



PLANT IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Definitions

- Native Species- "With respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of an introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem." U.S. Federal Definitions (Executive Order 13112)
- Invasive Species - "An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health." U.S. Federal Definitions (Executive Order 13112)
- Weed - "A plant (native or non-native) that is not valued in the place where it is growing. Any plant that poses a major threat to agriculture and/or natural ecosystems within the United States." USDA, NRCS (Connecticut)
- Forbs – "Herbaceous flowering plants that are not grasses, sedges, or rushes." Alberta Plant ID
- Tree, shrubs and vines - "As a general rule, "trees" are woody plants 13 feet tall or taller that typically have only one trunk. "Shrubs" are woody plants less than 13 feet tall that usually have multiple stems, and the stems are generally less than 3 inches in diameter at breast height. A "vine" is a plant whose stems require support. It either climbs up a tree or other structure, or it sprawls over the ground. Vines can climb with tendrils or with other "grasping" appendages, or by coiling their stems." Missouri Department of Conservation
- Volunteer tree - Any native tree that has spread naturally (in this case in our pollinator habitats) that we did not intentionally plant.

Hazardous Plants

Please avoid the following plants. Please do not touch or handle hazardous plants of any kind. If you see the following hazardous plants, please notify a Conservation Stewardship Coordinator. Invasive plants are marked with an “**”

1. Physical Hazard
 - a. Honey locust
2. Chemical Hazard
 - a. Poison hemlock*
 - b. Poison ivy
 - c. Wild parsnip*

Bipinnately compound leaves
with elliptic to lanceolate leaflets
4 to 8 inches long



Stout thorns that are solitary or
three-branched, up to 3 inches long



honey locust

Gleditsia triacanthos

Reddish-brown,
twisted, flat bean pods
12 to 18 inches long




Greenish-yellow to greenish-
white flowers appear in racemes




60 to 80 feet tall
Rounded spreading crown





Stems are hairless, hollow, and have purplish-red spotting or streaking on them, especially towards the base of the plant




Leaves are finely-divided and fern-like

Poison Hemlock

Conium maculatum



Fruits are green and small with wavy ribs



Blooms between late April and early July

Biennial plant that can grow 5 to 10 feet tall



5 petal white flowers are bloom in compound umbels



Leaves are glossy and have 3 leaflets. The leaf tips are pointy and the edges are jagged. Side leaflet look like mittens. Center leaflet is on a longer petiole.



Reddish stems are thornless



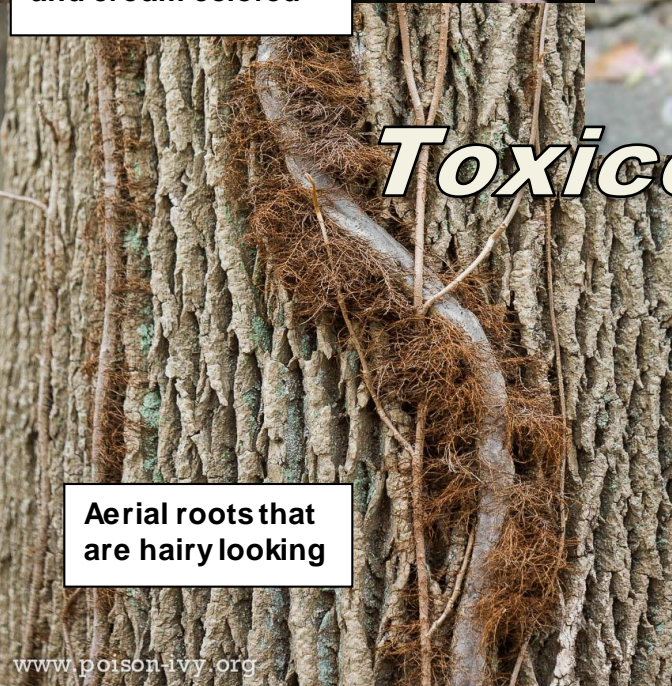
Poison Ivy

Berries are clustered and cream-colored



Toxicodendron radicans

Aerial roots that are hairy looking



Flowers are clustered and have 5 light green petals



POISON IVY LOOK-ALIKES



Virginia Creeper



Boxelder



Raspberry



Hog Peanut



**Poison
ivy**



Jewelweed



Flat-topped, broad umbel flower cluster with numerous 5-petaled yellow flowers; Umbels are 2 to 6 inches wide



Stout, grooved, hollow stems

wild parsnip

Pastinaca sativa



Leaves are pinnately compound 5 to 15 broad leaflets



When in flower, reaches 4 to 6 feet tall



Common Weeds and Invasive Plants

The following are common weeds and invasive plants that you may find within our parks, specifically within our pollinator habitats. Invasive plants are marked with an “**”

1. Forbs
 - a. Black medic
 - b. Chickweed
 - c. Common burdock
 - d. Common mullein
 - e. Common teasel*
 - f. Corn speedwell
 - g. Crownvetch
 - h. Curly dock
 - i. Garlic mustard*
 - j. Ground ivy
 - k. Hairy bittercress
 - l. Plantains (Broadleaf plantain and buckhorn plantain)
 - m. Thistles (Bull thistle and Canada thistle*)
2. Trees and Shrubs
 - a. Amur/ bush honeysuckle*
 - b. Callery pear*
 - c. Olives (Russian olive* and Autumn olive*)
 - d. Tree of heaven*
3. Vines
 - a. Bindweeds (field bindweed* and Hedge bindweed)
 - b. Japanese honeysuckle*
 - c. Wild grape
 - d. Wintercreeper*

FORBS

- Black medic
- Chickweed
- Common burdock
- Common mullein
- Common teasel
- Corn speedwell
- Crownvetch
- Curly dock
- Garlic mustard
- Ground ivy
- Hairy bittercress
- Plantains
- Thistles



Produces numerous round yellow flowers in clover-like clusters



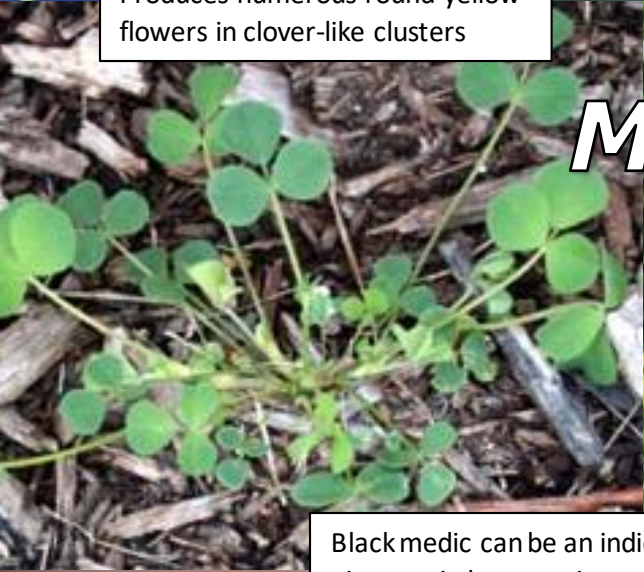
Ripe seed pods



Fruits that look like small kidneys arranged in clusters

black medic

Medicago lupulina



Black medic can be an indication of low soil nitrogen in lawns as it outcompetes weak grass.



