5TH ANNUAL MUSKOKA BUTTERFLY COUNT
June 22 – 2003


White Admiral (8 cm)

The Muskoka Butterfly Count provides a snapshot of butterfly abundance and diversity. Butterflies are counted within a 7.5 mi. radius of the old Bala Post Office along with the effort (e.g. number of observers, time duration, etc) required to observe the butterflies. Information from this count is compiled by the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) along with information from other counts in North America.

The 2003 Count Participants will meet at 9:30 a.m. on June 22nd for an initial search and identification by the whole group and then breaking up into smaller groups to survey the count area that comprises habitat ranging from roadside ditches to the Torrance Barrens. Many butterfly species are cooperative in that they allow close approach for visual identification or can be identified at greater distances using binoculars. Others are active and fly fast: butterfly nets and good luck are usually needed for these species (there will be extra butterfly nets). The participants will have varying levels of butterflying experience and equipment so feel free to ask questions. There will be a wind-up session back at Jaspen Park at 4:30 pm. There is a rain or wind abort date of June 29th, 2002. Call Lou Spence at (705)-765-6072 or Al Sinclair at (705)-645-2848 if unsure about the weather.

Bring yourself, food, drink, children/grandchildren and whatever equipment/field guides you want to bring (butterflies like plants and flowers) to:

Meet at 9:30

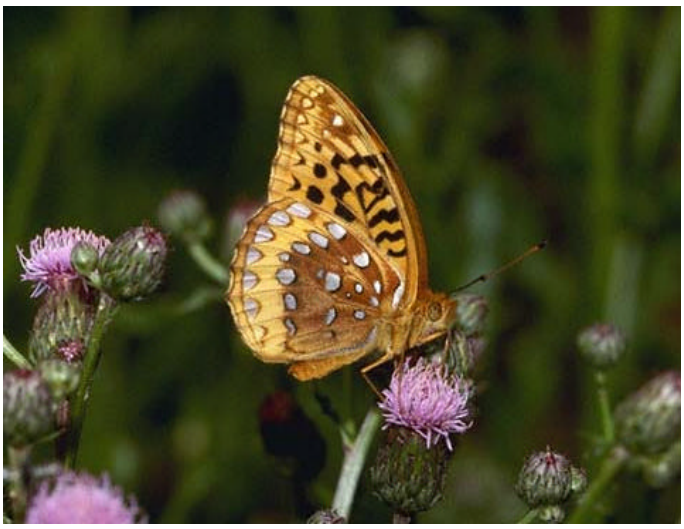
Ragged Rapids

Rd 38 west from Bala 3 km then
right on Ragged Rapids Road and,
keeping left, to end of road
at the Hydro parking lot.

Reconvene at 4:30

Jaspen Park, Bala

Just west of 169
on Muskoka Rd.38


Great Spangled Fritillary (9 cm)

Count Circle



European Skipper (3 cm)



The following table contains a checklist of species observed in Muskoka during previous butterfly counts. While the overall Check List of the Butterflies of Muskoka, compiled by Bob Bowles in 1999 contains 84 species, many adult butterfly species are seen in Muskoka at other times; either earlier (e.g. elfins) or later (e.g. many hairstreaks and grass skippers). The flight period of many species is only two or three weeks so species observed in previous years may vary. Here are pictures (from enature.com) of representative species from the various groupings of butterflies; however, note that the pictures are not to scale but the wingspans are given.

For more information contact:

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765-6072



Canadian Tiger Swallowtail (11 cm)

MUSKOKA BUTTERFLY COUNT LIST

		99	00	01	02	Today
SWALLOWTAILS (Papilionidae)						
Black Swallowtail	U	1	.	.	.	
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail	C	.	7	7	39	
WHITES AND SULPHURS (Pieridae)						
Mustard White	C	.	.	.	.	
Cabbage White	C	13	2	3	4	
Clouded Sulphur	C	.	.	.	.	
Orange Sulphur	C	2	2	1	.	


Clouded Sulphur (5 cm)


Bog Copper (2.5 cm)

GOSSAMER WINGS (Lycaenidae)						
small						
American Copper	C	.	.	2	5	
Bog Copper	U	40	1	20	.	
Banded Hairstreak	C	.	.	.	.	
Summer Azure	C	20	.	.	.	
Silvery Blue	U	.	.	.	2	


Harris' Checkerspot (4 cm)

BRUSHFOOTS (Nymphalidae)						
"checkered" patterns						
Great Spangled Fritillary	C	9	1	2	.	
Aphrodite Fritillary	C	.	.	.	.	
Silver-bordered Fritillary	C	.	.	.	3	
Silvery Checkerspot	U	.	2	.	4	
Harris' Checkerspot	C	6	1	11	21	
Northern Crescent	C	6	8	16	19	


Eastern Comma (6 cm)

"anglewings"/polygonia sp. : near, or in, the woods and fast						
Question Mark	C	.	.	8	.	
Eastern Comma	C	1	2	.	.	
"boldly patterned"						
Mourning Cloak	C	.	7	7	4	
Milbert's Tortoiseshell	U	.	.	6	.	


Viceroy (8 cm)

American Lady	C	.	.	6	.	
Painted Lady	C	.	.	6	.	
Red Admiral	C	.	.	32	.	
White Admiral	C	5	39	90	15	
Red-spotted Purple	U	.	1	.	.	
Viceroy	C	4	3	1	10	

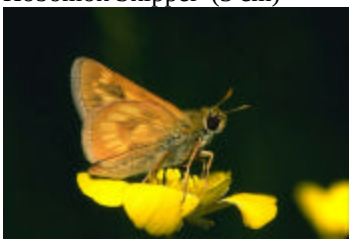
MUSKOKA BUTTERFLY COUNT LIST


Little Wood Satyr (4 cm)


Monarch (10 cm)


Northern Cloudywing (4 cm)


Hobomok Skipper (3 cm)


Long Dash (3 cm)

		99	00	01	02	Today
Satyrs and Wood Nymphs (sub-family Saytrinae)						
-brown or grey with "eyes" and close to woods (except Ringlet)						
Northern Pearly-eye	C	1	2	1	.	
Eyed Brown	C	10	4	1	.	
Little Wood Satyr	C	7	11	2	45	
Common Ringlet	C	.	18	66	378	
Common Wood Nymph	C	.	.	.		
Milkweed Butterflies (subfamily Danainae)						
Monarch	C	11	28	98	10	
SKIPPERS (Heperiidae)						
Spread-winged Skippers						
- dark; size is small for butterfly but large for skippers						
Northern Cloudywing	C	1	4	8	4	
Juvenal's Duskywing	C	.	.	3	1	
Columbine Duskywing	C	.	.	.	.	
Intermediate Skippers						
Arctic Skipper	C	.	.	.	6	
Grass Skippers						
- small, in the grass, often lost amongst the European skippers						
European Skipper	C	44	336	486	14	
Indian Skipper	C	.	.	.	4	
Peck's Skipper	C	6	.	.	.	
Tawny-edged Skipper	C	4	6	3	7	
Long Dash	C	8	4	4	13	
Hobomok Skipper	C	1	3	9	18	
Ssp.Pocahontas	C	1	.	.	3	
Two-spotted Skipper	U	.	.	4	.	
Dun Skipper	C	4	4	.	1	
Common Roadside Skipper	U	.	.	.	1	
TOTAL SPECIES		23	24	28	25	