

PLANT GALLERIES



Species habitat adaptation

Prairie – dry meadow

Full sun: Six or more hours of direct sunlight.

Dry-average: Drought tolerant. Water drains quickly. Soil feels dry between rains and water doesn't puddle. Soil may be sandy, gravelly or rocky.

Moist meadow-woodland edge

Sun/Part shade: Four to six hours of direct sunlight

Average-moist: Soil is cool and damp after rain but water drains quickly. Soil feels dry between rains and water doesn't puddle.

Dry or moist woodland

Part shade/Full shade: Zero to four hours of direct sunlight

Average-moist: moist in spring, dry in summer.

Moist-wet: Soil feels damp most of the year and drains slowly. Water puddles easily. This is common in low-lying sites.



Prairie- meadow species

If you have a spot in your yard that gets sunshine for 6 – 8 hours, you have a prime location for a native prairie or meadow garden that can attract pollinators and birds.



SUN all-stars: Yellows



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1. *Coreopsis lanceolata* **Lanceleaf coreopsis / Tickseed**

Very drought-tolerant, Lanceleaf Coreopsis blooms continuously from June through July creating a fantastic summer display and it can tolerate some shade. Bees and butterflies are regular visitors and songbirds feast on the seeds in late summer. Under ideal conditions *Coreopsis lanceolata* will bloom its first year and its foliage makes an attractive ground cover. Self-seeds.

Blooms: Mid-Summer; **Height:** 1' - 2'

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil: Sand to Clay; **Moisture:** Dry to Medium

2. *Rudbeckia hirta* **Black Eyed Susan**

Plant in masses! Self-seeding biennial.

Bloom: Mid to Late Summer

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade; **Height:** 1' - 3'

Soil: Sand to Clay; Dry to Medium.

3. *Ratibida pinnata* **Grey-headed coneflower**

Grow in average, medium moisture, well-drained soil in full sun. Prefers clay or sandy soils.

Height: 3.00 to 5.00 feet

Bloom Time: June to August

Sun: Full sun; **Water:** Medium

Attracts: Bees, Butterflies; **Tolerate:** Drought, Clay Soil

4. *Zizia aurea* **Golden Alexander**

Airy umbels of acid yellow flowers. Long bloom time providing colour in late spring. Plants foliage attractive when not in bloom. Very few pests and disease. Cut flower lasts 3-5 days. Dark purple seed heads also ornamental & attract birds.

Hosts Black Swallowtail butterfly caterpillar; nectar for butterflies, short-tongued bees and beneficial insects.

Bloom June

Height 60 in; **Light** Sun to part shade

Soil Moist, well drained

BLOOMING BOULEVARDS: WILDFLOWER ALL-STARS FOR SUN AND SHADE

5. *Helenium autumnale* **Helen's flower**

With common names of sneezeweed (somewhat misleading since they do not cause allergies but got that name from the historic use of crushed dried leaves and flower heads in snuff intended to cause sneezing that was supposed to drive evil spirits from the body).

Easily grown in average, medium to wet soils in full sun. Prefers rich, moist soils. Intolerant of dry soils. Avoid over fertilization which may cause plants to grow too tall. Although not required, plants may be cut back in early June (at least six weeks before normal flowering) to reduce plant height and to encourage branching, thus leading to a more floriferous bloom, healthier foliage and less need for support. Remove spent flowers to encourage additional bloom. Cut back plants by 1/2 after flowering. Divide clumps as needed (every 3-4 years) to maintain vigor.

Height: 3.00 to 5.00 feet

Bloom Time: August to October

Sun: Full sun **Water:** Medium to wet

Attracts: Butterflies; **Tolerate:** Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil

6. *Oenothera biennis* **Evening Primrose**

Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerates some part afternoon shade and some drought. Grows well in gravelly or sandy soils. May spread in the landscape by self-seeding in a somewhat weedy fashion. Flowers open at dusk and close again in the morning when hit by sun, hence the common name of evening primrose. Flowers are fertilized by night-flying moths which are attracted by the mild lemon flower fragrance and by bees in the early morning before closure.

Height: 3.00 to 5.00 feet

Bloom Time: June to September

Sun: Full sun to part shade **Water:** Medium, drought tolerant

Soil: sand – clay, well-drained

7. *Silphium laciniatum* **Compass plant**



7 *Silphium laciniatum*
Compass plant



Compass Plant is one of a group of tall, mostly prairie sunflowers, some with very large leaves. The common name refers to the plant's deeply incised leaves, which tend to be oriented in a north-south direction. The hardened sap of this plant can be chewed like gum.

Bloom Time: Jul , Aug , Sep

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Height: 3-6 ft.

Light Requirement: Sun

Soil Moisture: Dry **Drought Tolerance:** High

Soil Description: Various well-drained soils.

Conditions Comments: Compass plant has a large, woody taproot that may reach down 15 ft. Slow-growing, long-lived,

Use Wildlife: Pollen & nectar attract pollinating insects; large seeds are favored birds and small mammals.

8. *Solidago speciosa* **Showy goldenrod**

Dramatic golden plumes are showiest of all Goldenrods. Keystone late season nectar source for butterflies, bees and other insects. Clump forming and extremely polite but can be



aggressive in moist soil.

Great cut flower, both fresh and dry.

Light Sun; Moisture Dry to Medium

Height 1-1.5 ft (30-50cm); Bloom Time Aug-Sept

Looks great with New York Asters, Vervain, Hyssop and Ironweed

9. *Solidago caesia* **Bluestem goldenrod**

Arching golden wands in highly ornamental border plant. Clump-forming, graceful. Late-season forage for pollinators. Great cut flower fresh or dried.

Light: Sun/part shade; Moisture: Dry-moist; Soil Clay to Dry Sand

Height: 24' – 36"; Bloom Time August

Looks great with Mountain Mint, Penstemon and Smooth Aster

10. *Solidago rigida* **Stiff goldenrod**

Upright, bright green foliage. Signature plant of the late summer/early fall prairie. Important late-season nectar sources for butterflies, bees and other insects.

