hind wing has a metallic silver band. **Habitat:** Disturbed and open woods, foothill stream courses, prairie waterways.

❑ **Arctic Skipper** (*Carterocephalus palaemon*) **Wingspan:** 1 - 1 1/4 inches (2.5 - 3.2 cm) **Identification:** Upperside is black with squarish orange spots. Underside of the forewing is orange with black spots; underside of hind wing is red-orange with cream spots outlined in black. **Habitat:** Glades and openings in heavily forested woods, moist meadows, and stream sides.

❑ **Hobomok Skipper** (*Poanes hobomok*) **Wingspan:** 1 - 1 11/16 inches (2.5 - 4.3 cm) **Identification:** Wings are rounded. Upperside of male is yellow-orange with irregular black borders and no stigma; underside of hindwing has purple-gray on the inner margin. Female has 2 forms: Upperside of normal form is duller and has less orange than the male; underside of hindwing is orange with purple-gray at the inner margin. Upperside of "pocahontas" form is purple-black with some dull white spots on the forewing; underside is purple-black with the pattern obscured. **Habitat:** Openings and edges of damp woods, edges of bogs, light gaps along streams, city parks.

❑ **Baltimore Checker Spot** (*Euphydryas phaeton*) **Wingspan:** 1 3/4 - 2 3/4 inches (4.5 - 7 cm) **Identification:** Geographically variable. Upperside is black with red-orange crescents on outer of both wings and rows of creamy white spots inward. **Habitat:** Wet meadows, bogs, and marshes in the northeast part of the range.