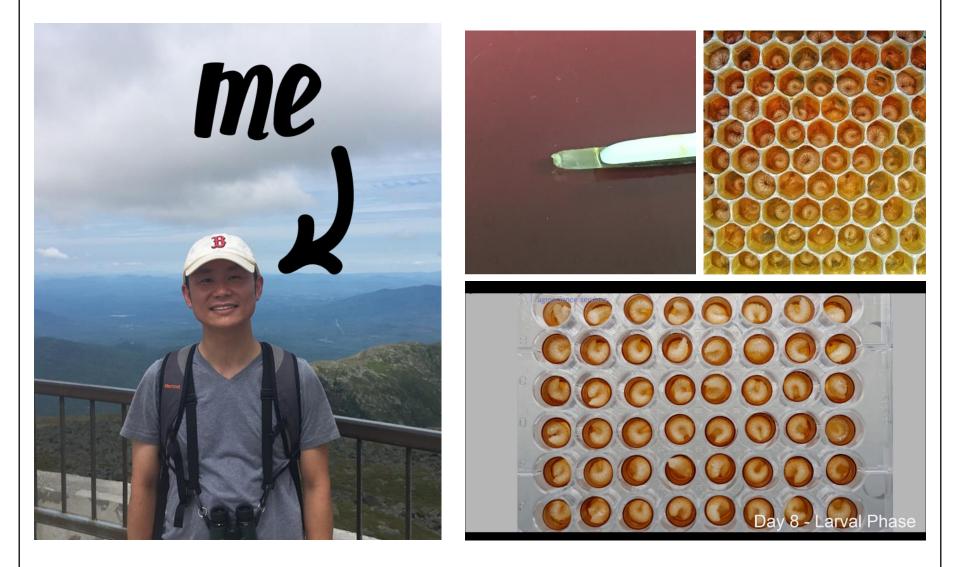
# Of Monarchs, Satyrs, and Ladies

**Plymouth County Extension** 



Blake Dinius Entomologist Educator <u>bdinius@plymouthcountyma.gov</u> 774-773-3404