Common broadleaf weed that is found throughout the US and Southern Canada.





Leaves are opposite, teardrop shaped



Flowers are very small and consist of 5 white, deeply notches petals

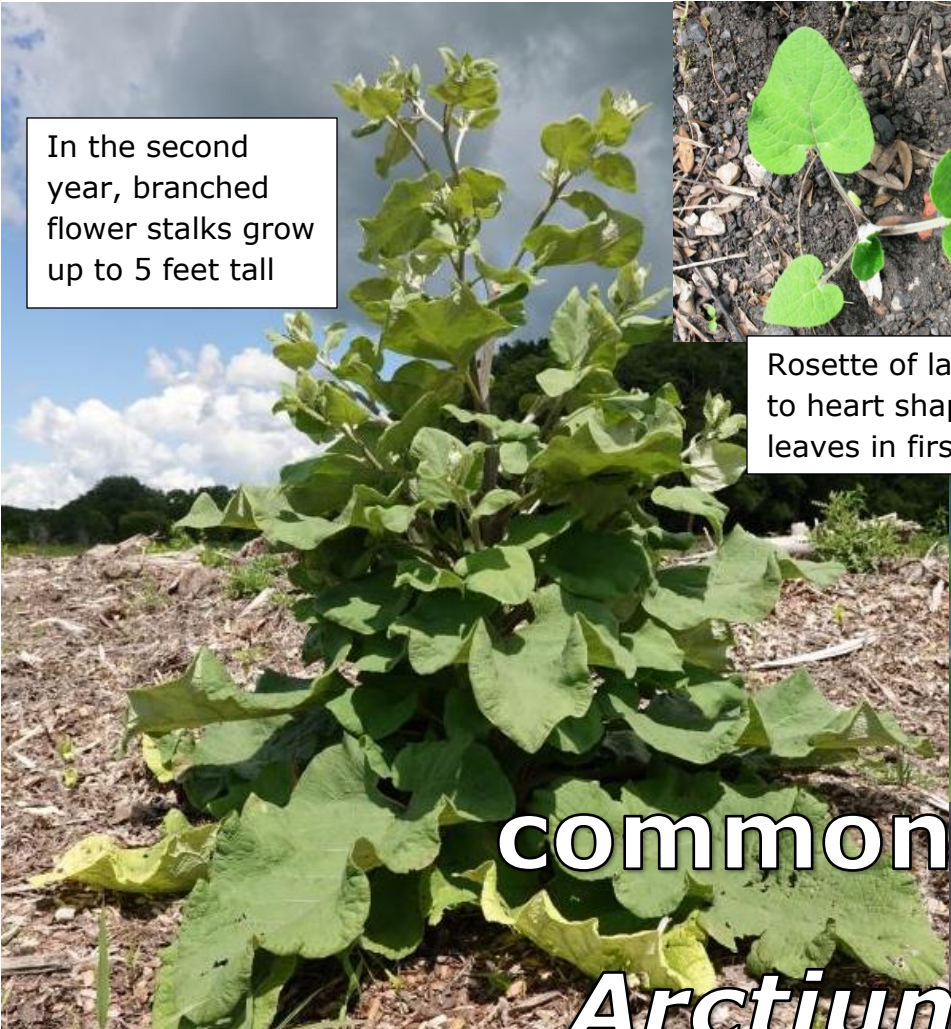


common chickweed *Stellaria media*




Low, spreading, winter annual weed that germinates when we receive lots of cool, wet weather

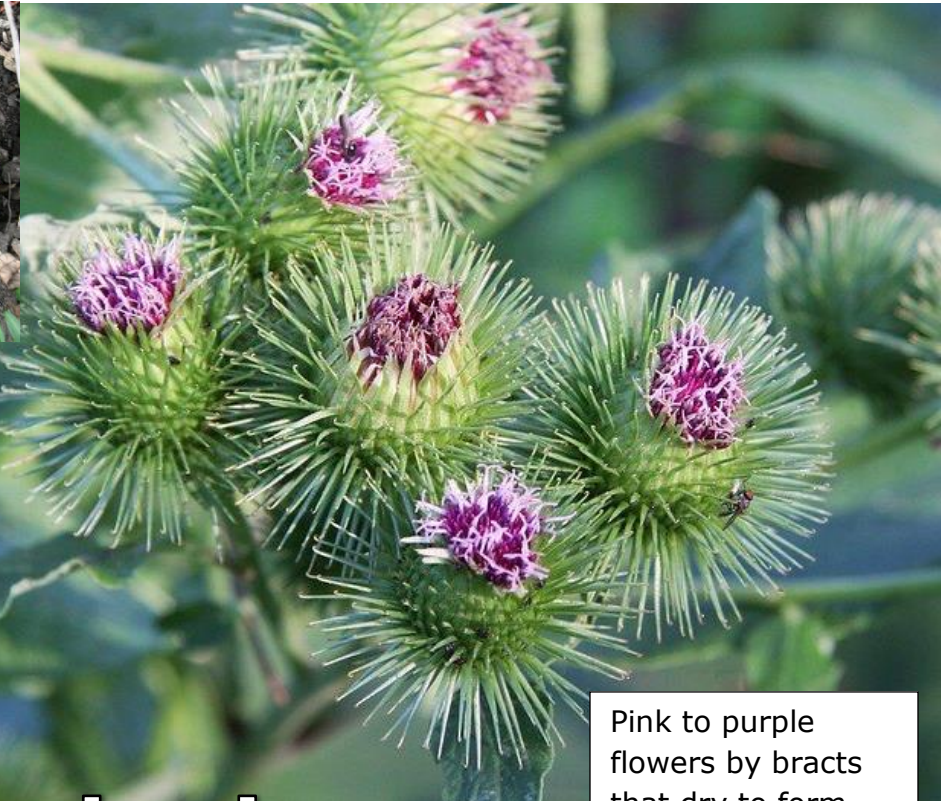




In the second year, branched flower stalks grow up to 5 feet tall




Rosette of large, egg to heart shaped leaves in first year



Pink to purple flowers by bracts that dry to form brown burs that have hooks that attach to clothing, hair and fur

common burdock

Arctium minus



Leaves are large with wavy edges; underneath are light-colored and wooly, while the top is darker and smoother



During the second year of growth, the plants "bolt" and produce a flower stalk.



