**El Paso County Native Plant List to Attract Butterflies**

* These native plants are host plants for butterfly caterpillars. Make sure to leave caterpillars on the plants, and don’t use insecticides.
* They are adapted to our soils and climates
* Easier to maintain and require little or no soil amendments, fertilizer, or pesticides
* Require little or no supplemental irrigation – once established

| *Scientific Name* | Common Name | HostPlant | Mature Plant Size | Sun or Shade | Preferred Soil |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| GRASSES |  |  |  |  |   |
| *Agropyron smithii* | Western wheat grass | Y | *12-36" X 60-120"* | FS-PS | Adaptable |
| *Andropogan gerardii* | Big bluestem | Y | 72 X 96" X 24-36" | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Bouteloua curtipendula* | Side oats grama | Y | 18-30" x 18-24" | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Buchloe dactyloides* | Buffalo grass | Y | 4-8" X 12" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Eragrostis trichodes* | Sand love grass |   | 24-60" X 12-24" | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Fetuca glauca 'Elijah Blue'* | Blue fescue | Y | 6-12" X 6-12" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Oryzopsis hymenoides* | Indian grass | Y | 36-60" X 36" | FS | Well-drained, silly loam |
| *Panicum virgatum* | Prairie Switchgrass | Y | 24-36" X 24-36" | FS | Adaptable, moist |
| *Schizachyrium scoparium* | Little Bluestem | Y | 24-48" X 18-24" | FS  | Well-drained, adaptable |
| PERENNIALS |  |   |   |   |   |
| *Andropogan margaritacea* | Pearly everlasting | Y | 12-20" X 24" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Antennaria spp* | Pussytoes | Y | 2-6" X 12" | FS  | Well-drained |
| *Artemisia ludoviciana* | Prairie sage | Y | 18" X 18" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Asclepias speciosa* | Showy milkweed | Y | 24-36" X 48" | FS | Adaptable |
| *Asclepias tuberosa* | Butterfly milkweed | Y | 18" X 18" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Callirhoe involucrata* | Prairie winecup | Y | 36" X 12" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Helianthus annuus* | Common sunflower | Y | 5-10' X 2' | FS  | Adaptable |
| *Lupinus argenteus* | Silvery lupine | Y | 12-36" X 12-24" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Monarda fistulosa* | Bee balm | Y | 24" X 24" | FS | Well-drained, fertile |
| *Penstemon barbatus* | Scarlet bugler penstemon |   | 24-36" X 12-24" | FS | Well-drained |
| *Penstemon strictus* | Rocky Mountain beardtongue |   | 30" X 24" | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Rudbeckia hirta* | Black-eyed susan | Y | 24" X 7-12" | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Solidago Rugosa 'fireworks'* | Rough goldenrod | Y | 24-36 X 12-24" | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Symphyotrichum laeve* | Smooth aster | Y | 36" X 12-24" | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| SHRUBS |  |   |   |   |   |
| *Amelanchier alnifolia* | Serviceberry | Y | 15' X 15' | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Amorpha canescens* | Leadplant |   | 4' X 4' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi* | Red bearberry/Kinnickinnick | Y | 0.5-1' X 3-6' | FS - PS | Well-drained |
| *Chrysothamnus nauseosus* | Rabbitbrush |   | 2-6' X 3-4' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Cornus sericea* | Red twig dogwood | Y | 6' X 8' | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Prunus besseyi* | Western sand cherry | Y | 6' x 5' | FS | Well-drained |
| *Rhus glabra* | Rocky Mountain sumac |   | 5' X 6-20' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Ribes aureum* | Golden currant | Y | 6' X 5' | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Rosa woodsii* | Woods Rose | Y | 3-5' X 4-5' | FS - PS | Loam |
| *Rubus deliciosus* | Boulder raspberry | Y | 8' X 6' | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Philadelphus microphyllus* | Littleleaf mockorange |   | 1' X 4' | FS - PS | Sandy to loam |
| *Prunus americana* | American plum | Y | 12' X 10' | FS - PS | Adaptable |
| *Prunus virginiana* | Chokecherry | Y | 10-20' X 10-20' | PS - FS | Adaptable |
| *Symphoricarpos albus* | Common snowberry | Y | 4' X 6'  | FS - PS - S | Adaptable |
| TREES |  |   |   |   |   |
| *Acer glabrum* | Rocky Mountain maple | Y | 10-25' X 15-20' | FS - PS | Sandy-Loam |
| *Acer negundo* | Box elder | Y | 30-45' X 30-40' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Celtis reticulata* | Common hackberry | Y | 25-45' X 30-40' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Juniperus scopulorum* | Rocky Mountain juniper | Y | 15-25' X 5-15' | FS | Well-drained |
| *Juniperus monosperma* | Oneseed juniper |   | 15-25' X 10-15' | FS | Well-drained |
| *Quercus gambelii* | Gambel oak | Y | 5-15' X 10-15' | FS | Well-drained |
| *Pinus ponderosa* | Ponderosa pine | Y | 45-50' X 25-30' | FS | Adaptable |
| *Pseudotsuga menziesii* | Douglas-fir | Y | 40-60' X 20-30' | FS - PS | Well-drained |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NON-NATIVE PLANTS, BUT GOOD HOST PLANTS   |  |
| HERBS |  | **Host Plants** |  |  |  |
| *Anethum graveolens* | Dill | Y |  |  |  |
| *Petroseliunum crispum* | Parsley | Y |  |  |  |
| *Foeniculum vulgare* | Fennel | Y |  |  |  |
| *Thymus spp.* | Thyme |  |  |  |  |

**Key:**

Sun Requirements: fs = full sun, ps = partial shade, s = shade