# Introduction



# Introduction





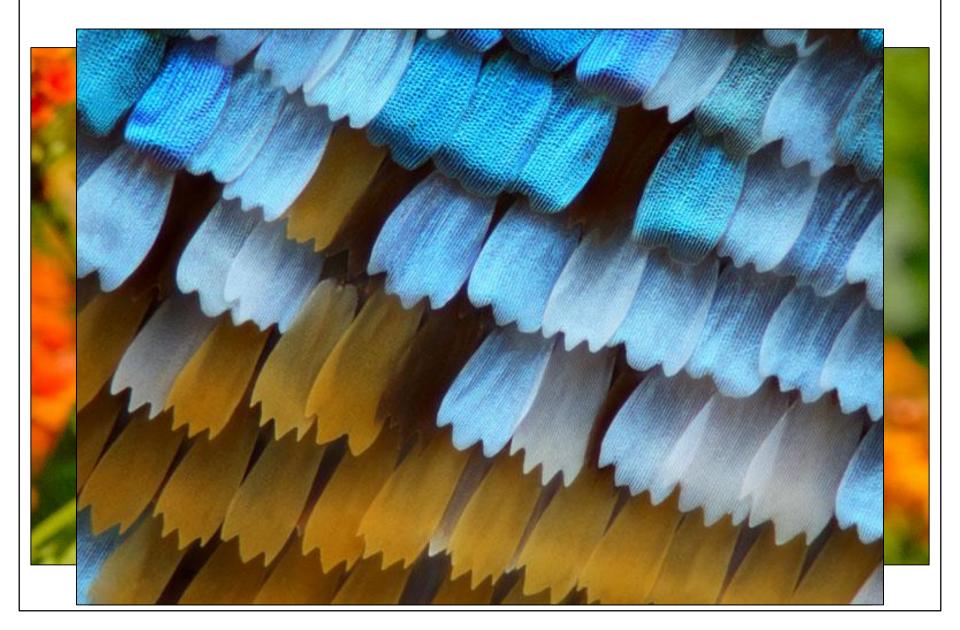




## Insects in the Order Lepidoptera



# Lepidoptera means "scaled wing"

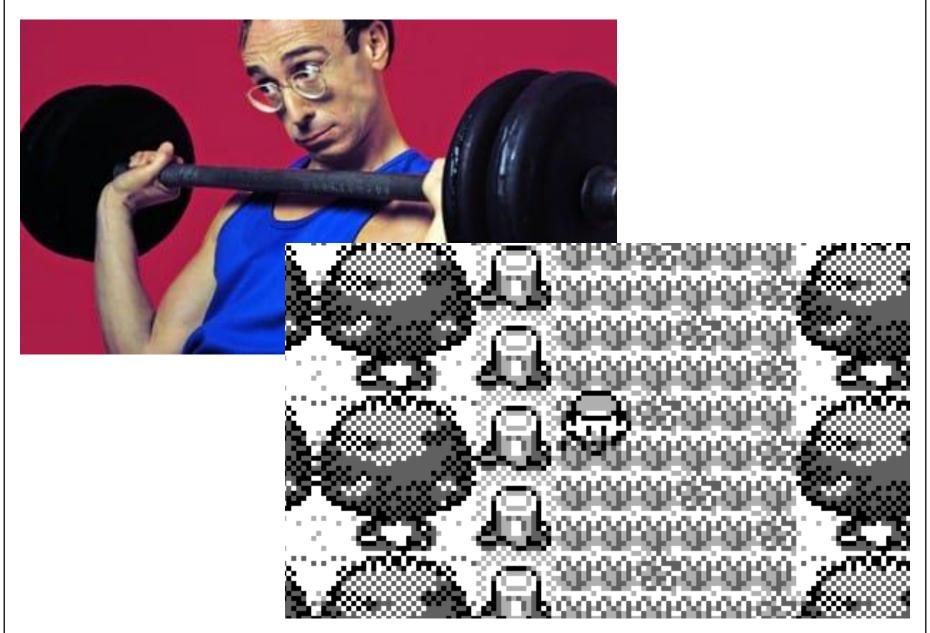


# MORPHO BUTTERFLY

# Why watch butterflies?



### Exercise



# Aesthetically pleasing

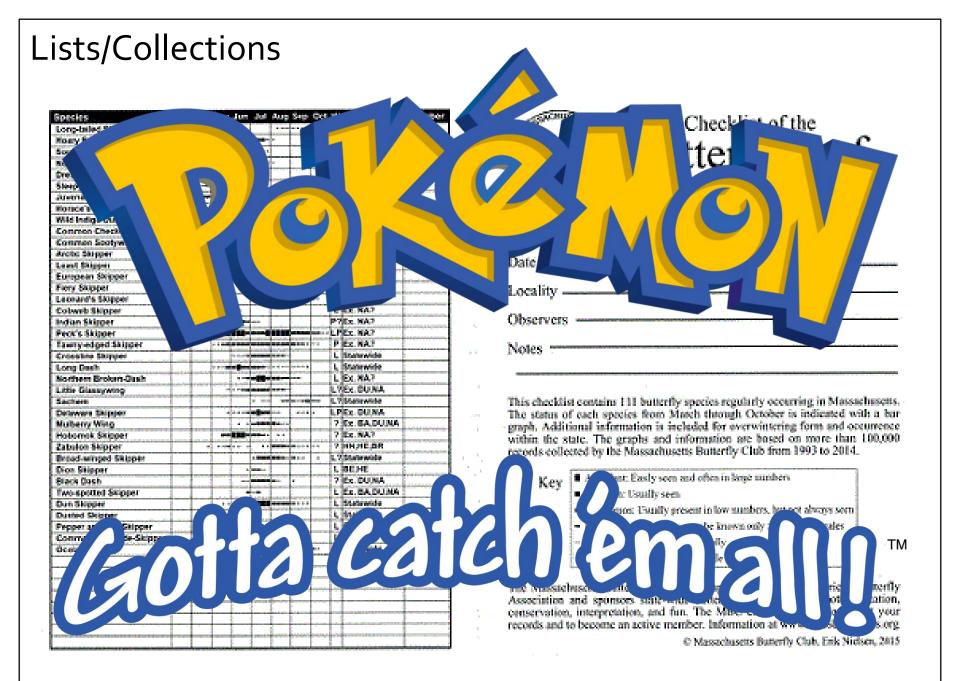




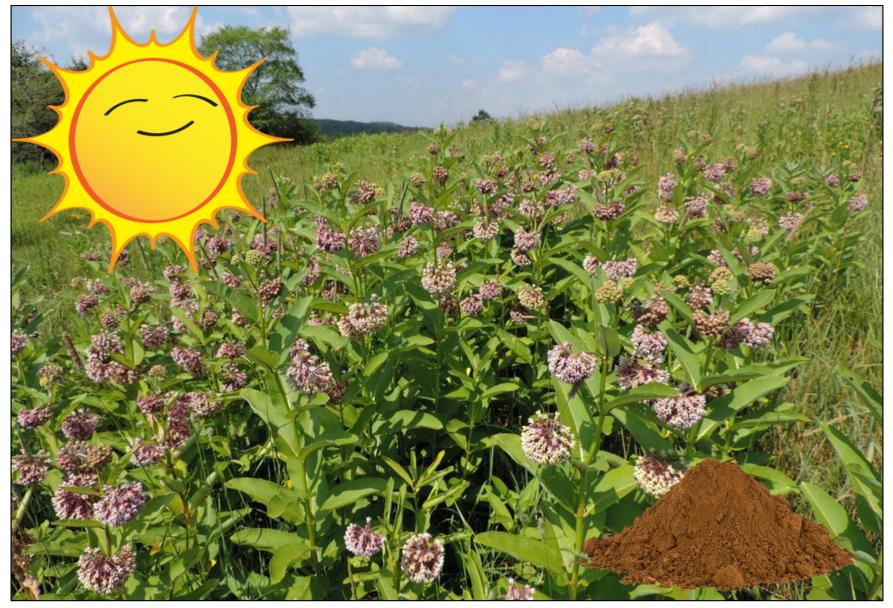


# Watch behaviors

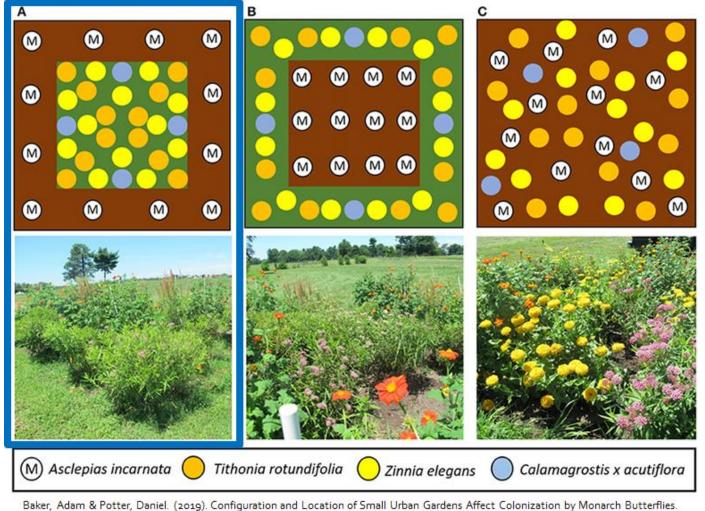




# A deeper understanding of nature



- 2.5-4x more eggs + caterpillars
- 1 meter between perimeter
- 0.5 meters between each plant



Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution. 7.

	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Coral Hairstreak				_				
Acadian Hairstreak				• =		•		
Edwards' Hairstreak						•		
Banded Hairstreak				•==				
Hickory Hairstreak				•		- • •		
Striped Hairstreak				-=				
Oak Hairstreak				-=	*			
Brown Elfin				- • •				
<u>Hoary Elfin</u>		_==	==	-•				
Frosted Elfin		* *		-+=				
<u>Henry's Elfin</u>			=	* *				
Bog Elfin			+	_				
Eastern Pine Elfin	_	· ==		<b>=</b> == •	+	+		

https://www.naba.org/chapters/nabambc/flight-dates-chart.asp

# Adults nectar on many plants













# Caterpillars need host plants





# Butterfly gardening















### **Sharon Stichter**



### GARDENING for BUTTERFLIES in New England

TO ATTRACT THE MOST BUTTERFLIES TO YOUR GARDEN, PLANT BOTH NECTAR FLOWERS AND CATERPILLAR FOOD PLANTS

#### MY "TOP FIFTEEN" NECTAR PLANTS

Butterfly Bush\* (Buddleia davidii . B. alternifolia is also good.) Zinnias (tall, flat-topped varieties e.g. 'State Farm', 'Cut & Come

Again', Carrousel. "Profusion" is okay. NOT pompons.) Marigolds (*Tagetes* spp.) ( Taller, single varieties; NOT pompons.) Milkweeds: Swamp Milkweed (*Aesclepias incarnata*), Butterfly Weed

(A. tuberosa), and Common Milkweed (A. syriaca- aggressive). New England Aster (A. novae-angliae), and most other asters. Scabiosa\* ('Batterfly Blue' lives up to its name.) Purple Coneflower (and other Echinacea spp.) New Jersey Tea (Ceanothus americanus) Sweet Pepperbush (Clethra alnifolia) (all varieties) Gayfeather (Liatris spp.) (L. ligulistylis, pycnostachya, koboldii, etc.) Coreopsis spp. (Even 'Moonbeam' works for me) Joe-Pye Weed (Eupatorium spp. – all varieties) Cupplant or Compass Plant (Silphium spp.) Mexican sunflower (Tithonia) (excellent in late summer) Verbena: V. bonariensis in late summer and fall. Other verbenas okay.