Great cut flower, both fresh and dry

Light Sun; Moisture Dry to Moist; Soil Clay to Dry Sand

Height 30-60; Bloom Time August

Looks great with New England Asters, Vervain, Hyssop and Ironweed

BLOOMING BOULEVARDS: WILDFLOWER ALL-STARS FOR SUN AND SHADE

11. *Echinacea pallida* Pale Purple Coneflower

Flower petals thin, curved down, may be deep rose-purple to pale pink. In a mass planting, the color shading is like a painting, with subtle variations in hue.

Light: full /part shade; Moisture: Dry-moist; Soil: Sand - clay



Height: 24” – 36” no staking needed; Blooms: June – July, earlier than purple coneflower. When deadheaded, a single plant may produce up to two dozen flowers over eight weeks.

Attracts pollinators, seedheads attract birds in winter.

12. *Echinacea purpurea* Purple Coneflower

Coneflowers are hardy, drought-tolerant and long-blooming. These bright and colourful perennials are daisy-like with raised centers. The seeds found in the dried flower heads attract birds and butterflies. Try a classic prairie planting of Purple Coneflowers, Rudbeckia, Liatris and Native Grasses such as Little & Big Bluestem and Switch Grass.

BLOOMING BOULEVARDS: WILDFLOWER ALL-STARS FOR SUN AND SHADE

Light: Sun; Moisture: Dry, Tolerates drought

Height: 18” - 36”; Bloom: June and July

Attracts Bees, Butterflies, Hummingbirds and Gold Finches

Flower variety
attracts
pollinators

- Tubular flowers attract long-tongued bees
- Flat-topped inflorescences attract short-tongued bees and butterflies



13. *Penstemon hirsutus* Hairy beardtongue

This short penstemon is distinguished by its downy stem but the common name actually refers to the tufted sterile stamen. well-drained dry woods, rocky fields, dry, grassy meadows and bluffs.

Sun: full sun to part-shade. Height: 1 – 2 ft.

14. *Aesclepius incarnata*. Swamp milkweed

By late July, swamp milkweed is in its glory and the cinnamon-scented pink flowers last a month or more. The flowers attract nectar-seeking bumblebees and honeybees, as well as several butterflies, including swallowtails, greater fritillaries, and skippers. A desirable, well-behaved plant, swamp milkweed favors wetland habitats, but will grow in any good garden soil. This perennial wildflower ranges from 2 to 6 feet tall depending on conditions. In dry sites, the plants tend to be shorter and more compact. Female monarch butterflies lay their eggs on the underside of the leaves.

It is suggested that Milkweed be planted in groups of at least 5 -7 so caterpillars won't run out of their shrinking food source. Also don't forget to plant Nectar flowers for the Monarch Butterflies. Once the caterpillars become butterflies – they need a wider array of flowers for food such as Asters, Joe Pye, Bee Balm, Coneflowers, Goldenrod, Sun Flowers, Liatris, Vervain, Hyssop.

15. *Desmodium canadense* Showy tick-trefoil

The effect is more attractive in colonies than isolated plants and tight plantings can help counter a tendency to sprawl. Like other tick trefoils (legume), *Desmodium canadense* adds soil nitrogen and has tiny hairs along its stems, leaves and seedpods, facilitating seed distribution by passing

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mammals and humans. The nectar, pollen, seeds and foliage of this species appeal to a number of insects, birds and mammals.

Sun Exposure Full, Partial Soil Moisture Medium-Wet, Medium, Medium-Dry Height 5 feet Bloom Time July, August

16. *Eupatorium maculatum* Joe Pye

Tall and stately with pink fluffy flowers adding great structure to your garden. One of the Top 10 Nectar Plants! Wonderful for your borders or as a background plant. Late to emerge in spring, Joe Pye will grow quickly once they are up. Dried fluffy seed heads last well into winter adding winter interest.

Rarely bothered by disease or pests but do not let dry out.



17 *Monarda fistulosa* Bee Balm – Wild Bergamot

Bloom Time:

May	June	July	August	September

Exposure:



Pollinators:



Soil/Moisture Conditions: average

Native to south Mississauga

- Great naturalizing wildflower and a magnet for butterflies and hummingbirds
- *Monarda fistulosa* is more tolerant of drought and resistant to powdery mildew than *M. didyma*

17. *Monarda fistulosa* Bee Balm - Wild Bergamot

Wild Bergamot (Bee Balm) is a resilient, fragrant native plant loved by bees and butterflies. Leave the flower stocks standing until the following spring to provide seeds for birds. Form beautiful bushy upright clumps. Cut flowers last 4-6 days

Light Sun Moisture Dry to Moist

Height 25 – 35 “ (60 - 90 cm) Bloom July - Aug

Colour Pinky Mauve Low Maintenance They require little to no watering and are resistant to drought, insects and most diseases.

Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds Deer and rabbit resistant In late fall the seed will be sought out by chickadees and sparrows. The dried round seed heads are an attractive feature in the garden alongside prairie grasses that are turning their golden hues in the fall.

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18. *Geum triflorum* Prairie Smoke

When setting seed, Prairie Smoke creates a gauzy effect that resembles smoke hovering close to the ground (hence the nick name). Groundcover with beautifully shaped leaves. One of the first perennials to emerge and starts blooming in early May.

Light Sun; Moisture Dry to Medium

Height 15-40 cm (6-15")

Bloom May to June Deer Resistant



19. *Monarda punctata* Dotted Mint

Mint family. The “flowers” it displays are actually leaf bracts that surround the true flower. The dotted mint prefers sandy, dry soil. This is a highly functional plant for pollinators and

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hummingbirds. It is known for being a favorite food source for the endangered Karner Blue Butterfly.

