

Butterflies flying during Weeks 17 – 21 (late April-late May)

Priority blocks:

Colchester Point-6 (28 species)

Colchester-3 (31 species)

Burlington-4 (40 species -done)

[You can explore the block mapper tool here.](#)

Missing butterflies to find:

Colchester Point-6

- Milbert's Tortoiseshell
- Arctic Skipper (unlikely, only 3rd week of May)

Colchester-3

- Milbert's Tortoiseshell

Burlington-4

- Eastern Pine Elfin
- Eastern Comma
- Arctic Skipper (unlikely, only 3rd week of May)

Target Species Profiles

[Milbert's Tortoiseshell](#)

This early season butterfly has declined by 96% over the past twenty years, making it a rare to find species. They overwinter as adult and emerge in April to begin feeding on tree sap and rotten fruit.

Where to find: Wet areas like moist pastures, marshes, trails and roadsides

- Ethan Allen Park
- Macrae Farm Park
- Lavigne Rd.
- Windjammer Restaurant Parking Lot
- Fanny Allen Cemetery
- Indian Brook Park

Host plants: [Nettles](#) (Stinging Nettle, [Tall Nettle](#), [Clearweed](#))

[Compton Tortoiseshell](#)

This early season butterfly has declined by 97% over the past twenty years, making it a rare to find species. They overwinter as adult and emerge in April to begin feeding on tree sap and rotten fruit.

Where to find: Deciduous and coniferous forests

- Centennial Woods

Host plants: [Poplars](#), [Willows](#), [Gray Birch](#), [Paper Birch](#)

Question Mark

This early season butterfly overwinters as an adult and emerges in April to begin feeding on tree sap and rotten fruit.

Where to find: Wooded areas, city parks, open spaces with trees

- Delta Park
- Derway Island
- McKenzie Park
- Muddy Brook Park

Host plants: [American Elm](#), [Slippery Elm](#), [Hackberry](#), [Japanese Hop](#), [Nettles](#), [False Nettle](#), [Clearweed](#)

Eastern Pine Elfin

This early season butterfly has declined over 50% over the past twenty years, but can still be found on warm days in White Pine stands.

- River Cove Rd.
- Centennial Woods

Where to find: White Pine stands

Host plants: [Eastern White Pine](#), Jack Pine

Eastern Comma

Another early season butterfly, this species has only declined about 20% over the past twenty years. Like the related Tortoiseshell, they overwinter as adult and emerge in April to begin feeding on tree sap and rotten fruit.

Where to find: In woods near water (near rivers, ponds, marshes, swamps, etc.), look for broken branches where tree sap might be accessible

- Many locations

Host plants: [Paper Birch](#), [False Nettle](#), [Hackberry](#), [Hops](#), [Wood Nettle](#), [Currants and Gooseberries](#), [Basswood](#), [American Elm](#), [Clearweed](#), [Nettles](#)

Arctic Skipperling

This rare to find butterfly typically emerges in late May, so may be out by the end of the event but will be difficult to find regardless.

Where to find: In woods near water (near rivers, ponds, marshes, swamps, etc.)

- Mud Pond Park

- Centennial Woods

Host plants: [Grasses](#) (Purple Reedgrass)

West Virginia White

This SGCN listed species has never been recorded in Burlington. They don't typically fly until late May, so may not be out by the end of the event.

Where to find: In woods near their host plant

Host plants: [Two-leaved Toothwort](#), [Cut-leaved Toothwort](#)

Potential species:

Likely to See

Mourning Cloak
Eastern Comma
Cabbage White
Red Admiral
Milbert's Tortoiseshell
Compton Tortoiseshell
American Lady
Northern Azure
Painted Lady
Gray Comma
Viceroy
Green Comma

May see (late May emergers)

Black Swallowtail
Silvery Blue
Hobomok Skipper
Juvenal's Duskywing
American Copper
Clouded Sulphur
Meadow Fritillary
Mustard White
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail
Common Ringlet
Crescents
Wild Indigo Duskywing
Little Wood Satyr
Harvester
West Virginia White
Tawny-edged Skipper
Question Mark

Summer Azure
Peck's Skipper
Arctic Skipperling
Banded Hairstreak
Harris's Checkerspot
Silver-spotted Skipper
Eastern Tailed-Blue
Great Spangled Fritillary