Leaves are alternate and progressively smaller to the base of the seed head



Has an extensive fibrous and tap root system

common mullein *Verbascum thapsus*



Rosettes of large silvery green leaves form at the ground in the first year and look similar to lambs ear

Flowers light purple to white and grow in bands on large, egg-shaped spiny heads

Flower heads can be up to 4 inches tall

Leaves are spiny on the underside along the midrib

Grows up to 6.5 feet tall

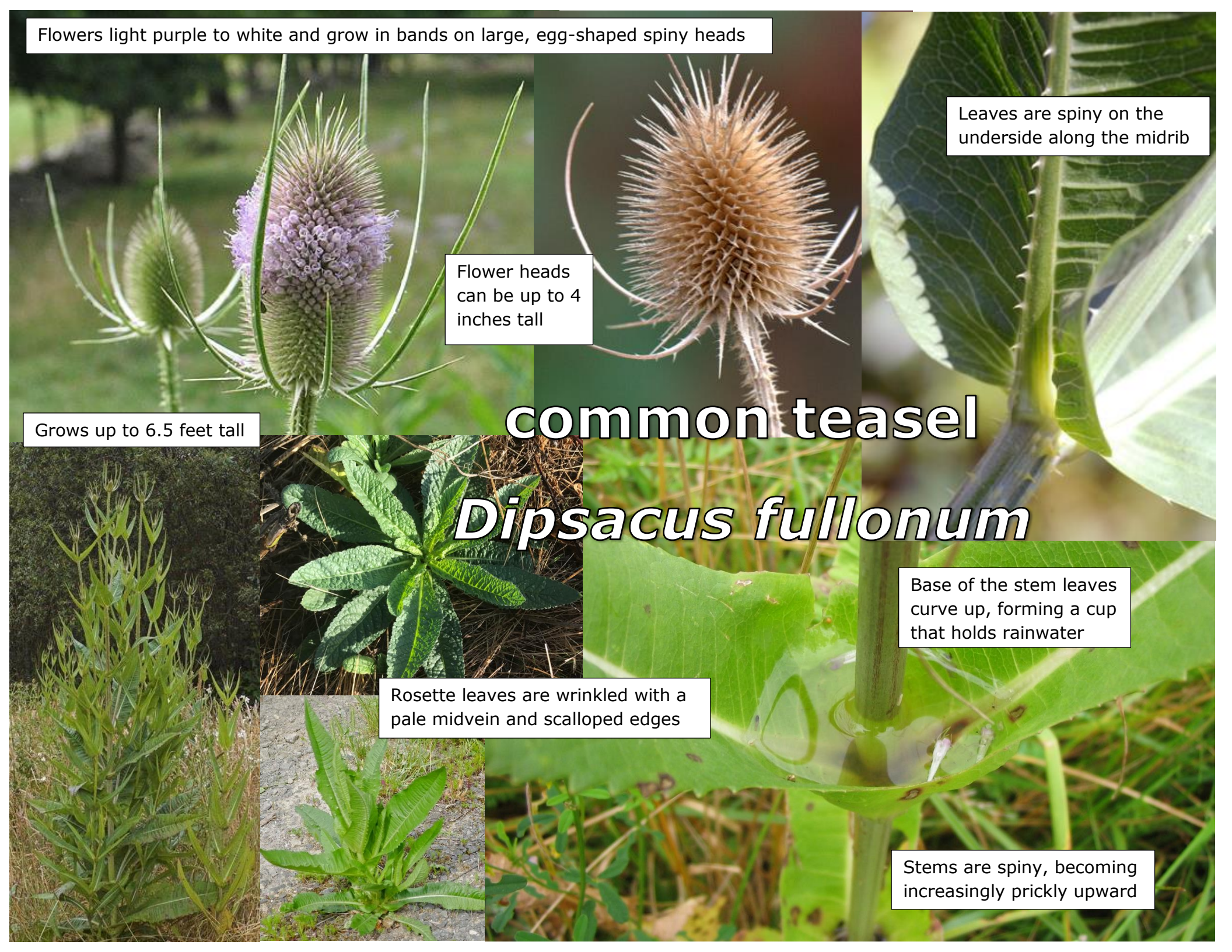
common teasel

Dipsacus fullonum

Base of the stem leaves curve up, forming a cup that holds rainwater

Rosette leaves are wrinkled with a pale midvein and scalloped edges

Stems are spiny, becoming increasingly prickly upward





corn speedwell *Veronica arvensis*

Seedling leaves are opposite, have sparse hairs, usually oval in shape, and have edges with rounded teeth.

Fruit is flat and heart shaped. Flowers are tiny and borne on extremely short stalks.



Upper leaves are smaller and narrower than lower leaves and lack stalks.

crownvetch

Securigera varia



Flowers are grouped in head-like clusters, each flower has a single pink upper petal that is and two side white petals (wings)



11 or more small leaflets arranged in pairs, leaflets are broad and oval $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long



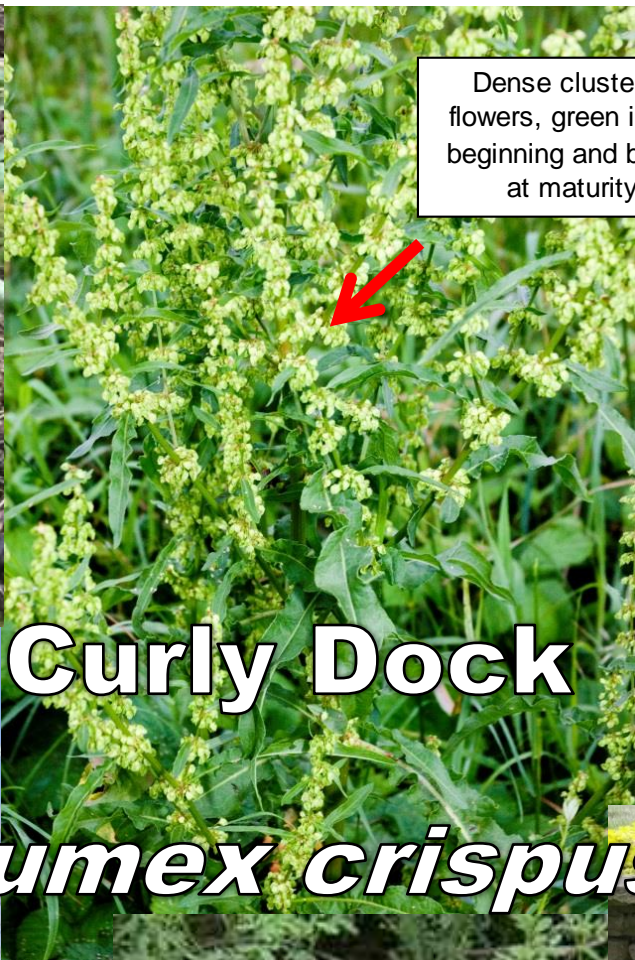
Seed pods are segmented, pointed, borne in crown-like clusters