<u>ALSO GOOD</u>: Chives (and other Allium spp.); Senecio aureus (wetland native for early bloom); Bee balm (Monarda); Thyme; Catmint\* (Nepeta); Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia); Privet\*; Dandelions\*\*; Phlox; Centranthus\*; Valerian\*; Dogbane (caution: aggressive); vetch; thistles; Mountain-Mint ( Pyenanthemum spp.); Mint (Mentha spp.) (caution: aggressive); Lilacs\*; Cosmos; Sedums; Helenium; Blackberry; Raspberry; Lavender\*; Galliardia; Red Clover\*; Birds-foot Trefoil\*\*; Batton-bush (Cephalanthus); Black Cohosh (Cimifuga racemosa); Bidens (especially Bidens alba, which is annual in our climate); Lantana (not hards); Pentas\* (not hards). For Moths: Oenothera spp.; Nicotiana spp.

\*not native to the Americas, but well-behaved in our area \*\*not native, may be aggressive

SOURCES FOR PLANTS AND SEEDS : Prairie Nursery; Prairie Moon Nursery www.prairiemoonnursery.com ; Select Seeds www.selectseeds.com ; New England Wild Flower Society <u>www.newfs.org</u> ; Churchill Nursery, Exeter, NH; Russell's Garden Center, Sudbury, MA; Bigelow Nurseries, Northboro, MA; Sunlight Gardens, TN; Johnnies Selected Seeds, Winslow, ME; and many others.

### ESSENTIAL LARVAL FOOD PLANTS FOR YOUR GARDEN

Red Admiral: Nettles (Urtica dioica\*\*), False Nettle (Boehmeria cylindrica), Hops (Humulus lupulus)

American Lady: Pussytoes (Antennaria- all species); Pearly Everlasting (Anaphalis margaritacea); Cudweed (Gnaphalium obtusifolium, etc.); Globe Thistle (Echinops ritro\*). Black Swallowtail: Dill (Anethum graveolens\*); Queen Anne's Lace (Daucus carota\*\*); Fennel (Foeniculum vulgare\*\*); Parsley (Petroselinum\*); Lovage (Levisticum officinale\*); Scotch Lovage (Ligusticum scothicum ); Rue (Ruta\_graveolens\*). Spicebush Swallowtail: Spicebush (Lindera benzoin); Sassafras Monarch: Milkweeds (Asclepias spp) all, but especially Common Milkweed Sulphurs, Eastern Tailed-Blue: Alfalfa\*; Clovers\*; Lespedeza, Desmodium, Lathyrus Baltimore Checkerspot: Turtlehead (Chelone glabra); Plantain (Plantago lanceolata) Pipevine Swallowtail: Dutchman's Pipe (Aristolochia durior) Pearl Crescent: Asters; Fritillaries: Violets Silver-spotted Skipper: Black locust (Robinia) (very aggressive); Honey locust (Gleditsia); Groundnut (Apios americana) (aggressive, but not as much as Robinia). Viceroy: Poplars and Willows Mourning Cloak: Willows Red-spotted Purple: Black Cherry (Prunus serotina); poplars, birches, willows Eastern Comma: Ouestion Mark: Milbert's Tortoiseshell: Stinging Nettles: Hops: Elms American Copper: Sorrel, Dock (Rumex spp.)\*\* Spring/Summer Azure: Black Cherry (Prunus serotina); Spirea; Vaccinium Least and Peck's Skippers: Grasses: Poa spp.; Panicum spp. Crossline, Cobweb, and Dusted Skippers: Little Bluestem (Schizachyrium scoparius)

#### BUTTERFLY RESOURCES

Sharon Stichter, www.butterfliesofmassachusetts.net History of butterflies in our state, detailed host plant discussion, abundance charts, distribution maps. 2010.

Massachusetts Butterfly Club www.massbutterflies.org In-state photographs of all species, membership information, field trips, checklists, guide to good field sites.

Jeffrey Glassberg, <u>Butterflies Through Binoculars: The East</u>, Oxford University Press, 1993. The best field guide for our region.

Rick Cech, <u>Butterflies of the East Coast</u>. Princeton University Press, 2005. Beautiful up-to-date reference book; includes identification, host plants and habitat.

This handout © Sharon Stichter , Newbury, MA 2011

rev. 6-11

# **BLUE WHALE**

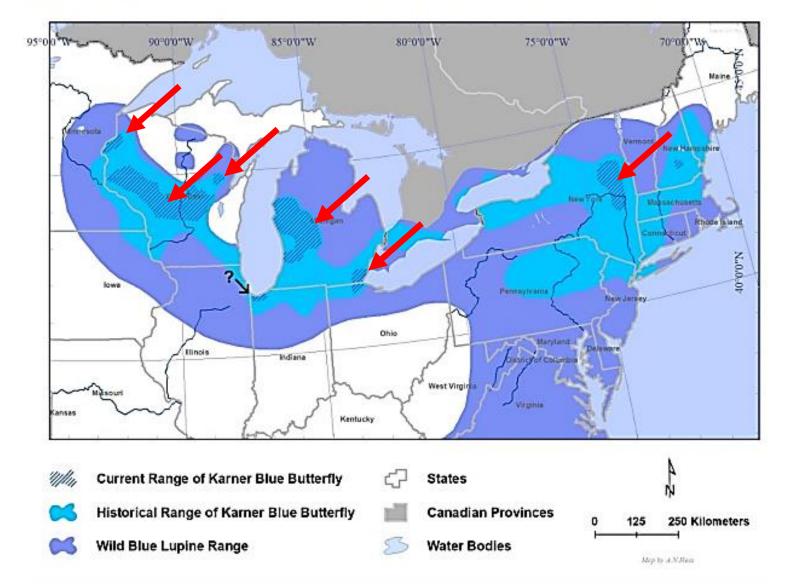
# **KARNER BLUE**



Paul Labus

Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). 2012. Karner blue butterfly 5-year review: summary and evaluation. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Field Office, New Franken, WI.

Developed by A. Hess (2019) as part of the Draft KBB Climate Response Sub Team Report DRAFT, 2017.



Fish and Wildlife Service (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). 2012. Karner blue butterfly 5-year review: summary and evaluation. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Field Office, New Franken, WI.