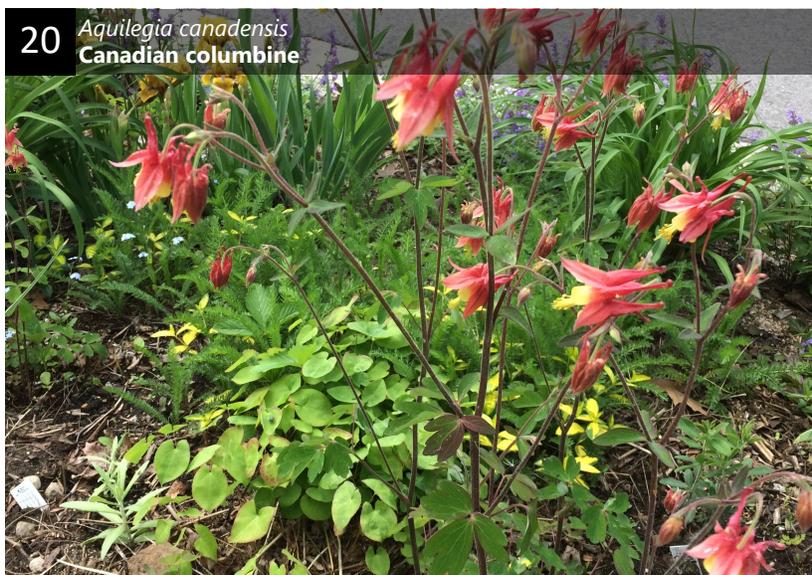
Rabbit and deer-resistant.

Height : 1-2 feet (30-60cm)

Blooming Period : June to August

Light : Full to Partial Sun Water : Dry to medium; Soil : Sand, loam

20. *Aquilegia canadensis* Canadian columbine



Aquilegia references the shape of those spurs that supposedly resemble the claws of an eagle. Flowers are a critical food source for returning ruby-throated hummingbirds in spring and are also visited by bumblebees and hawk moths for the nectar and other bees for the pollen. The nodding flowers are held on sturdy stems above the foliage, forming a cloud of blossoms on larger plants. Plants self-seed readily.

Grow eastern red columbine in light to moderate shade or in full sun as long as it has adequate moisture. Although it does best in rich, moist soils, it tolerates a wide range of soils as long as they are well-drained. Columbines are relatively low maintenance plants. Once established they tolerate dry soil

It is sometimes attacked by leaf miners that leave serpentine trails in the leaves, but is much less susceptible than other columbine species and hybrids; typically leaf miners only cause minor cosmetic damage and almost never impact the health of the plant.

HEIGHT 1-3 feet (30-90cm)

BLOOMING PERIOD Mid Spring-Early Summer

LIGHT Full to Partial Sun

WATER Medium to Dry

SOIL Sand, loam, clay

DEER AND RABBIT RESISTANCE Yes



21. *Aesclepias tuberosa* Butterfly weed

sturdy tap root. Unlike other milkweeds, this one does not contain milky latex sap.

The leaves are bright green and lance shaped. Summer flowers are arranged in flat topped clusters and are composed of many small star shaped florets in shades of orange and scarlet.

This milkweed is a repeat bloomer that attracts butterflies, moths, bees and hummingbirds.

Young gray-green seed pods are covered in short silky hairs. The pods split when ripe and release brown seed with silken parachutes that drift away on the wind.

Plants grow 3' tall with 3' spread.

CULTURAL & MAINTENANCE NEEDS: *Aesclepias tuberosa* is an easily cultivated sun loving plant for well drained or dry soils. Mistakes made in cultivation can usually be attributed to pampering the plant. Successful culture requires that the gardener duplicate the harshness of the natural ecosystems where this milkweed occurs.

Established plants are very drought tolerant but are difficult to transplant due to the taproot. They also tolerate harsh winds and controlled burns. not palatable to deer and other herbivores but all sorts of insects love it. In fact, it is almost impossible to grow milkweed without a throng of oleander aphids in residence. These tiny orange plant lice suck the plant's sap and exude sticky honeydew that is the perfect cultural medium for black sooty mold. If this is an issue, conventional pesticides should be avoided because they often kill the highly desirable Monarch Butterfly caterpillar.

Height: 1-3 ft

22. *Monarda didyma* **Bee Balm, Oswego tea**

fragrant blossoms attract bees, hummingbirds, butterflies, and other pollinating insects. *Monarda* also has a long history of medicinal uses by Native American tribes, American Eclectic physicians, the Shakers, and herbalist. high concentrations of thymol, which is a strong antiseptic that is common in mouthwashes. The Native Americans used poultices made from the leaves of the plant for skin infections and minor wounds. moist soil that is rich in organic matter.

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23. *Sisyrrinchium montanum* Strict blue-eyed grass

Grows readily from seed. Blue-eyed grass is not really a grass. It is an unusual member of the iris family because it is native to prairie grasslands, whereas most iris prefer wetlands.

Light Requirement: Sun , Part Shade , Shade

Soil Moisture: Dry , Moist

Soil Description: Sandy soils.

24. *Liatris spicata* Blazing star

These plants are an important food source for pollinators such as butterflies, bees and even hummingbirds. If you let the blooms go to seed you will be providing much needed food for birds such as goldfinches. Plus there is the added bonus of beauty in your fall to winter garden, *Liatris* looks great even when not in flower. Add some native grasses for a fantastic autumn show.

25. *Allium cernuum* Nodding onion

One of the rarer Carolinian species because of its restricted habitat.

It is principally found on Lake Erie islands, the southern most land in Canada. Attracts hairstreak butterfly. The city of Chicago gets its name from the Algonquin Indian name for this plant, "chigagou". Humus-rich, neutral to alkaline soils. Nodding onion is most effectively planted in small groups. Plants benefit from being divided every third year or when 8-10 bulbs appear in the clump. *Allium cernuum* blooms in midsummer, and the flowers are pollinated by small short-tongued bees, such as Halictid bees. Nodding Onion, like all the *Allium* species, is deer-resistant.

Sun Exposure Full, Partial; Soil Moisture Medium-Wet, Medium, Medium-Dry

Height 18 inches; Bloom Time July, August

26. *Dalea purpurea* Purple prairie clover

This unusual native perennial grows to a height of 3 feet when planted in full sun. It's not fussy about soil conditions—purple prairie clover tolerates sand, clay, gravel, or loam. You won't need

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to fertilize, because the plant adds nitrogen to the soil. The showy purple flowers attract butterflies, honeybees, bumblebees, and several other pollinators from May through August. It's a good companion for daisy-shaped flowers, such as pale purple coneflower (*Echinacea pallida*) and *Rudbeckia*. It achieves full size in about 3 years. The deep taproot supports a long-lived plant that is virtually immune to heat and drought. Be patient in spring, Prairie Clover is a heat loving plant and is slow to emerge.