Trailing stems are branched and hairless

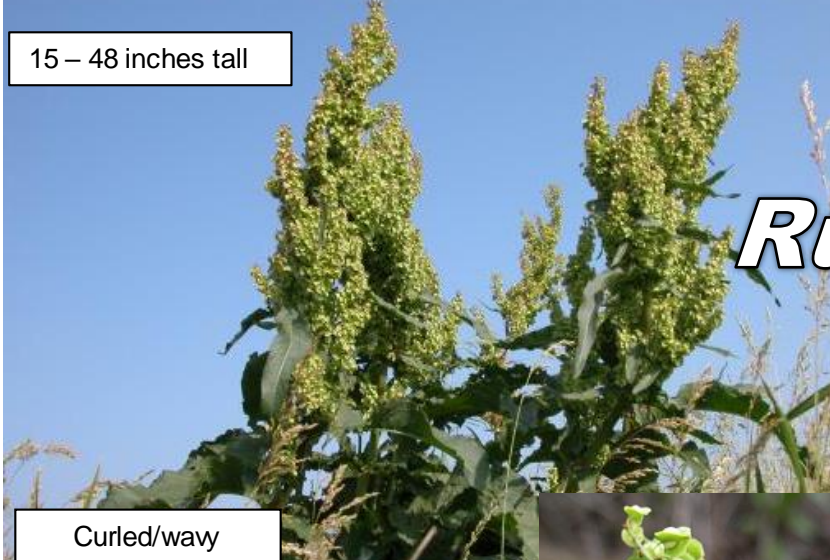




Rosette leaves



Dense clustered flowers, green in the beginning and brown at maturity



15 – 48 inches tall

Curly Dock

Rumex crispus



Curled/wavy margins on leaves



Perennial that can survive several years with a fleshy taproot that reaches approximately 60 inches in depth in soils that allow for deep root penetration



Aggressive non-native herb in the mustard family

Basal rosettes stay green in fall and winter; spring growth starts

Crushed rosettes and new foliage have an odor of garlic


garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata




The white taproot has an S-shaped curve at the top as opposed to the roots of violets which grow straight down






Low, creeping plant that roots at nodes



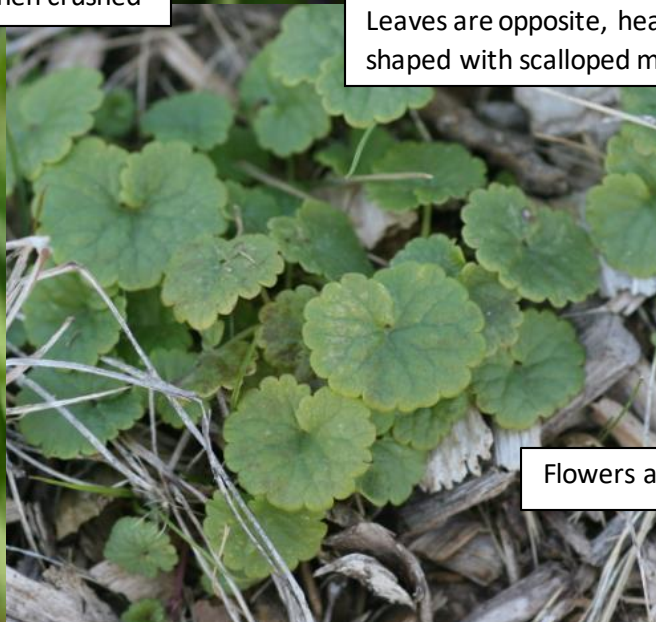
Flowers March to July



ground ivy
Glechoma hederacea



Distinct odor when crushed



Leaves are opposite, heart-shaped with scalloped margins



Flowers are irregular, tubular



4-petaled white flowers in clusters at top of stems



When mature, capsules pop explosively



hairy bittercress



The seed capsules are called siliques, and look like purplish-green toothpicks standing upright around the flower



Cardamine hirsuta



Plantains



Broad leaves

Seeds are along the stem



Narrow leaves



Seeds are clustered closer to the tip of the stem



broadleaf plantain
Plantago major



buckhorn plantain
Plantago lanceolata



Pink-magenta flower heads top each stem

Thistles



Wavy leaves with prickles or thorns growing from the edges

Bull thistle spreads only by seed

Long, sharp spines on the leaves at the midrib and the tips of the lobes



bull thistle



Canada thistle



Cirsium vulgare

Rosettes form in first year, flowering stems the second



Cirsium arvense

Canada thistle spreads both by seed and through an extensive, creeping root



TREES AND SHRUBS

- Bush honeysuckle
- Callery pear
- Olives
- Tree of heaven

Fruits are yellow to red in color

bush honeysuckle

Lonicera spp.

Bark is ridged or shaggy

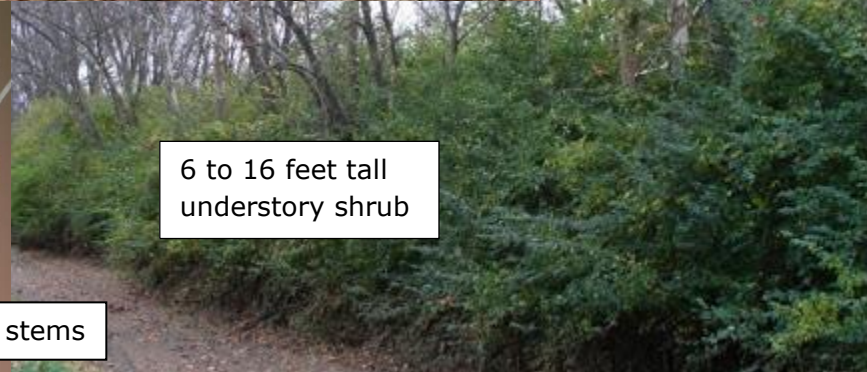
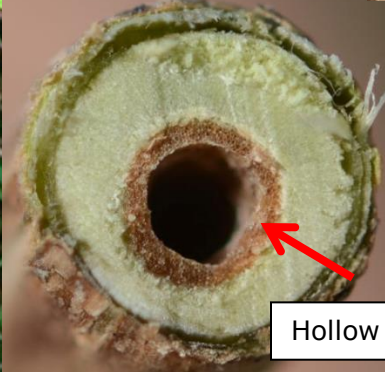
Flowers are clustered and white, yellow, or pink

