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### COMMON WOOD NYMPH

*Geryonys populi* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 3"

These very common butterflies are usually found in open, grassy areas where they are tempting targets for hungry birds. As a defense, they flash their prominent forewing "eye spots" to make a bird think it has disturbed a nestling. Males hunt for mates with a flight that dips in and out of the vegetation. Caterpillars hatch in the late summer, but hibernate until spring.



### ISABELLA TIGER MOTH

*Pyrausta nubilalis* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 2 1/2"

You probably know this moth better in its larval state: the fuzzy black-and-orange woolly bear caterpillar. The caterpillars find dark, sheltered places to hibernate during the winter and emerge in spring to spin their cocoons. Adult moths are orange and wings have sparse black spotting. Paler hindwings may have a rosy tint in females.



### RED-SHOULDERED CTENUCHA MOTH

*Ctenucha rubrocapa* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 1 3/4"

Pronounced "ten-DOO-ah," this boldly colored moth is strictly a species of low elevations. Look for reddish-orange head and "shoulders," metallic blue abdomen, and smoky black forewings with white tips. You may find it in wet meadows and marshes where its caterpillars feed on grasses.



### MORNING GLORY PLUME MOTH

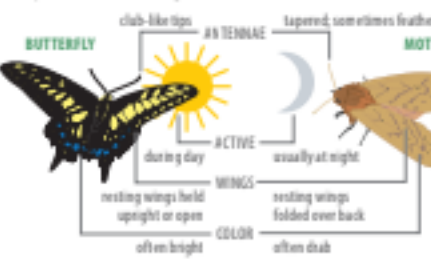
*Emmelina monodactyla* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 1 3/4"

Instead of having membranes connected by a network of tubular veins, the wings of this unusual moth consist of feathery plumes. The plumes are hidden when the moth is at rest, making it resemble a "T." Look for it in waste areas, gardens, and near homes.



### BUTTERFLY OR MOTHP?

Butterflies and moths are both members of the insect order *Lepidoptera*, which means "scaly wings." They both live as caterpillars and undergo complete metamorphosis to become winged adults. Though similar, some important differences distinguish them:



Bring back the pollinators! Butterflies are important pollinators for many kinds of plants. Here are two ways you can help pollinators thrive:

- Grow pollinator-friendly flowers, trees, and shrubs with overlapping bloom times to support pollinators from spring through fall.
- Avoid insecticides as they can be especially harmful to butterflies and other pollinators.

For more information: [www.bringbackthepollinators.org](http://www.bringbackthepollinators.org) [www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/ve](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/ve)

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### A PORTLAND PARKS POCKET GUIDE

# 15 BUTTERFLIES AND MOTHS

to expect in PORTLAND



XERCES SOCIETY for the Endemism Conservation  
PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION  
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### ANISE SWALLOWTAIL

*Papilio anisus* Wingspan: 2 1/2 - 3"



Look for yellow wings with prominent black margins and red "eye spots" near the tails. The black "pupils" are centered in the spots and not connected to the hindwing margins. A swallowtail's characteristic hindwing tails are a defense against a bird looking for its nest meal: they detach easily if grabbed by a beak. Anise Swallowtails can be found in many open areas like vacant lots and fields as well as along roads and in gardens.

### WESTERN TIGER SWALLOWTAIL

*Papilio rutulus* Wingspan: 2 1/2 - 3 1/2"

Large size and distinctive "tiger stripes" on the forewings make this butterfly



### WOODLAND SKIPPER

*Ochlodes sylvanoides* Wingspan: 1 - 1 1/4"



You might spot this small butterfly in a woodland, field, or garden, perched on a flower and sipping nectar. Its upper sides are orange with toothed brown borders along wing margins. Males have elongated black spots (stigmae) on their forewings. Under-sides are orange to yellowish-brown with lighter spots.

### SPRING AZURE

*Gleizesia ladre* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 1"

You may find these common butterflies in the woods, flocking around wet spots along paths. The tops are iridescent blue and females have black along the forewing margins. Under-sides are pale bluish-gray with distinctive "chevron" markings along wing edges. Males and females appear in spring.



### PAINTED LADY

*Vanessa cardui* Wingspan: 2 - 2 1/4"



Look for this showy butterfly in open areas like fields and gardens. They are strongly patterned overall with orange and black and have prominent white markings on their forewings. Cardui means "of thistles," a reference to the plants on which their spiny caterpillars feed. In some years, Painted Ladies migrate north by the billions from warmer areas in the southern U.S.

### RED ADMIRAL

*Vanessa atalanta* Wingspan: 2 1/2 - 3"

This is found throughout the west from here to the coast. It is not common locally. To spot one, look in moist areas: along streams and in shady



### CABBAGE WHITE

*Pieris rapae* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 2 1/4"



If you mistake for a moth, this European import is the white butterfly you often see fluttering about in your garden. Upper sides have black forewing spots: one spot on each wing in males and two in females. These larvae can be serious garden pests.

### MYLITTA CRESCENT

*Pyriclesia mylitta* Wingspan: 1 1/2 - 1 3/4"

Equally at home in both rural and urban settings, you will find this common butterfly in meadows, fields, vacant lots, and parks. Females have bold black and orange patterning with white "callops" along the wing margins. The similar-looking males are more delicately patterned.

