

Summary of Butterfly Observations for MSU Campus

Observations made by Ed Rothwell
Summary generated on **January 30, 2026**

249 total observations made during 41 visits of 40 species from 5 families.
Date range shows earliest and latest observations, regardless of year

Papilionidae (4 species observed)

- *Papilio cresphontes* (Giant swallowtail) (4): (Jul 26 - Aug 22)
- *Papilio glaucus* (Eastern tiger swallowtail) (4): (Jul 12 - Aug 25)
- *Papilio polyxenes* (Black swallowtail) (4): (Jul 25 - Aug 15)
- *Papilio troilus* (Spicebush swallowtail) (2): (May 23 - Jul 12)

Pieridae (3 species observed)

- *Colias eurytheme* (Orange sulphur) (6): (Jun 22 - Oct 21)
- *Colias philodice* (Clouded sulphur) (11): (May 23 - Nov 7)
- *Pieris rapae* (Cabbage white) (19): (Apr 4 - Nov 10)

Lycaenidae (4 species observed)

- *Celastrina lucia* (Northern azure) (1): (May 6)
- *Everes comyntas* (Eastern tailed-blue) (15): (May 23 - Oct 8)
- *Lycaena hyllus* (Bronze copper) (1): (Jul 8)
- *Strymon melinus* (Gray hairstreak) (2): (Sep 15 - Oct 8)

Nymphalidae (13 species observed)

- *Coenonympha tullia* (Common ringlet) (4): (Jul 22 - Aug 22)
- *Danaus plexippus* (Monarch) (20): (Jul 16 - Oct 29)
- *Euphydryas phaeton* (Baltimore checkerspot) (1): (Jul 3)
- *Junonia coenia* (Common buckeye) (5): (Aug 22 - Nov 7)
- *Limenitis archippus* (Viceroy) (3): (Jul 22 - Sep 1)
- *Nymphalis antiopa* (Mourning cloak) (2): (Apr 4 - May 6)
- *Phyciodes cocyta* (Northern crescent) (2): (May 30 - Aug 22)
- *Phyciodes tharos* (Pearl crescent) (3): (Jul 24 - Aug 16)

- *Polygonia comma* (Eastern comma) (6): (Apr 4 - Oct 21)
- *Vanessa atalanta* (Red admiral) (12): (Jun 11 - Nov 3)
- *Vanessa cardui* (Painted lady) (12): (Aug 22 - Nov 7)
- *Vanessa viginensis* (American lady) (3): (Sep 14 - Nov 3)
- *Polygonia interrogationis* (Question mark) (1): (Jul 24)

Hesperiidae (16 species observed)

- *Ancyloxypha numitor* (Least skipper) (3): (Aug 15 - Aug 22)
- *Atalopedes campestris* (Sachem) (1): (Oct 4)
- *Epargyreus clarus* (Silver-spotted skipper) (16): (Jun 8 - Oct 21)
- *Erynnis baptisiae* (Wild indigo duskywing) (15): (Jul 3 - Oct 21)
- *Erynnis horatius* (Horace's duskywing) (1): (Jul 24)
- *Erynnis juvenalis* (Juvenal's duskywing) (2): (May 23 - May 30)
- *Hylephila phyleus* (Fiery skipper) (12): (Aug 22 - Nov 10)
- *Panoquina ocola* (Ocola skipper) (1): (Oct 20)
- *Pholisora catullus* (Common sootywing) (7): (Jul 3 - Aug 22)
- *Poanes zabulon* (Zabulon skipper) (3): (Aug 15)
- *Polites mystic* (Long dash) (1): (Jun 8)
- *Polites peckius* (Peck's skipper) (13): (May 30 - Oct 21)
- *Polites themistocles* (Tawny-edged skipper) (5): (Aug 15 - Aug 22)
- *Pyrgus communis* (Common checkered-skipper) (18): (May 23 - Nov 8)
- *Thymelicus lineola* (European skipper) (4): (Jun 8 - Aug 16)
- *Wallengrenia egeremet* (Northern broken-dash) (4): (Jul 3 - Aug 16)