Multi-stem plant often looks tangled



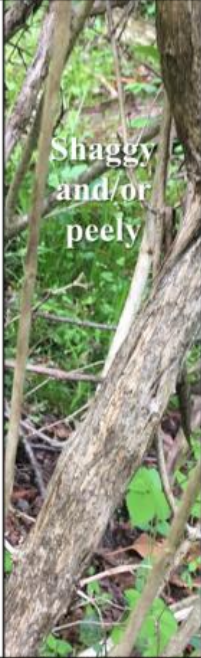


Opposite ovate leaves

Hollow stems

6 to 16 feet tall
understory shrub



Identification of *Shady Invader* honeysuckles

	 Hollow pith?	 'Hershey kiss'-shaped leaf tip?	Mature bark	Leaves covered in fine hairs on both surfaces?	Flower color and hairs	Fruit color
Morrow's honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>)	Yes		 Shaggy and/or peely	Yes	White fading to yellow, hairy	Orange to red
Tatarian honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>)		 No, blunt tipped		No hairs on underside of leaf	White to pink, fading to yellow, without hairs	Red
Bell's honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera x bella</i>) Hybrid between <i>L. morrowii</i> and <i>tatarica</i>		Slightly hairy beneath	Pink fading to yellow, without hairs	Yellow to orange to red		
Amur honeysuckle (<i>Lonicera maackii</i>)		Yes - AKA acuminate leaf tip	 Distinctly ridged	Hairs on leaves	White fading to yellow	Red, but later than the above
Native honeysuckles	No					

*Note there are many other honeysuckles not included here



Fruit are brown hard round pomes with speckles



Simple, shiny leaves are alternate, broad ovate with finely serrated margins

Callery pear

Pyrus calleryana



Stems and branches possess 3 in. long thorns



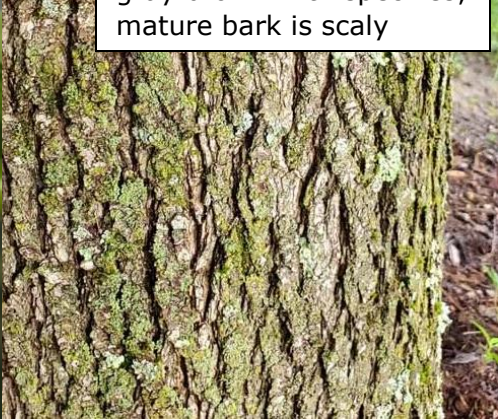
Immature bark is dark gray brown with speckles; mature bark is scaly



Mature height of 30-45 ft. with a 25-35 ft. spread

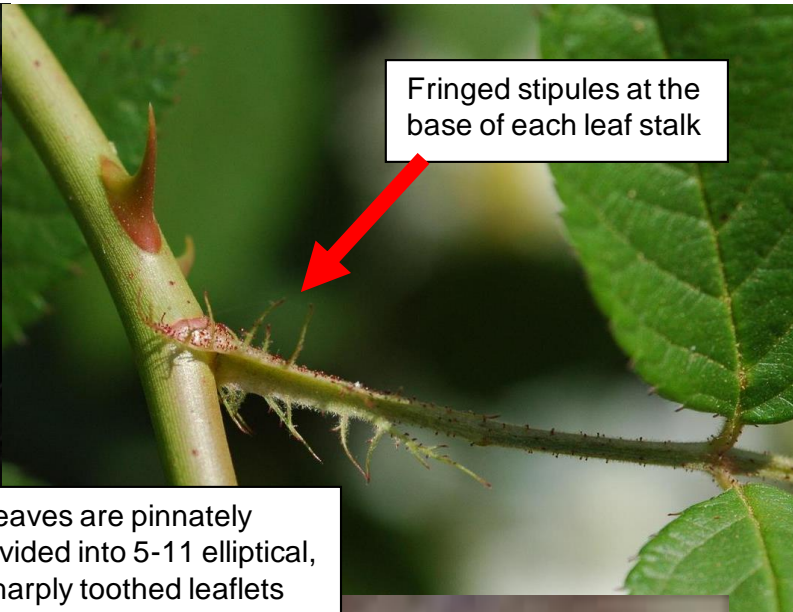


5 petal flowers form in bundles in early spring and can produce a rancid odor

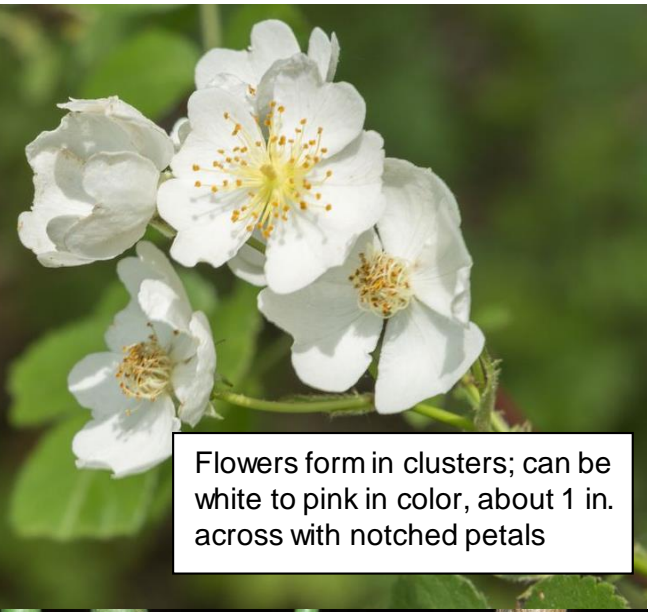




Leaves are pinnately divided into 5-11 elliptical, sharply toothed leaflets



Fringed stipules at the base of each leaf stalk



Flowers form in clusters; can be white to pink in color, about 1 in. across with notched petals

Multiflora Rose

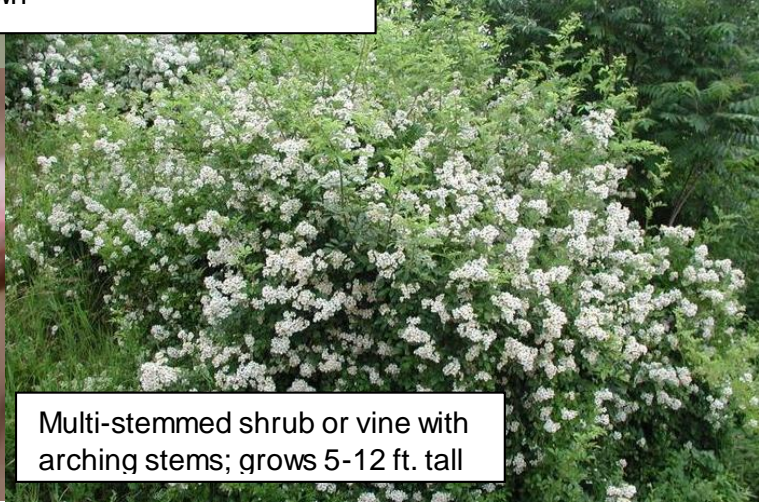
Rosa multiflora



Thorny stems can be bright green to red; mature bark is brown



Small, red rose hips are clustered; turn leathery and persist over the winter



Multi-stemmed shrub or vine with arching stems; grows 5-12 ft. tall

Olives

Leaves are lance-shaped or oblong, 1 ½ to 3 ¼ inches long and ¾ to 1 inch wide

Leaves are elliptical to egg-shaped, 2 to 3 inches long and ½ to 1 ¼ inches wide

Leaves are silvery underneath with silver scales on top

Yellow-brown berries with silver scales

Red or pink berries with brown scales

Twigs are silvery or golden brown, scaly when young, often thorny or with short spines at the tips (more typical with Russian olive)