## 2001 study...

We may never know how many invertebrate species are at risk. The true impact of extinction on invertebrates is hard to quantify, partly because endangered species documentation is biased in favor of vertebrates. According to the 2000 overlooked and ignored, they ure l) of the total identified animal velop vast surface blooms of ineclipse all other forms of life on species, and with all other invertecredible mass. In the U.S. the bio-

earth, not only in sheer numbers, brates (excluding viruses and bacdiversity (number of species), and teria) the number reaches 1,238,000 biomass (dry weight), but also in or 94 percent (UNEP 1995). The the comparative biomass of human

mass of earthworms and arthropods is estimated at 1,000 kg/ha, while

Hoffman Black, Scott & Shepard, Matthew & Allen, Melody. (2001). Endangered Invertebrates: the case for greater attention to invertebrate conservation. Endangered Species Update. 18.

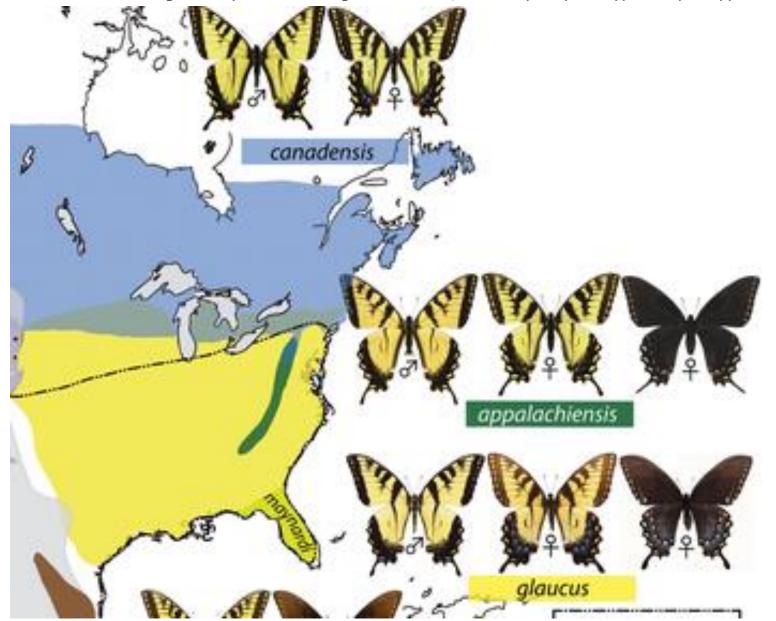
Undiscovered mammals: 303

# Undiscovered insects: Over 30,000,000



Fisher, M., Vinson, J., Gittleman, J., and Drake, J. (2018). The description and number of undiscovered mammal species. Ecology and Evolution. 8. Erwin, T. L. 1983. Tropical forest canopies: the last biotic frontier. Bulletin of the Entomological Society of America, Volume 29: 14-19

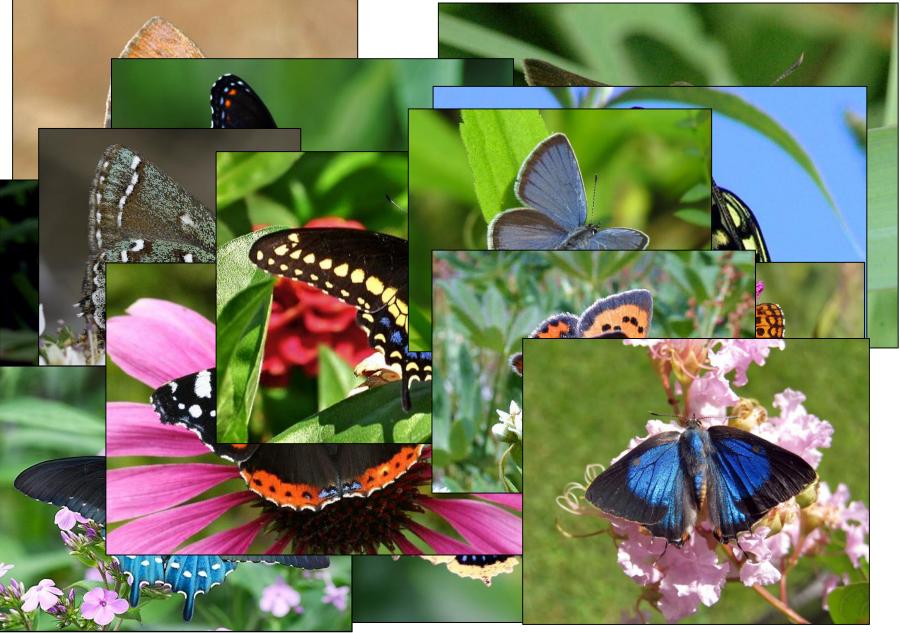
Figure 1. The distributional ranges and hybrid zones of tiger swallowtails, and the hybrid phenotype of Papilio appalachiensis.

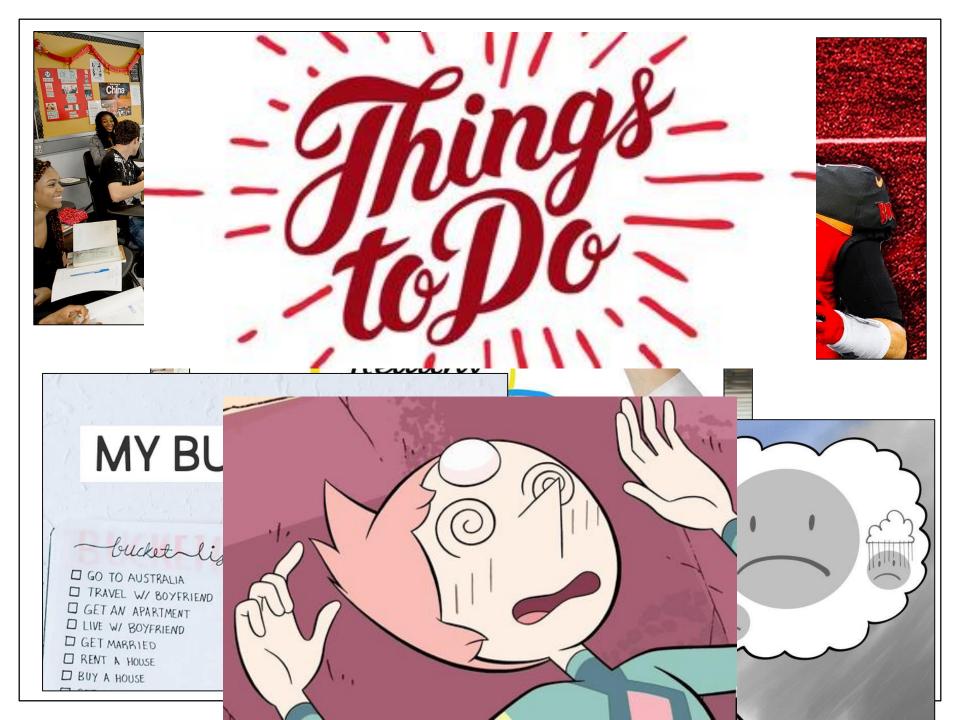


Kunte K, Shea C, Aardema ML, Scriber JM, Juenger TE, et al. (2011) Sex Chromosome Mosaicism and Hybrid Speciation among Tiger Swallowtail Butterflies. PLOS Genetics 7(9): e1002274.