27. *Verbena hastata* Blue vervain

The showy blue-violet flowers on this native perennial attract many types of bees, small butterflies, and moths when it is in bloom for about six weeks in late summer. In full sun and dry to moist soil, it can reach 2 to 5 feet in height. It grows throughout Illinois and is found in river-bottom prairies, moist meadows, and floodplains. Because it tolerates standing water for short periods, it makes a nice addition to a rain garden.

28. *Agastache scrophulariifolia* Purple Giant hyssop

Grows up to 6' on rich moist soils, but in average or drier soil will reach 3-4' of height and 2' of width. Smaller flowers are pale purple, but from the distance look silvery, flowers continuously for long period of time from July to the end of September.

Adaptable and easy to grow plant, full sun, half shade up to light shade, loves rich moist soil, but will grow in average garden soil, or medium moist to medium dry soils too.

Hardy in zones 3 to 8, native wildflower for Midwest, Eastern part of USA and Canada, see the USDA distribution map.

Deer and rabbit resistant plant. Highly valuable plant for native bees, bumblebees and honeybees. Seed will feed small song birds.

Best for pollinator garden, honeybee gardens, naturalistic gardens, cottage gardens, woodland edges or naturalization. It is not very competitive plant, so may need some soil disturbance to selfseed.

29. *Agastache foeniculum* Anise Hyssop



29 *Agastache foeniculum*

Blue Giant Hyssop or Anise Hyssop

Bloom Time:

May	June	July	August	September

Exposure:



Pollinators:



Soil/Moisture Conditions: average, well-drained

Native to south Mississauga

- Tubular flowers in terminal spikes
- Considered one of the best plants for attracting wildlife in the gardens
- Member of the mint family, cousin of salvias

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Meadow with heath asters

Photo ©2021 Common Sense Home
<https://commonsensehome.com/heath-aster/>

The value of asters

As a food source, asters are invaluable to birds, mammals, and insects alike. Nectar and pollen from these plants are an important fall food source for butterflies, moths, bees, and other beneficial insects, when most other flowers have already finished flowering. If the asters are left to go to seed, birds will also grace your garden in the fall and winter to enjoy the feast.



31

Symphyotrichum novae-angliae
New England aster



32

S. oolentangiense
Sky blue aster



33

S. laevis
Smooth aster

31. *Symphyotrichum novae-angliae* New England aster

This tall native adds a burst of colour to your fall garden. A great source of nectar for Monarch butterflies and pollinators in fall when other sources are less available. When New England Asters bloom the lower leaves begin to dry up; plant shorter flowers and grasses in front to hide this such as Purple Coneflowers, Bluestem Goldenrods or Dotted Mint.

Great cut flower (Fresh or Dry) lasting 3-5 days

Light Sun, Part Shade

Moisture Medium to Moist

Height 2.5-4' (75 – 120 cm)

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Bloom August to Sept

Colour Purple with a punch of gold/yellow in centre

Maintenance Low

Use Drought tolerant; suitable for xeriscaping, Cottage or Butterfly garden

One of the Top 10 Nectar Plants for Butterflies

Host plant for the pearl crescent butterfly

Important fall food source for bees and butterflies

Looks great with other Asters, Little Bluestem, Helenium, Native Sedges, Coreopsis, Golden Alexander, Mountain mint, Culver's Root, Goldenrods and Milkweeds.

32. *Symphyotrichum oolentangiense* Sky blue aster

33. *Symphyotrichum laevis* Smooth aster

Light Sun to Part Shade

Moisture Dry to Moist, Drought Tolerant once established

Height 2-4' (60-120 cm)

Bloom August to Sept

Colour Soft Violet

Maintenance Low, tough plant

Use Butterfly Garden, Fall Landscaped

Deer Resistant

All Asters are very important food sources for Bees!

Host for Pearl Crescent butterfly caterpillars

34 *Symphyotrichum ericoides*
Heath aster



35 *Symphyotrichum lateriflorum*
Calico aster



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34. *Symphyotrichum ericoides* Heath aster

Up to 2' tall, branching occasionally to create a bushy appearance. , with closely crowded small flowers and small tightly packed heath-like leaves. The preference is full sun and average to dry conditions. The soil can contain significant amounts of loam, clay, or gravelly material; alkaline soil is tolerated. This plant withstands drought. It often spreads vegetatively to form colonies, especially in open disturbed areas. A wide variety of insects are attracted to the flowers.

35. *Symphyotrichum lateriflorum* Calico aster

The Calico Aster (*Symphyotrichum lateriflorum*) is a somewhat lanky plant with smaller flowerheads (about 1/3" or 8 mm. across) and fewer ray florets per flowerhead (about 10) than many similar asters (*Symphyotrichum* spp.). In this regard, it is similar to the Heath Aster, but the latter species is a more compact plant with leaves that are shorter and more narrow than those of the Calico Aster. While the Heath Aster is often found in open prairies, the Calico Aster usually doesn't stray far from woodland and semi-shaded wetland areas. Its common name refers to the diverse colors of the disk florets as they mature.



36. *Antennaria* **Pussytoes**.

Evergreen groundcover 6" high. Drought and salt tolerant. Attracts pollinators. forms wide clumps over time and colonizes quickly. The tiny gray-haired leaves are stacked up on top of each other on slender herbaceous stalks that grow no more than 6 inches tall. In spring, the charming downy flowers appear. Blooms are white to pink fuzzy clusters resembling cat feet. Pussy Toes is an underappreciated groundcover. It has clusters of soft white flower heads resemble tiny cat paws and is ideal for planting in cracks and crevices where it will trail over rock faces. It also tolerates compacted soils and could be used between stepping stones. Pussy Toes also makes an attractive ground cover for spring bulbs.

Use Pussy Toes on the edges of perennial plantings as it forms a nice mat but is not invasive. It is great for that hard to grow area under evergreens.

Light Sun

Moisture Dry to Medium

Height 2-6 in (5-15 cm)

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Bloom May

Colour White or Pink

Use Ground cover, between stepping stones, Rock Garden

37. *Penstemon digitalis* **Foxglove beardtongue**

full or partial sun, average levels of moisture, and loamy soil. This plant matures quickly during the spring, and the flowering stalks often ascend above neighboring plants. It adapts well to cultivation, is not bothered by disease, and is easy to grow. Under severe drought conditions, however, the leaves may turn yellow and the plant will wilt. The tubular flowers of this plant attract long-tongued bees, including honeybees, bumblebees, Anthophorine bees, Miner bees, Mason bees, and large Leaf-Cutting bees. Extended bloom period is from late spring to early summer. Shiny leaves and beautiful russet foliage in fall.