Tree that grows 20 feet tall

Shrub that grows 16 feet tall


Cream to yellow, bell-shaped flowers appear in clusters at the base of leaves

Russian olive

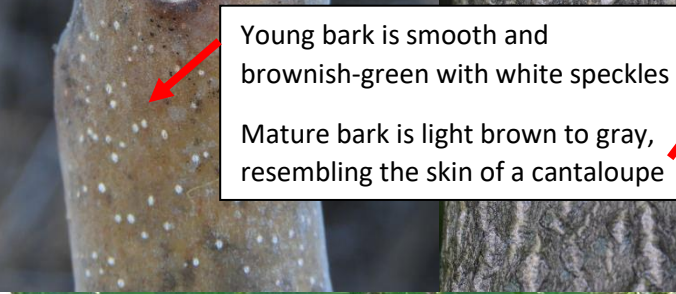
Elaeagnus angustifolia

Autumn olive

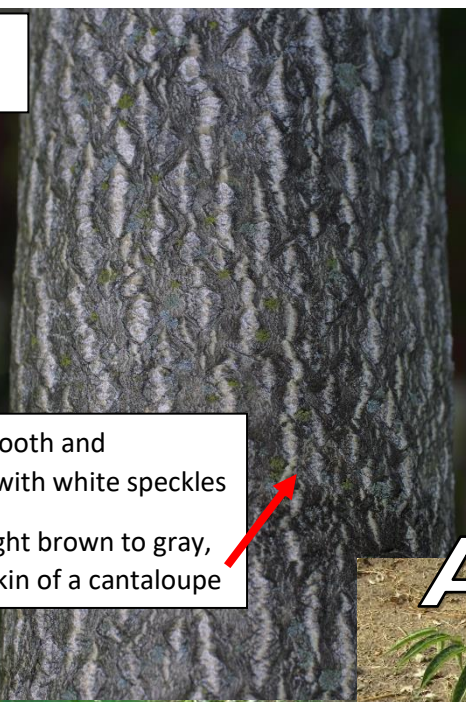
Elaeagnus umbellata



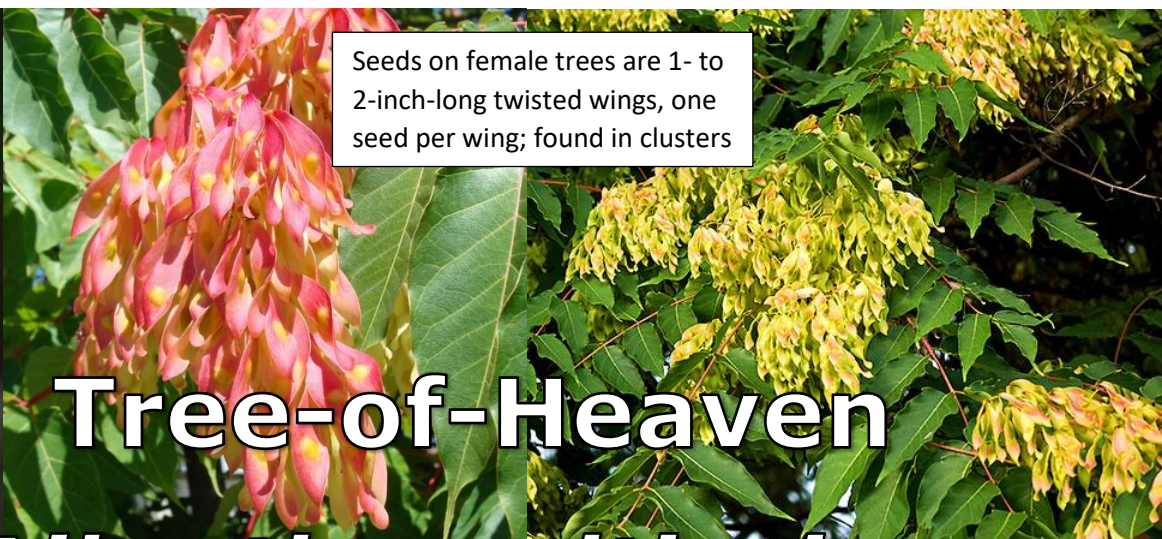
Large V- or heart-shaped leaf scars with multiple spots on the sides



Young bark is smooth and brownish-green with white speckles




Mature bark is light brown to gray, resembling the skin of a cantaloupe




Seeds on female trees are 1- to 2-inch-long twisted wings, one seed per wing; found in clusters

Tree-of-Heaven

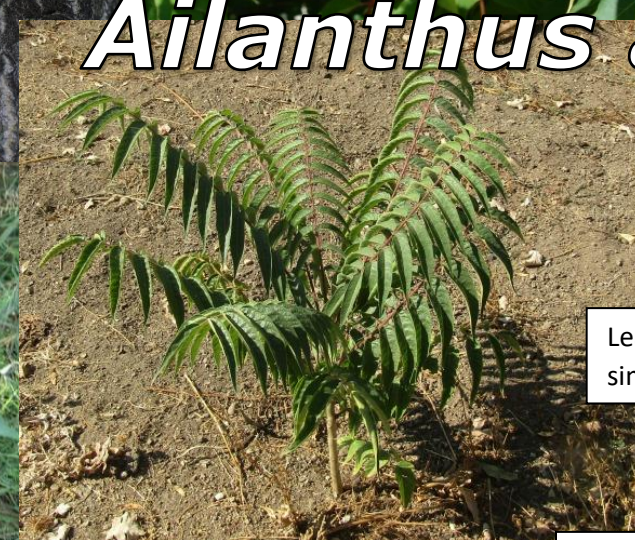
Ailanthus altissima




Leaves have a strong, offensive odor similar to rotten peanut butter




Leaves are pinnately compound with 10 to 40 leaflets
The entire leaf can be between 1 to 4 feet long