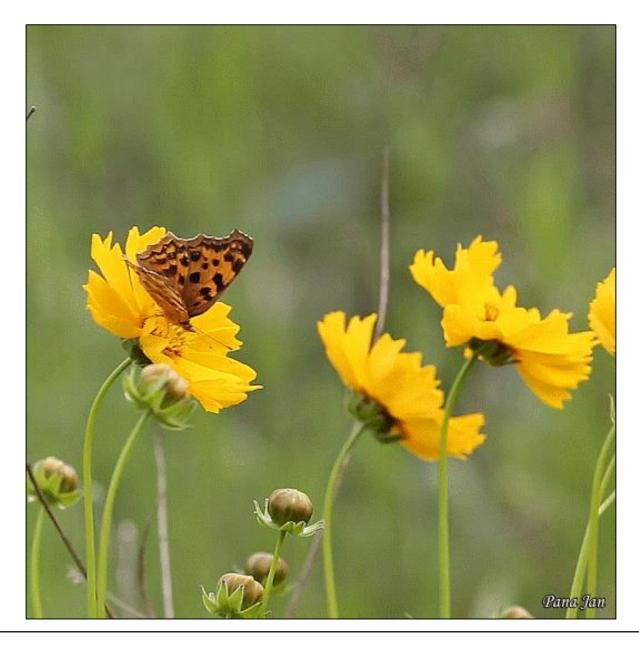


# Over 100 species of butterflies in Massachusetts





# Slow your life down



# Meditative

# Namaste



#### What do you need to get started?





# 2. Something to see them



# Quality of lens





Short minimum focus

- At least <10 feet
- Ideally <6 feet



# Magnification Power (7x32)



### Objective lens size (8x42)

#### Lets in more light!



#### 3. Something to record what you see

• paper and pencil

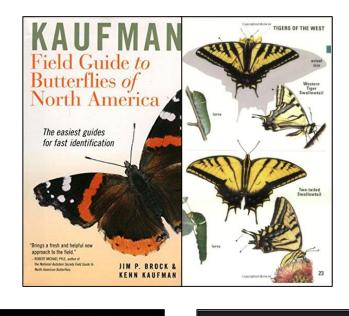


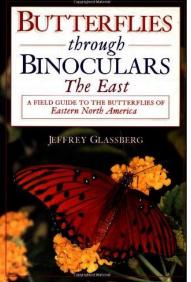
utt	ertly C	Checklist Name:
rge b	outterflie	s: Swallowtails (Papilionidae)
	Subfamily:	Papilioninae
	Eastern Tige	er Swallowtail
	Pipevine Swallowtail	
	Spicebush Swallowtail	
	Black Swallowtail	
	Giant Swallowtail	
ediu	m butter	flies: Brush-footed Butterflies (Nymphalidae)
	Subfamily:	Milkweed Butterflies (Daniinae)
	Monarch	
	Subfamily:	Admirals (Limenitidinae)
	White Admiral/Red-spotted Purple	
П	Viceroy	
	Subfamily:	Satyrs (Satyrinae)
	Little Wood-satyr	
	Common Wood-nymph	
	Common Ringlet	
	Subfamily:	Frittilaries (Heliconiinae)
	Justanni	

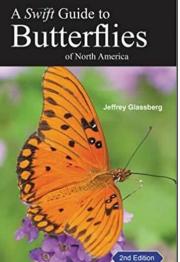
#### So, you found something cool... what now?



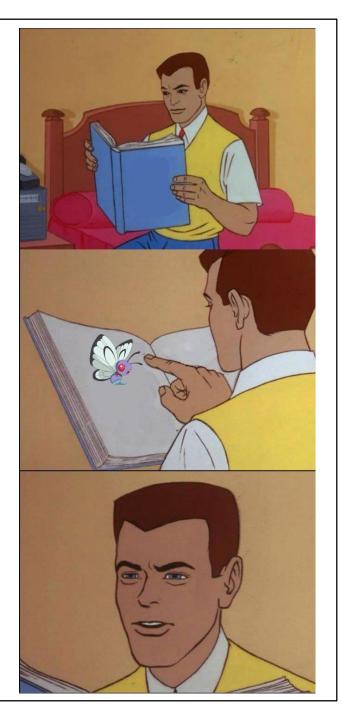
# **IS THIS A BUTTERFLY?**













#### Phone apps

- Good for butterflies!
- Only as good as the photo quality
- Only as good as community supporting it



How do you find butterflies?

# ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY

# WALK INTO BUTTERFLIES

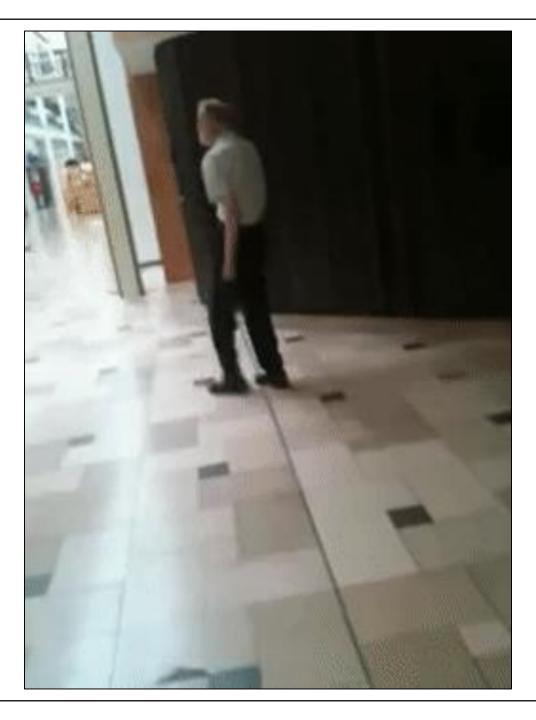
Weather butterflies like:

- Sunny, warm
- 10 AM 2PM
- Not very windy



#### Walk slowly and carefully





#### Don't let your shadow scare them!



#### Look up, down, and all around



#### Different plants can mean different butterflies

- Meadow
- Deciduous forest
- Coniferous forest
- Beaches
- Ecotone



#### Myles Standish State Forest (Plymouth/Carver)



#### Douglas S. Westgate Property (Wareham)



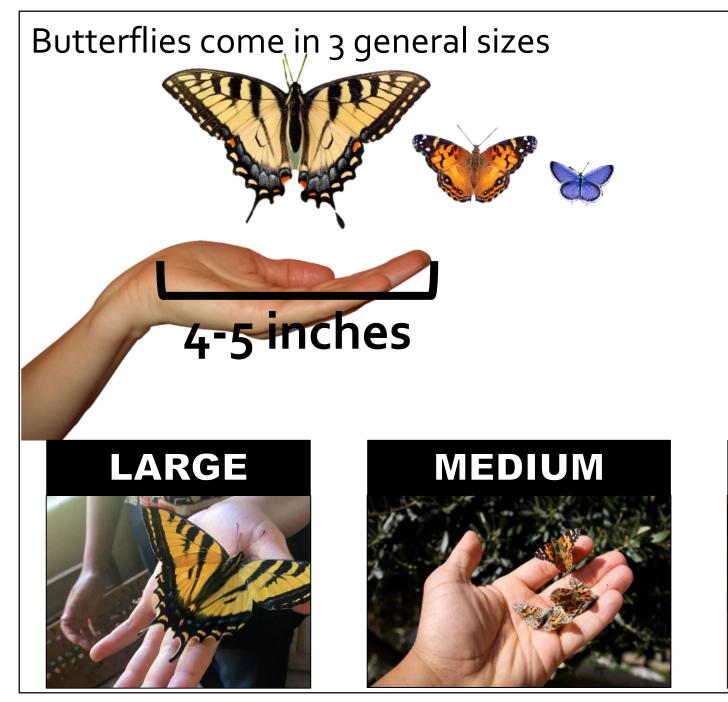
#### Cumberland Farms IBA (Middleboro/Halifax)



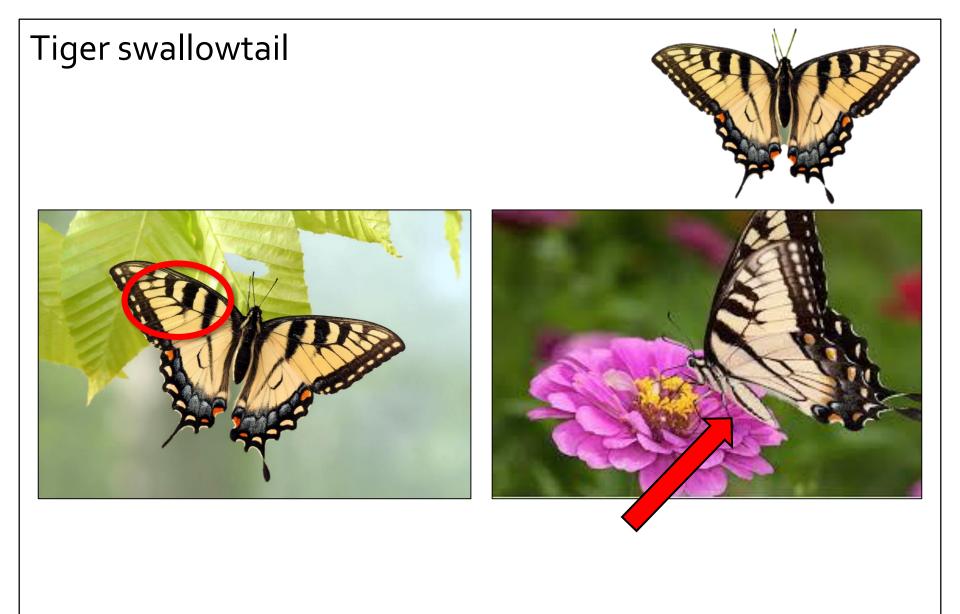
# Backyard Butterfly ID Crash Course IF YOU CAN'T ID A PAINTED LADY



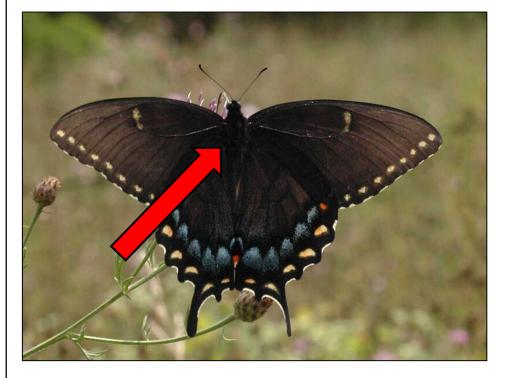
#### YOU'RE GONNA BE LIVING IN A VAN DOWN BY THE RIVER