38. *Veronicastrum virginiana* **Culver's root**

Light Sun

Moisture Medium to Moist

Bloom Time July

Colour White

Height 3-4 ft (90-120 cm)

Use Cottage or Butterfly garden, White Moon Garden, Looks interesting even when not in bloom

Deer and rabbit resistant

Attracts Butterflies and Bees

Looks great with Blazing Star, Asters, Wild Bergamot (Bee Balm), Joe Pye, Turtle Head, Ironweed, Milkweed, and tall native grasses.

39. *Anaphalis margaritacea* **Pearly Everlasting**

This tough native has soft white pearl shaped flowers with yellow centres. Leaves are long and narrow with a silvery hue, thanks to the fine hairs that cover its leaves and stems. Pearly

Be sustainable

Silver- or narrow-leaved species conserve water.



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Everlasting has a sweet honey fragrance and is attractive to the Red Admiral butterfly. Common in English gardens by the late 1600s. . No serious disease or insect pests

When dried, these flowers are truly “everlasting”.

Use in Dried Flower Arrangements

Light Sun to Part Shade

Moisture Dry to Moist

Height 12-24” (30-60 cm)

Bloom July to Sept

Low maintenance, drought tolerant, tolerant of poor soils, disease and pest resistant.

Use Groundcover; spreads slowly,

Host plant for American Lady (*Vanessa virginiensis*) butterflies

Rabbit and Deer resistant

40. *Pycnanthemum virginianum* Virginia mountain mint

Mountain mint is widely distributed throughout Illinois and is not usually found in mountainous habitats—so the common name is a bit misleading. Clusters of cheery white flowers cover plants



that are 2 to 3 feet tall. Plant it in a spot that receives full to partial sun and has average to moist soil and it will flower from July into August. Pearl crescent butterflies and cuckoo bees are just a few of the many nectar-seeking insects that visit the blossoms. When crushed, the leaves emit a minty fragrance, which makes the plants unpalatable to many insects, deer, and rabbits.

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41 *Schizachyrium scoparium*
Little Bluestem



Spring Appearance

Photo Credit:



Autumn Appearance

Photo Credit:



Winter Appearance

Photo Credit:

41. *Schizachyrium scoparium* Little Bluestem

42 *Sporobolus heterolepis*
Prairie Dropseed



42. Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) zones 3 - 9

- A fine-textured grass for the landscape with tall, slender stalks that display airy, remarkably fragrant, light brown, late summer panicles. Dense, mounded foliage turns deep copper-gold in fall. Attractive accent, or easy care groundcover, if planted en masse. Long-lived and trouble free. Rarely self-seeds.

- Mounding form, Slowly reaches 1 1/2 ft. tall, 2 to 3 ft. wide; 3 ft. tall in bloom, Bird Friendly, Deer Resistant, Easy Care, Fall Color, Prairie Native

Foliage color: Green

Blooms: Summer to Fall

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Flower color: Brown, Fragrant

- Tolerates a range of soils, including heavy clay; prefers slightly dry, rocky soils. Water deeply, regularly during first growing season to establish an extensive root system; allow to dry slightly between intervals. Once established, reduce frequency; tolerates drought. Remove old, faded foliage before new leaves emerge.

43 *Bouteloua curtipendula*
Side Oats Grama Grass



43. *Bouteloua curtipendula* Side Oats Grama Grass



All-Stars Gallery

If you have a sheltered spot in your yard with sun for 2 to 4 hours, you can create a native woodland garden that attracts **pollinators** and birds.



1. *Polygonatum pubescens* **Hairy Solomon's seal**

Carolinian species. The flowers attract the Ruby-throated Hummingbird, honeybees, bumblebees, and probably other bees. These floral visitors feed primarily on the nectar, although some of the bees also collect pollen for their larvae.

part shade, shade; average to moist soil; rich woods, thickets, wooded slopes Bloom season: May - June Plant height: 12 to 40 inches

2. *Chelone glabra* **Turtlehead**

best in full sun or part sun in wet or moist soil. Plants thrive in soils high in organic matter and tolerate seasonal flooding. This lovely plant will flourish in garden situations if irrigated. It can

BLOOMING BOULEVARDS: WILDFLOWER ALL-STARS FOR SUN AND SHADE

also be planted in a water garden or moist perennial border. After establishment, excess shade, competition from neighboring plants or drought are the only conditions that hinder growth. Plants can be pruned or pinched back in spring to encourage growth of a shorter sturdier plant. This is usually not necessary unless plants are growing in full shade.

host plant that provides larval food for the lovely orange and brown Baltimore Checkerspot butterfly. It also attracts other butterflies, bumblebees and ruby-throated hummingbirds. A good choice for heavy, wet to moist soils, it produces upright stems bearing flowers from late summer into fall. Great for border and wet meadow plantings. *Chelone glabra* grows best in some shade, but tolerates full sun.

Late Summer; Full Sun to Part Shade; 2' - 5'

Sand to Clay; Medium to Moist

3. *Tiarella cordifolia* **Foam flower**

grows from a rhizomatous root system that sometimes produces stolons for vegetative growth. Foamflower requires moist to moderately moist soils with partial sun to light shade such as found in forests. The genus *Tiarella*, is from two Latin words, *tiara*, meaning 'turban' and *ella*, meaning 'diminutive', which together refer to the shape of the seed capsule, which also can be said to resemble a bishop's mitre - this the alternate common name of "false mitrewort". The species name, *cordifolia*, is also from the Latin and refers to the heart shaped leaves.

4. *Allium tricoccum* **Wild leek "Ramps"**

This woodland wildflower is somewhat unusual because its foliage has withered away by the time the flowers bloom. Both the foliage and flowers are attractive; edible but now overharvested. Flowers attract various kinds of bees, and other pollen and nectar-foraging insects. Not bothered by mammalian herbivores.

