

# Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

*Papilio glaucus*



Inside



Outside



Chrysalid

# Eastern Tiger Swallowtail

*Papilio glaucus*

Order: Lepidoptera  
Family: Papilionidae

**Etymology:** The genus *Papilio* is Latin for Butterfly. In Latin the word *glaucus* is the color bluish-green or grey.

**Wing span:** 3.125 - 5.5 inches (80 - 140 mm)

**Habitat:** Eastern Tiger Swallowtails prefer broadleaf woodlands and the surrounding areas. They can also be seen visiting gardens or orchards and flying along roadways or rivers.

**Host Plant:** The larvae will feed on a variety of trees and shrubs such as willow, cottonwood, ash, burch and cherry.

**Adult Food Source:** The adults will feed on a variety of flowers but they are known to really enjoy lilacs.

**Life History:** When they are not feeding the males are on patrol for willing females. After mating the females lay their eggs individually on the host leaves. Once the caterpillars hatch from their eggs they spin a silken pad in a bundle of leaves which is used as a base for their feeding operations.

**Flights:** In the southern most part of their range the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail can have 3 flights a year between February - November while in the northern parts there are 2 flights a year May - September.

**Fun Facts:** There are 5 states that either have the Eastern Tiger Swallowtail listed as their official state insect or butterfly and they are: Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, South Carolina, and Virginia.

**Range:**