Grows up to 80 feet tall and 40 feet wide



The base of each leaflet has 1 to 2 protruding bumps, called glandular teeth



Large clusters of small, yellowish-green flowers

VINES

- Bindweeds
- Japanese honeysuckle
- Wild grape
- Wintercreeper

field bindweed

Convolvulus arvensis

Invasive



Bindweeds have alternate leaves, 1 leaf per node

hedge bindweed

Calystegia sepium

**Native noxious weed
(okay to remove)**



honeysuckle milkweed

Cynanchum laeve

**Native
(do not remove)**



Milkweeds have opposite leaves, 2 leaves per node



Japanese honeysuckle endangers trees by twining around tree trunks and girdling them



Extremely vigorous perennial vine


Dark green oval-shaped leaves

Japanese honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica



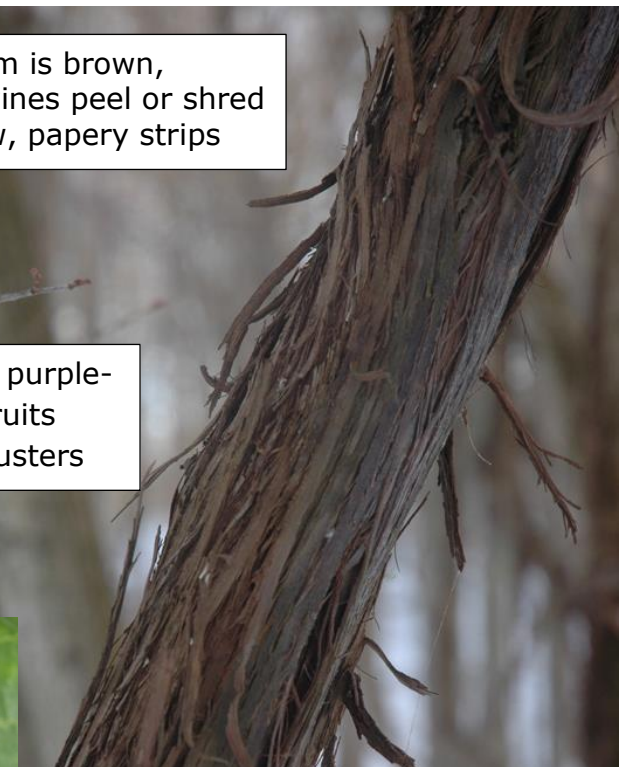
Flowers are tubular-shaped, fragrant flowers in clusters, with colors ranging from white, cream, pink, to yellow



Leaves are alternate, 2 to 5 inches wide, and have toothed edges

Leaves may be maple-leaf or heart shaped

Leaves may or may not be lobed




Main stem is brown, mature vines peel or shred in narrow, papery strips

Spherical, purple-to-black fruits hang in clusters




wild grape

Vitis spp.



Forked tendrils wrap around branches or bark of larger plants



Flowers are green in appear in panicles

NATIVE NOXIOUS WEED

INVASIVE

Shaggy bark, peels in parallel lines

Bark has lenticels (raised pores)
Does not peel in narrow strips

Brown Pith (center of the stem)

White Pith (center of the stem)

Wild Grape
Vitis riparia

Porcelain Berry
Ampelopsis brevipedunculata





wintercreeper

Euonymus fortunei

Scrambling vine can grow in mats along forest floor up to 3 ft. or vines can climb trees to heights of 40-70 ft.

Flowers are inconspicuous and yellow-green. Develop in midsummer, usually only on climbing plants.

Leaves are thick, glossy, oval and dark-green; some varieties have yellow-green especially along borders. Edges are slightly toothed. Veins are silvery white.

Fruit are pinkish red capsules that will open to reveal orange seeds

Opposite leaves

Volunteer Trees

The following are common native trees that have spread naturally (in this case in our pollinator habitats) that we did not intentionally plant. These trees once established can shade our desired wildflowers and grasses within our pollinator habitats.

1. Box elder
2. Common hackberry
3. Black walnut
4. Eastern cottonwood

BOX ELDER
Acer negundo



COMMON HACKBERRY
Celtis occidentalis

BLACK WALNUT

Juglans nigra



EASTERN COTTONWOOD

Populus deltoides

Native Wildflowers and Grasses

The following are native wildflowers and grasses that have been intentionally planted within our pollinator habitats. They are sorted by bloom color.

1. Red
 - a. Eastern red columbine
 - b. Indian blanket
2. Pink
 - a. Common milkweed
 - b. Lemon mint
 - c. Obedient plant
 - d. Showy milkweed
 - e. Swamp milkweed
 - f. Switchgrass
3. Orange
 - a. Butterfly weed
4. Yellow
 - a. Black eyed Susan
 - b. Blanketflower
 - c. Brown eyed Susan
 - d. Dwarf goldenrod
 - e. Golden alexanders
 - f. Gray headed coneflower
 - g. Hairy sunflower
 - h. Lanceleaf coreopsis
 - i. Maximilian sunflower
 - j. Oxeye sunflower
 - k. Stiff goldenrod
5. Green
 - a. Bristly sedge
 - b. Canada wildrye
 - c. Common rush
 - d. Fox sedge
 - e. Fringed sedge
 - f. Gray's sedge
 - g. Junegrass
 - h. Prairie dropseed
 - i. Short's sedge
 - j. Virginia wildrye

6. Blue

- a. Blue cardinal flower
- b. Blue false indigo
- c. Blue vervain
- d. Little bluestem
- e. Northern blue flag
- f. Ohio spiderwort
- g. Wild lupine

7. Purple

- a. Dense blazing star
- b. Missouri ironweed
- c. Monkey flower
- d. Purple coneflower
- e. Purple prairie clover
- f. Purpletop
- g. Sideoats grama
- h. Wild bergamot

8. White

- a. Flat-topped white aster
- b. Foxglove beardtongue
- c. Prairie

EASTERN RED COLUMBINE



Aquilegia canadensis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 1.5 feet

Leaf: Green to blue-green, trifoliate, alternate, semi-evergreen retention

Flower: Funnel-shape, faces down, outer petals spur-like with yellow tips, 2 inches long

Bloom Color: Red, pink, yellow

Bloom Time: April, May

Fruit: Follicle, tan

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Part shade, shade

Soil: Dry, moist. Sandy, well-drained soils. Medium loam, sandy loam, sandy, limestone-based.