5. *Ageratina altissima* **White snakeroot**

Grows in partial shade in disturbed sites, woodland and path edges in various soils as long as the moisture level is moist to mesic. It has a rhizomatous root system which allows vegetative growth and it will easily self-seed along the edges of a woodland or spread via the root system. Family is Eupatorium - like Joe Pye and Boneset - named after Mithridates Eupator the ruler of Pontus in old Asia Minor, who lived from 135-63 BC. The principal method of disposing of ones enemies in those days was by poison so he began using plants in his medicine and in his personal quest to become insensitive to poisons. By ingesting a slight amount of plant poisons each day along with various plant based antidotes, Mithridates was able to build an immunity to many poisons, such that when he wished to commit suicide following his defeat, poison would no longer work and he had to have a military associate slay him by the sword.

6. *Aruncus dioicus* **Goatsbeard**

Light: Full sun – Part Shade

Soil: All types

Moisture: Average – Moist – Dry

Benefits: Pollinators, Cut-flower, Deer-resistant, Easy

Height: 4-5 feet

Blooms: June – July

Foliage: Textured, Fern-like Green

Spacing: 3-4 feet

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Growth Habit: Clumping

7. *Sanguinaria canadensis* **Bloodroot**

Bloodroot plants, *Sanguinaria canadensis*, get their name from the dark red sap found in the stems and roots, which resembles blood. The colored juice from the stems of bloodroot plants

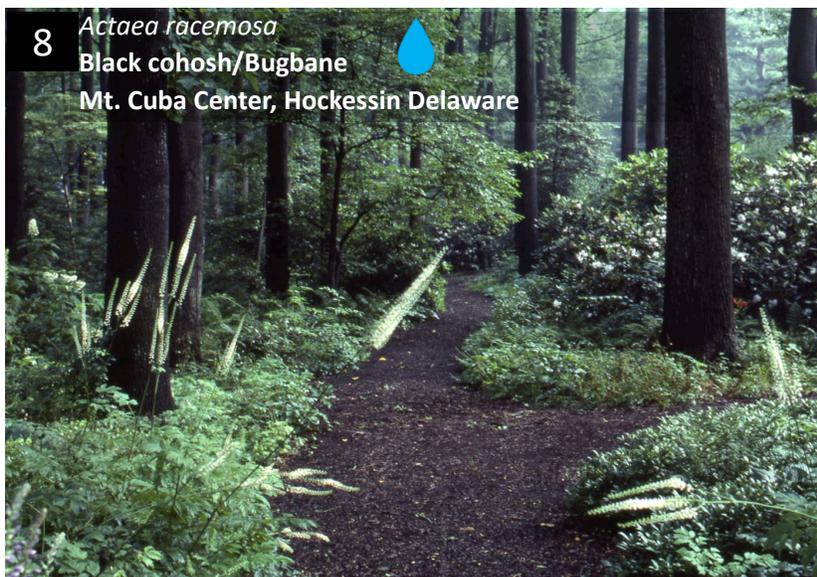


can also be used to make red, pink, and orange dyes. Needs moist, organic soils.

To keep the plant from entering dormancy, you should keep the soil moist. In fact, regular watering, twice a week, will allow the leaves to remain throughout much of summer. This can be reduced in fall and winter so it can go dormant.

8. *Actaea racemosa* **Black cohosh/Bugbane**

Native perennial which occurs in rocky woods. It typically grows to a total height (foliage plus flowering spikes) of 4-6', but under optimum conditions can reach 8'. Small, numerous, creamy



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white, fragrant flowers appear in late summer to early fall in long, terminal racemes resembling fluffy spires (typically 1-2' long) rising well above the foliage on wiry stems. Astilbe-like, deeply cut, tripinnate foliage is an attractive deep green. Synonymous with and formerly known as *Cimicifuga racemosa*. All plants in the genus *Cimicifuga* have recently been transferred to the genus *Actaea*.

The common name of bugbane is in reference to the odoriferous insect repellent properties of this plant. Cohosh comes from an Algonquin word meaning rough in reference to the appearance of plant rhizomes.

No serious insect or disease problems. Rust and leaf spot are occasional problems. Foliage generally does not need staking, but taller flower spires may need some support. Flower spires tend to bend toward bright light, particularly when plants are grown in substantial shade. Leaf margins may brown up (scorch) and growth may slow down if soils are not kept consistently moist.

9. *Maianthemum stellatum* **Starry false Solomon's seal**

False Solomon's Seal prefers shadier habitats, has more, smaller flowers, plus its leaves do not clasp the stem and are wider than Starry False Solomon's Seal. Smooth Solomon's Seal has racemes of flowers on the underside of the arcing stem, rather than a cluster at the end.



Light Requirement: Part Shade , Shade

Soil Moisture: Dry , Moist

Soil Description: Moist, especially sandy, soils.

Conditions Comments: This species adapts to a variety of sites and soils and increases rapidly. It can be used as a ground cover.

10. *Elymus hystrix* **Bottlebrush grass**

Cool season bunchgrass with a narrow open habit. Plants often reseed to form small colonies.

The inflorescences mature into tan or brown prickly seed clusters. The flower and fruit display is striking in summer or early autumn.

Plants attain 3-5' height with 1-2' spread.



10 *Elymus hystrix*
Bottlebrush grass

CULTURAL & MAINTENANCE NEEDS: *Elymus hystrix* prospers in partly shaded sites with moist soils. This grass will tolerate difficult dry shade and will take some sun if moisture is present.

Plants endure drought, heavy clay and alkaline pH.

Like other cool season grasses, this species greens up early and grows mostly in spring & early summer. In garden situations, old foliage and seed stalks can be cut to the ground in late winter before this new growth begins. This species often self-seeds especially in gardens with good growing conditions.

Plants provide grain-like seed to birds and small rodents. Grazing animals feed on the foliage early in the season. Later in the year, the bristly flowers can cause injury to browsers. Caterpillars of Northern Pearly Eye butterfly feed on the foliage.