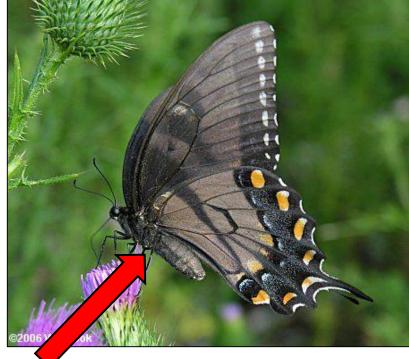




#### Tiger swallowtail (dark female form)

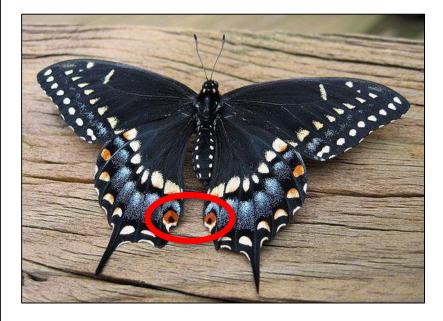


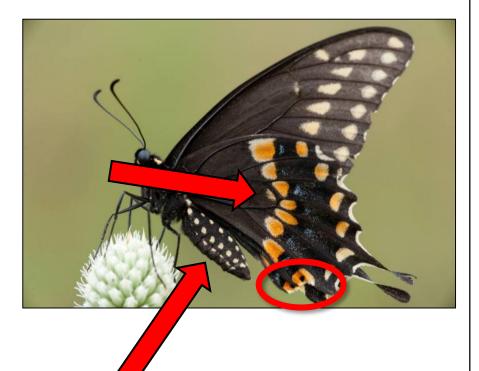




#### Black swallowtail



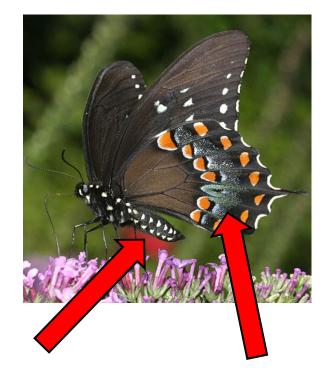




#### Spicebush swallowtail







# Red-spotted purple





#### White Admiral





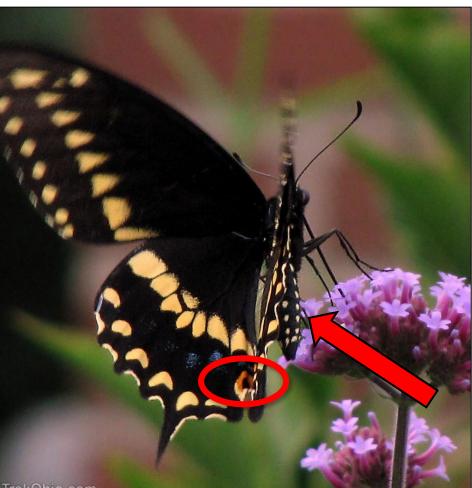












#### American lady







# Painted lady







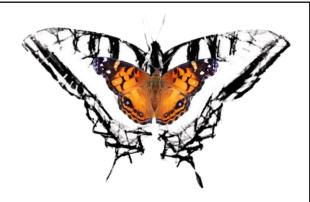
#### Monarch

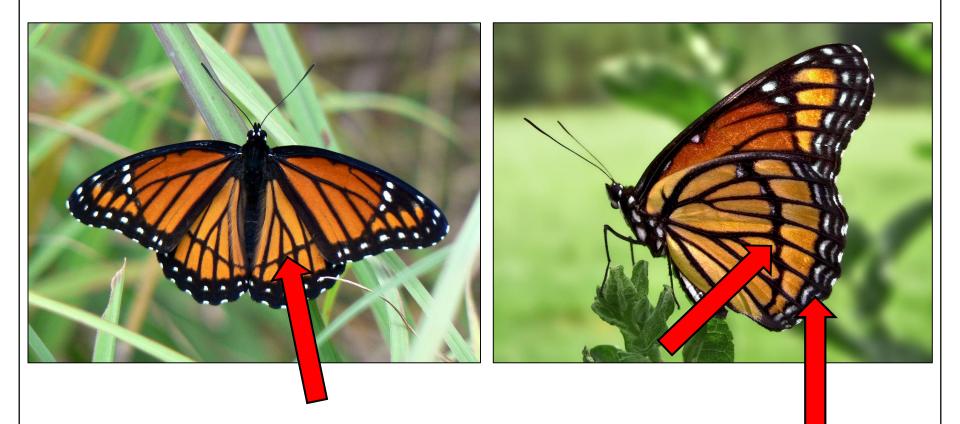






# Viceroy





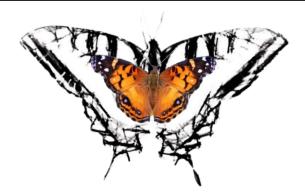
#### Common buckeye

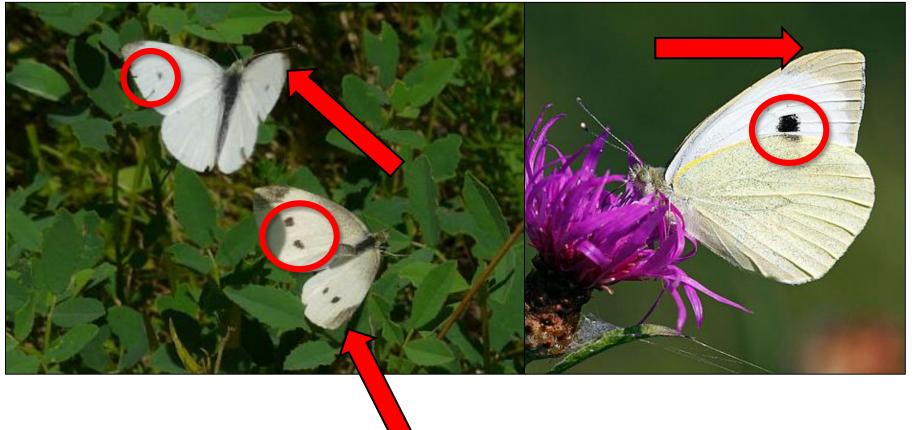






# Cabbage white





# Clouded sulphur

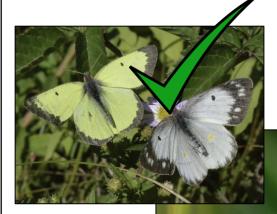




# Orange sulphur













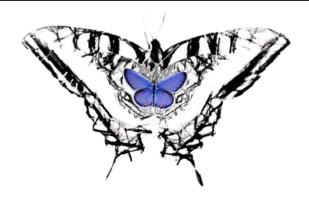


#### Eastern tailed-blue





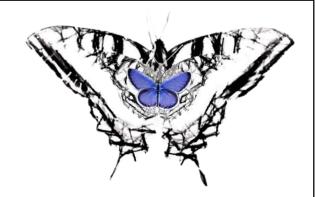
## Spring azure



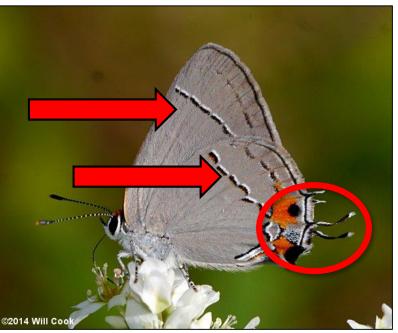


