## Common Butterflies of the Chicago Region Chicago Wilderness, USA

The Field Museum, Illinois Butterfly Monitoring Network

Photos by: John and Jane Balaban, Tom Peterson, Doug Taron Produced by: Rebecca Collings and John Balaban

© The Field Museum, Chicago, IL 60605 USA. [http://idtools.fieldmuseum.org] [CRCG@fieldmuseum.org]

**PAINTED LADY:** lacks the tiny white spot found in the corresponding area of the Painted Lady. The two orange spots in that area are connected. Underside of the hindwing has 4 -5 small eyespots. Host Plant: Thistles and many other species.

AMERICAN LADY: a tiny white spot located in the orange area of the forewing. The eyespots on the top hindwing are very similar to Painted Lady but the American Lady has white in the center of the large spot. The underside is very different than Painted Lady with two large eyespots. Host Plants: Asters (*Aster*).

**RED ADMIRAL:** upperside with large red or orange band. underside lacks eyespots. Host Plants: Nettles (*Urtica*).

QUESTION MARK: underside with a silver punctuation mark that includes a dot. Note: shading of underside is variable among males and females and between winter and summer forms. "Eyebrow" over upper outer spot on forewing. Wings are very hooked. Blue edge on upperside on tails. Host Plants: various.

EASTERN COMMA: generally smaller than a Question Mark. Silver mark on underside does not have a dot. No "eyebrow" above upper outer spot on forewing. Wings not as hooked and tail more stubby than Question Mark. Host Plants: Elms (*Ulmus*) and Nettles (*Urtica*).

43

Eastern Comma

Polygonia comma



Eastern Comma Polygonia comma

44





Painted Lady Vanessa cardui

33

36

39

42

45



**American Lady** Vanessa virginiensis



**Red Admiral** Vanessa atalanta



**Question Mark** Polygonia interrogationis



Eastern Comma Polygonia comma