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11. *Uvularia grandiflora* **Large-flowered merrybells**

12. *Erythronium americanum* **Trout lily**

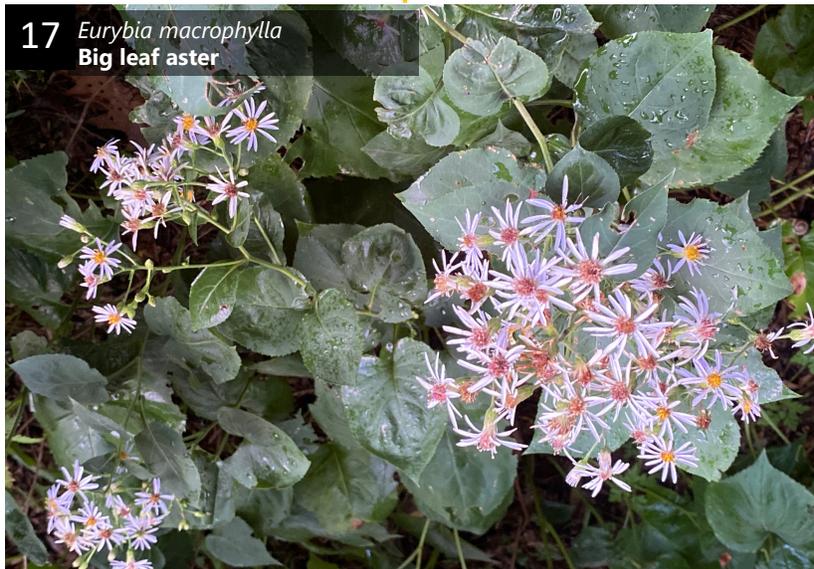
13. *Trillium luteum* **Yellow trillium**

14. *Solidago flexicaulis* **Zigzag goldenrod**

15. *Helianthus divaricatus* **Woodland sunflower**

16. *Viola pubescens* **Downy yellow violet**

SUN all-stars: Yellows



BLOOMING BOULEVARDS: WILDFLOWER ALL-STARS FOR SUN AND SHADE

17. *Eurybia macrophylla* **Big leaf aster**

Lowest leaves are large and heart-shaped, up to 8 inches long and 6 inches wide, on long stalks, becoming progressively smaller, more egg-shaped, and shorter stalked as they ascend the stem. Flowering plants have basal leaves that wither away by flowering time; the basal leaves of non-flowering plants may persist longer. Plants can create sizable, dense colonies from branching rhizomes.

Habitat: part shade, shade; open woods. Plants host caterpillars of the Pearl Crescent and Checkerspot Butterflies.

Bloom season: July – October

Plant height: 1 to 4 feet

18. *Eurybia divaricata* **White wood aster**

Flowering and form are best, however, in partly shaded sites where plants have 3 hours or so of sun. Aster *divaricatus* is drought tolerant and somewhat unpalatable to deer and rabbits.

To encourage density, plants can be cut back to 6" in late spring.

Bloom Time: Aug , Sep , Oct , Nov

Light Requirement: Part Shade , Shade

Soil Moisture: Dry

Soil pH: Acidic (pH<6.8) , Circumneutral (pH 6.8-7.2)

Drought Tolerance: Medium

Soil Description: Tolerates dry soil, shade to part shade neutral to slightly acidic conditions.

Conditions Comments: Vigorous or aggressive, even in dry shade.

19. *Phlox divaricata* **Wild blue phlox**



The flowers, atop sticky stems, are slightly fragrant and range in color from pale blue to lavender to violet. Deer seem to have little interest in Phlox, but rabbits especially like Wild Blue.

Dame's Rocket, an invasive, non-native plant in the mustard family is often confused as being a native Phlox. It blooms at relatively the same time as *Phlox divaricata*, *P. pilosa*, and *P.*

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maculata. The easiest way to distinguish Dame's Rocket is the four flower petals while true native Phlox have five petals. Dame's Rocket also has alternate leaves and Phlox has opposite leaves.

Sun Exposure Partial, Shade

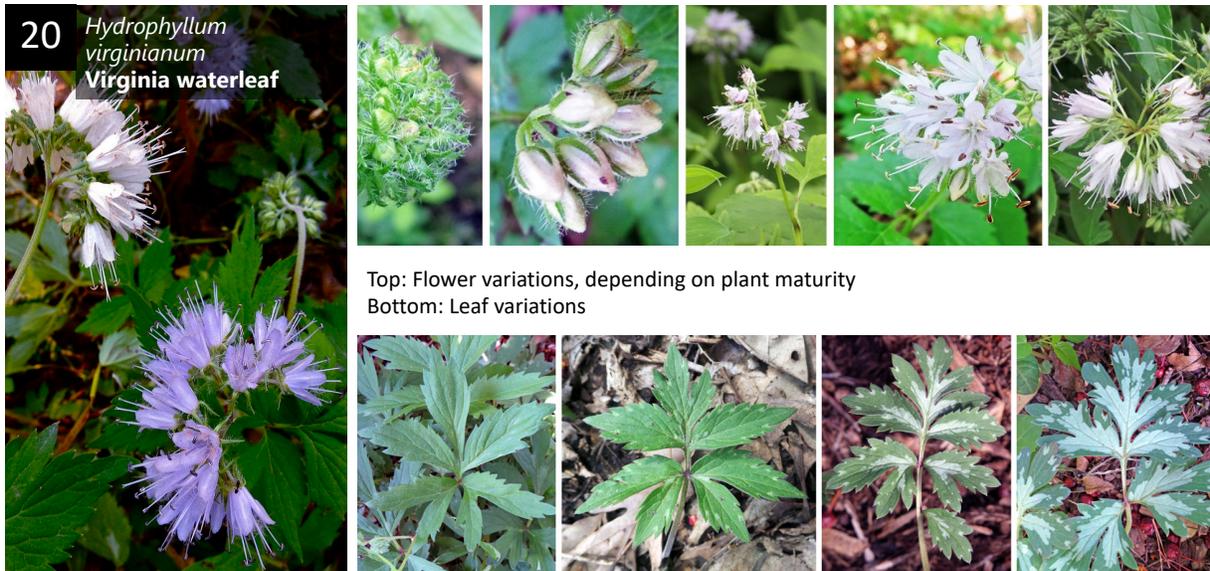
Soil Moisture Medium-Wet, Medium, Medium-Dry

