

# Chippokes Butterfly Count 2024

By Joni Carlson

Thirty-four volunteers braved a terribly hot and sunny day for the 2024 Chippokes Butterfly Count on held on Sunday, July 14. The heat and sunshine made for a great day for butterflies even though the counters were a bit uncomfortable in the afternoon.



*Lace-winged Roadside Skipper observed at Earl Hodnett's farm, located in Isle of Wight, during the Chippoke's butterfly count.*

The all-time high species count of 49 is a new species record the Chippokes Count which has been conducted for 26 years. Total number of individuals was 1,499—just seven shy of the all-time individual count of 1,506 in 2019.

Ken Lorenzen added two new species to the count: a Long-tailed skipper and Lace-wing Roadside Skipper. These were found on private property in Isle of Wight County.

There were all-time high counts were measured for Spicebush Swallowtails (50), Variegated Fritillary (149), Question Mark (12), Eastern Comma (5), Common Checkered Skipper (20) and Common Sootywing (12). There were lots of Eastern Tiger Swallowtails and Common Buckeyes, but no records.



*Long-tailed Skipper observed at Earl Hodnett's farm located in Isle of Wight during the Chippoke's butterfly count.*

Sector winner (or TIE) of most species goes to Hog Island (Team Adrienne) and Jamestown (Team Shirley) with 32 species each. Sector winner for the highest count (338 individuals) goes to Farm Belt and Team Ken.

CVWO sponsored the \$3 fee for all observers. Many thanks to all who made this count successful. Save the date for July 13, 2025.