

**Moth or Butterfly?** Most moth antennae look like slender feathers; butterfly antennae are thread-like with knob-shaped tips. At rest or while nectaring, most moths hold their wings horizontally or folded tent-like across their backs. Butterflies usually hold their wings above their backs. Butterflies usually fly in the day, moths at night, but look for the hummingbird clearwing moth during the day.



Dwight Sipler

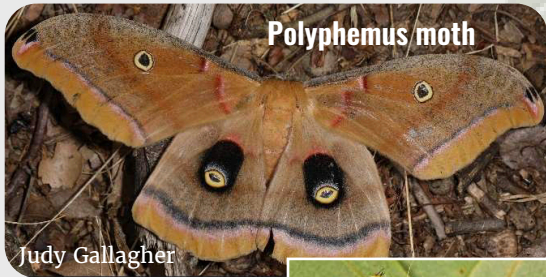


**Host plants:** plum, viburnum, cherry, coral honeysuckle



**Rosy maple moth**

**Host plant:** maples



**Host plants:** ash, birch, oak, grape, hickory, maple, pine

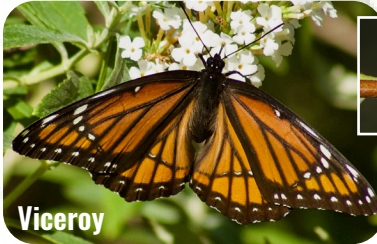


**Monarch**

**Host plant:** milkweed



Both monarchs and viceroy are distasteful to the birds that eat them. They have evolved to resemble each other, thus increasing the protection from predators for both.



**Viceroy**



**Host plants:** willow, cottonwood



**Gulf fritillary**

**Host plants:** passionvine, maypop



**Variegated fritillary**

**Host plants:** violet, pansy, passionvine, mayapple



All photos, except where shown, were taken by Sandy Shaull. Text written by Linda Chafin.



Male butterflies will often gather at damp or muddy spots to drink and obtain minerals, salts and amino acids, a behavior called “puddling.” Most of these nutrients are passed to the female butterfly during mating.



**Buckeye**

**Host plants:** plantain, toadflax, false foxglove



### Connect to Protect

The State Botanical Garden’s Connect to Protect program combines beautiful displays of native plants with educational materials to foster understanding of the role that native plants play in protecting and conserving wildlife such as butterflies and moths. Gardens across the state have been planted to provide butterflies and moths with nectar, high energy fuel for flying, and host plants, food for caterpillars. For more information on planting a garden, visit [botgarden.uga.edu](http://botgarden.uga.edu).



A guide to the common butterflies and moths on the Butterfly Trail at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia



**Male**

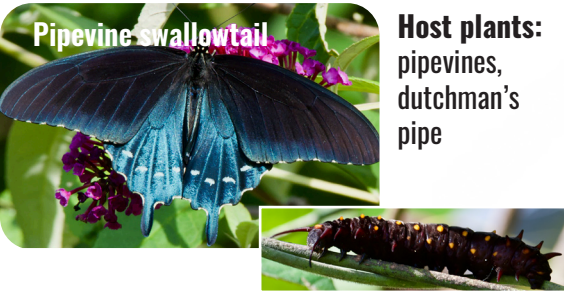
**Eastern tiger swallowtail state butterfly of Georgia**

In partnership with the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail®



**Dark form female**

**Swallowtails** are large, vividly colored butterflies with tail-like appendages on their hind wings. They nectar on wild and cultivated flowers in sunny clearings and flower gardens.



**Host plants:**  
pipevines,  
dutchman's  
pipe



**Host plants:**  
parsley, dill,  
fennel, queen  
anne's lace



**Host plants:**  
spicebush,  
sassafras,  
red bay



**Host plants:**  
citrus,  
wafer ash,  
prickly ash

**Several swallowtails** as well as the red-spotted purple resemble pipevine swallowtails, butterflies that are distasteful to birds. This form of mimicry provides some protection from predators.



**Host plants:**  
deerberry, black  
cherry, willow,  
cottonwood,  
serviceberry



**Host plant:**  
pawpaw

**Sulphur** butterflies are large with pale yellow or orange wings. Most have black "eyespot" on the forewings and rounded hindwings.



**Host plants:**  
senna, sicklepod,  
partridge pea



**Host plants:**  
sicklepod,  
partridge pea

**Finding butterflies and moths at the State Botanical Garden**

Look throughout the garden and find the blue signs with the silhouette of the eastern tiger swallowtail, Georgia's state butterfly. If the sign indicates that it is a host plant then this plant is where female butterflies and moths lay their eggs and where caterpillars will develop.



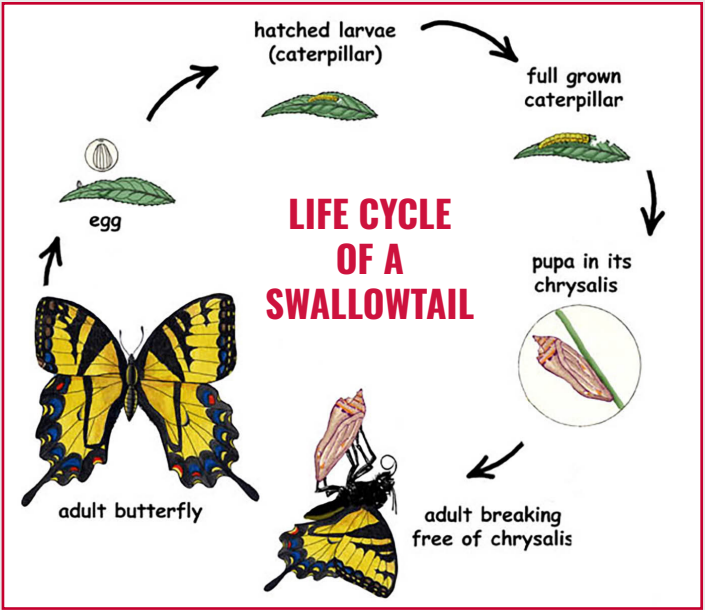
**Butterflies and moths begin life**

when a female deposits an egg on a plant called a host plant. When the egg hatches, a caterpillar, called a larva, emerges and begins to eat the host plant. Caterpillars come in many shapes, colors and sizes, but all have one goal: to eat and grow as big and fast as possible. Caterpillars can grow 100 times their size, shedding their skins several times and growing a new one as they expand. When a caterpillar reaches the right size, it attaches itself to a twig or other support and enters the third stage of its life – a pupa. During this stage, butterfly caterpillars wrap themselves in a tough sack called a chrysalis. Moth caterpillars will spin a silky cocoon. The butterfly or moth may stay in the pupal stage for only a few days or for as long as a year, eventually



Rosalynn Carter  
Butterfly Trail®

**The Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail®** was inspired by Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter when she called on neighbors to help her provide habitat for monarch butterflies. The program, based in Plains, Ga., has expanded throughout the United States and internationally. Its goals are: to educate the general public about the importance of supporting butterfly populations; inspire everyone to plant a butterfly-friendly garden; and to increase habitat for pollinators, whether in a private garden, a neighborhood park or schoolyard. For more information, visit <https://rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org>.



transforming into an adult butterfly or moth. Adults emerge and spend their short lives visiting flowers to feed on nectar and searching for mates with which they will restart the cycle.