Height 12 inches

Bloom Time April, May, June

20. *Hydrophyllum virginianum* **Virginia waterleaf**

Best grown in consistently moist, well-drained soils in a light shady spot. Can grow aggressively



in optimum conditions. Genus name comes from the Greek words hydor meaning water and phyllon meaning leaf in reference to markings on plant leaves which give the appearance of being water spots

Height: 1.00 to 2.00 feet

Spread: 1.00 to 2.00 feet

Bloom Time: May to June

Bloom Description: White to lilac

Sun: Part shade

Water: Medium to wet

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21. *Geranium maculatum* Wild Geranium

Mostly found in woodlands in the wild, it does just as well in full sun! Interestingly, *Geranium maculatum* has a unique way of spreading its seeds. Each seed is packed into a pod and the pods are attached to a structure that resembles a crane's bill. As the bill dries, it literally catapults the seeds away from the parent plant (see corresponding photo). Each seed has a small tail-like structure attached to it that bends and moves in response to changes in humidity, which helps to drive the seed into the soil where it can safely germinate.

Exposure Full, Partial, Shade Soil; Moisture Medium, Medium-Dry

Height 12 inches Bloom Time April, May, June, July



22. *Lobelia cardinalis* Cardinal flower Not usually long lived but will sometimes self-seed where happy. Clumps may be divided in early spring Moist to wet, humus-rich soil. Medium Loam, Clay Loam, Limestone-based, Sandy, Sandy Loam, Clay.

Blooming Time Mid Summer - Early Fall

Height 90-120 cm 35-47 inches



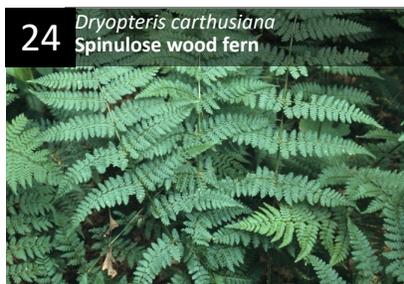
23. Trillium erectum Red trillium

“Wake Robin” nickname

Has no nectar and is pollinated by flies (Diptera) and beetles (Coleoptera). The petals of the flowers exude an odor that attract carion flies and beetles which pollinate the flower.

It’s best to avoid planting them with very aggressive species.

Seed germination - The trillium flower produces a fruit, the seeds of which are spread about by ants and mice. Through the summer the seeds is kept warm and moist for 90 or more days. This conditioning is followed by germination when a root will emerge from the seed. In general, trillium seedlings do not produce a green leaf during their first season. The sprouted seeds are then kept damp and cool for 90 to 120 days. The seedling develops in the dark, underground, for almost a year before sending a green leaf up to find the light. Mulch with leaf litter.



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24. *Dryopteris carthusiana* Spinulose wood fern

The preference is light shade to dappled sunlight, moist conditions, and a slightly acidic soil containing sand or rocky material. The leaves remain in good condition throughout the summer and may persist during the winter where winters are not severe.

25. *Fragaria virginiana* Wild Strawberry

26. *Gymnocarpium Dryopteris* Oak fern

Prefer deep shade, but they will do well in partial shade. They like neutral to slightly acidic soil that is sandy or loamy. They need good drainage but lots of moisture and prefer rich, leafy, or compost heavy soil. Propagated by spores or division. Collect the spores from the undersides of the fronds in late summer or fall and plant them in the spring, or divide rhizomes in the spring. Easy to transplant, also spread slowly through spores and rhizomes.

27. *Podophyllum peltatum* May apple

Mayapple colonizes by rhizomes, forming dense mats in damp, open woods. The common name refers to the May blooming of its apple-blossom-like flower. Although the leaves, roots, and seeds are poisonous if ingested in large quantities, the roots were used as a cathartic by Native Americans. The edible, ripe, golden-yellow fruits can be used in jellies. Height: 12-18 inches

28. *Polystichum acrostichoides* Christmas fern

Christmas fern got its name because it stays green right through the holiday season. It is a robust, leathery fern which has glossy, green fronds year-round. The fronds grow in clusters from a crownless rootstock and range from 1-2 ft. in length. Fertile fronds are taller. The once-divided fronds with pointed pinnae result in a medium to coarse texture. The silvery fiddleheads emerge in early spring.

Christmas fern is very easy to establish and grow where conditions are right. It requires cool, moist, well-drained soil in shade. In the right spot, it can be a good, evergreen border or accent plant. Though often used as a groundcover, it is a clumping fern, not forming a continuous, undifferentiated carpet the way some ferns do.

29. *Matteuccia struthiopteris* Ostrich fern

Grows in vase-shaped clumps called crowns. The showy, arching, sterile fronds are plume-like and reminiscent of the tail feathers of the bird from which the common name is derived. When growing an ostrich fern, you'll notice other, shorter fronds that emerge a few weeks after the initial fiddleheads. These are the fertile fronds that produce spores for reproduction. These fertile fronds are much shorter, only 12-20 inches (30.5 to 51 cm.) long, and will remain standing long after the larger fronds have died back in dormancy. Spreads by rhizomes. Sun-tolerant but prefers part shade/shade.



30. *Asarum canadense* Wild Ginger

Attractive, low-growing ground cover suited for shaded areas. Grows to about a half foot tall with 6 inch diameter heart shaped leaves. Unlike many spring understory plants, wild ginger will keep its foliage throughout the season. A dark red-purple flower appears under the plant for a short period in early spring.

Native American tribes used wild ginger as a seasoning or to treat colds and fevers. European settlers used the root as a ginger substitute. **WARNING:** Contains toxic amounts of strong diuretic. Only consume steeped in tea at your own risk.



31. *Carex pensylvanica* Pennsylvania sedge

low, clumped, grass-like perennial, 6-12 in. high, with a cluster of brown seed capsules clinging high on the stem. Foliage is pale-green in spring and summer, turning sandy-tan in fall.

Rhizomatous turf-forming with pale-green arching leaves. Forms ground cover in forest or savannah (oak/pine or sugar maple) Prefers light-textured soils. Resistant to deer grazing.

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Light Requirement: Sun , Part Shade , Shade

Soil Description: Dry to moist soils.

Conditions Comments: This is a fine ground cover, spreading relentlessly by rhizomes. Older patches may be invaded by other plants, probably because of the soil enrichment produced by the sedge.

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