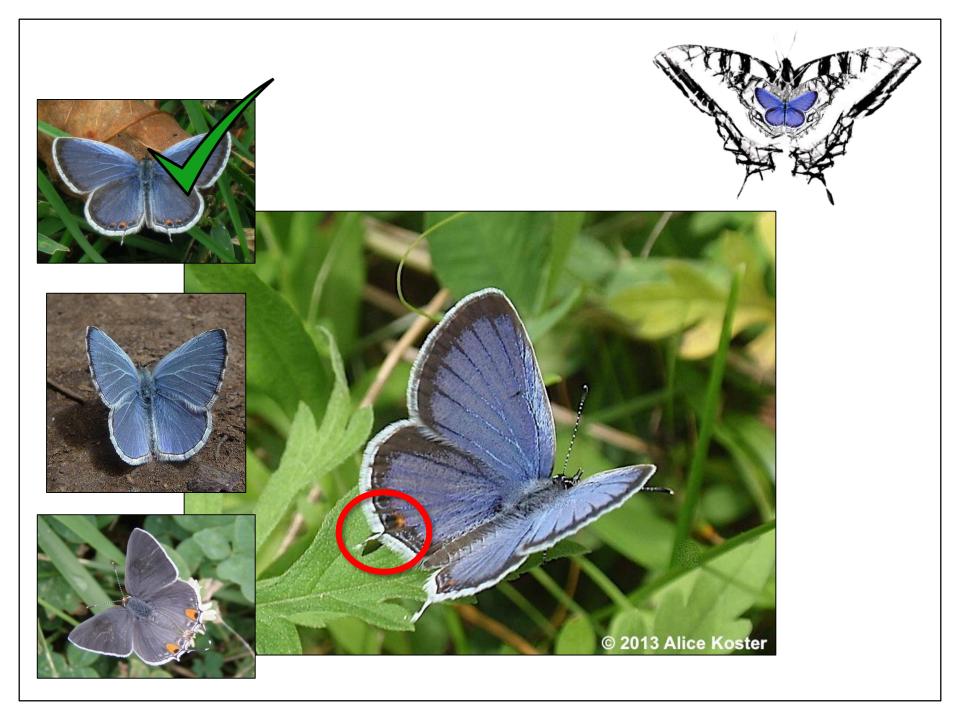


# Gray hairstreak









# American copper





#### Pearl crescent

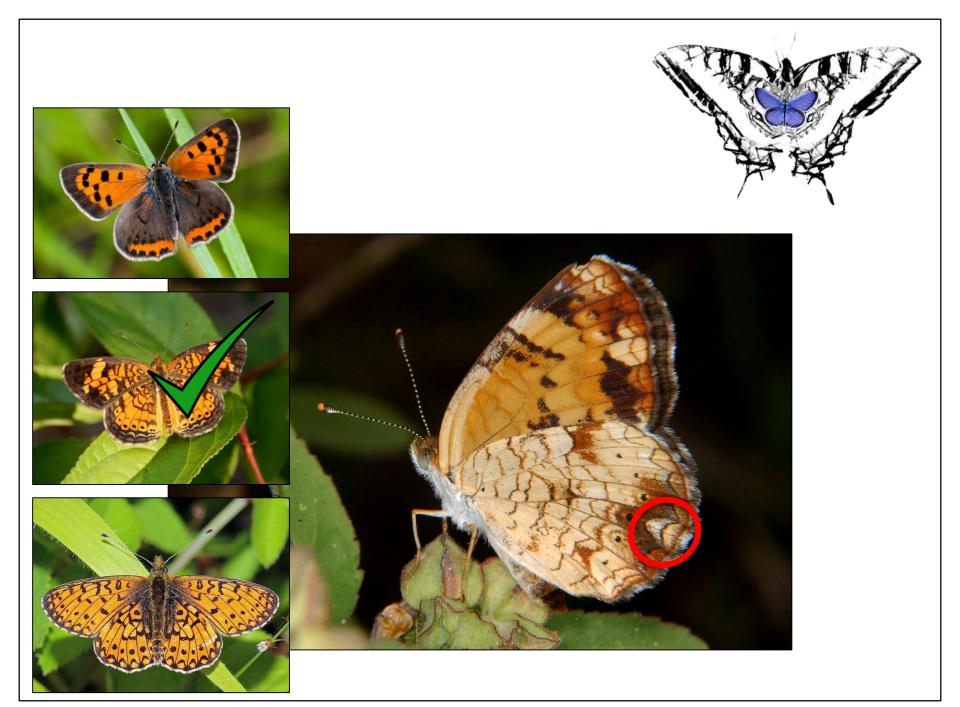




#### Silver-bordered fritillary







### Little wood satyr





### Common wood nymph

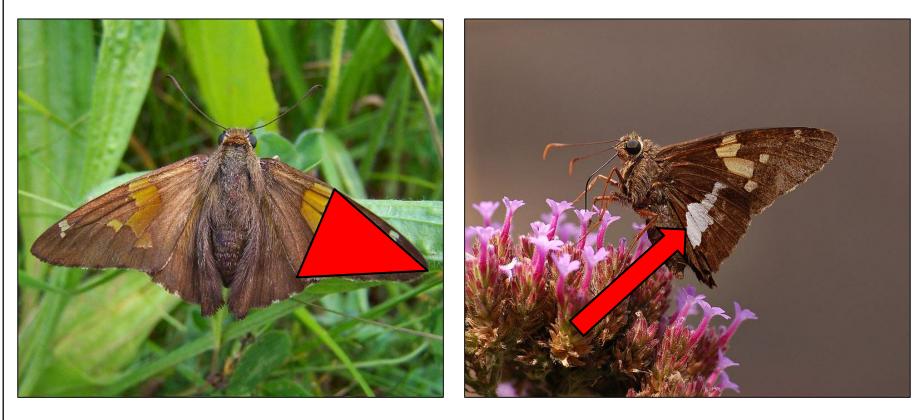






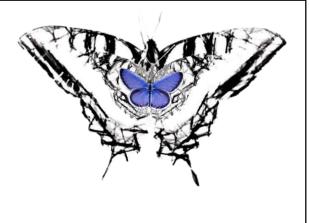
# Silver-spotted skipper



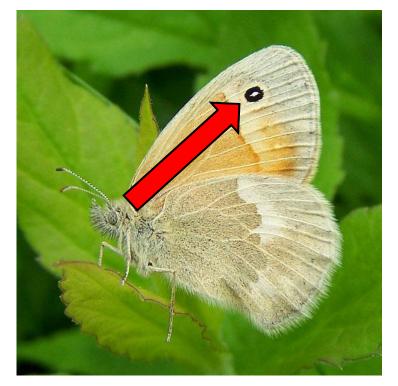


# Common ringlet





















## Trouble getting things to stick?



Take it one step at a time...

# Skippers **Blues and Hairstreaks Sulphurs and Whites Medium Orange** Swallowtails

Focus on common species

#### And, try look-a-likes!





# Join guided walks







#### Butterfly houses

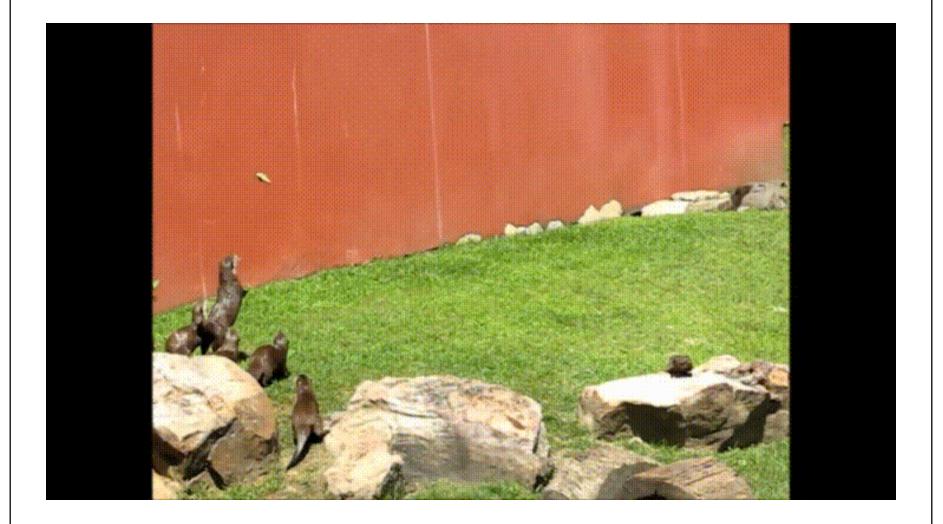
#### Magic Wings South Deerfield



#### Butterflies of Cape Cod Bourne



# If at first you don't succeed...



#### Blake Dinius Plymouth county extension bdinius@plymouthcountyma.gov

774-773-3404