Drought Tolerance: High

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes

INDIAN BLANKET



Gaillardia pulchella

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Annual

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-1.5 feet

Spread: 0.5-1 feet

Leaf: Oblong to lanceolate, 3 inches long, gray-green

Flower: Daisy-like; dark center disks; on upright hairy stems that are mostly leafless

Bloom Color: Red, yellow, bicolor

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September, October, November

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, sandy or calcareous

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

COMMON MILKWEED



Asclepias syriaca

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Tuberous rhizome

Height: 3-5 feet, can reach 8 feet

Spread: 9-12 inches

Leaf: Simple, shape varying from elliptical to oblong;
opposite, short petioles, dark green on top and light
green below

Flower: Pendulous spherical umbels, as many as 100
flowers per umbel

Bloom Color: Pink, mauve, white

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Follicle, thick at base and tapers down to a narrow
tip, grayish, 3.5 inches long

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Medium to fine sandy, clayey, or rocky calcareous
soils. Well-drained loamy soils.

Drought Tolerance: Full-grown more tolerant than
seedling

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

LEMON MINT



Monarda citriodora

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Annual

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 1-2.5 feet

Spread: 0.75-1 foot

Leaf: Narrow lanceolate to oblong, awn-tipped, serrated, 2.5 inches; upper stem leaves may be in whorls

Flower: Tubular, two-lipped flowers; dense, globular, head-like clusters

Bloom Color: Pink, lavender, white

Bloom Time: May, June, July, August

Fruit: Nutlets

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Dry, sandy to rocky

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes

OBEDIENT PLANT



Physostegia virginiana

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Central taproot and rhizomes

Height: 3-4 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Opposite, narrow-lanceolate, sharply-toothed, 3-6 inches long

Flower: Tubular, two-lipped, snapdragon-like; in upright terminal spikes, 12-18 inches long

Bloom Color: Pink, white

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September

Fruit: Nutlets

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, moist, acidic, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

SHOWY MILKWEED



Asclepias speciosa

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Velvety, broad-oblong to broad-ovate, gray-green

Flower: Globular umbels (3 inch diameter); star-like

Bloom Color: Pink, purple

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: Follicle, 3-4 inches, erect, hairy

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

SWAMP MILKWEED



Asclepias incarnata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 3-4 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Narrow, lanceolate, 3-6 inches

Flower: Umbels, five reflexed petals and an elevated central crown

Bloom Color: White, pink, mauve

Bloom Time: July, August

Fruit: Follicle; erect, long (4 inches) and narrow; often in pairs

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Medium to wet

Drought Tolerance: None

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

SWITCHGRASS



Panicum virgatum

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Extensive, deep, fibrous

Height: 3-6 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, linear, parallel venation

Flower: Inflorescence is a panicle

Bloom Color: Pink-tinged, green, brown

Bloom Time: July, August, September, October,
November

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Dry to moist; sandy, sandy loam, medium loam, clay,
limestone-based

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

BUTTERFLY WEED



Asclepias tuberosa

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-2.5 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Lance-shaped

Flower: Umbels

Bloom Color: Orange to yellow-orange

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Follicle, grayish-green, narrow 4-8 inches long,
covered in short hairs

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes

BLACK-EYED SUSAN



Rudbeckia hirta

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Biennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1-2 feet

Leaf: Rough, hairy, lance-shaped (3-7 inches)

Flower: Daisy-like (3 inch diameter) with domed dark brown central disk

Bloom Color: Yellow to orange-yellow

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, medium moisture, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds

Nectar Source: Yes

BLANKETFLOWER



Gaillardia aristata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 2 feet

Leaf: Simple or lobed, lanceolate to oblanceolate, densely hairy, 6 inches long

Flower: Daisy-like; dark center disks; on upright hairy stems

Bloom Color: Yellow, red, bicolor

Bloom Time: May, June, July, August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, sandy or calcareous

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

BROWN-EYED SUSAN



Rudbeckia triloba

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Biennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Shallow and fibrous

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Thin and rough on both sides, some are 3-lobed;

lower leaves are ovate to ovate-cordate with long petioles, upper leaves are less rounded and sessile

Flower: Daisy-like (1.5 inch diameter), 6-12 rays with brown-purple center disk

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: July, August, September, October

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, moist, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds

Nectar Source: Yes

DWARF GOLDENROD



Solidago nemoralis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 0.5-2 feet

Spread: 0.5-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate, narrow lanceolate to oblanceolate, gray-green

Flower: Narrow, often downward-arching, one-sided plumes, 4-10 inches

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, sandy, rocky, medium loam, clay loam, caliche

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds

Nectar Source: Yes

GOLDEN ALEXANDERS



Zizia aurea

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Dense cluster of coarse fibrous roots

Height: 1.5-3 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Basal and stem leaves are compound biternate with toothed leaflets

Flower: Flat-topped clusters (compound umbels) of tiny flowers; each flower is less than 1/8 inch long, 5 petals

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: Schizocarp

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, sandy, sandy-clay

Drought Tolerance: Yes, once established

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

GRAY-HEADED CONEFLOWER



Ratibida pinnata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 3-5 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Pinnate, up to 5 inches on stiff stems

Flower: Dull-gray central disk that is an elongated cylinder (1 inch), 4-10 rays (3 inches) flexed downward

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Medium, well-drained. Prefers clay or sand, tolerates poor, dry soils

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

HAIRY SUNFLOWER



Helianthus mollis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 1-3 feet

Leaf: Pubescent, gray-green, up to 6 inches long; broad oval leaves with rounded to cordate bases

Flower: Sunflower with 15-30 rays, 4 inch diameter, central disk (1 inch)

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

LANCELEAF COREOPSIS



Coreopsis lanceolata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomes

Height: 1-2 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Narrow, hairy, lance-shaped (2-6 inches), primarily appear at base of plant

Flower: Solitary, daisy-like (1-2 inches) with 8 rays toothed at tips, and flat yellow center discs, atop slender erect stems

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Fruit: Cypsela; seeds resemble ticks

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade, shade

Soil: Dry, sandy, gravelly soils, loam, clay

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

MAXIMILIAN SUNFLOWER



Helianthus maximiliani

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Stout, fibrous

Height: 3-10 feet

Spread: 2-4 feet

Leaf: Rough, narrow, tapered, grayish-green, 3-6 inches long

Flower: 2-3 inches in diameter, sunflower with 15-19 rays, dark yellow center disks

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

OXEYE SUNFLOWER



Heliopsis helianthoides

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 3-6 feet

Spread: 2-4 feet

Leaf: Ovate, toothed, 6 inches long

Flower: Daisy-like (2-3 inches in diameter), with brown-yellow center cones atop stiff stems

Bloom Color: Yellow, orange-yellow

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, sandy

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

STIFF GOLDENROD



Solidago rigida

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Woody caudex with fibrous branching

Height: 3-5 feet

Spread: 1.5-2.5 feet

Leaf: Basal leaves and leaves alternating up stem; rough, hairy, oval, toothless or rounded shallow teeth; grayish-green

Flower: Tiny, daisy-like flowers in dense, erect, flat-topped terminal clusters atop stiff, hairy stems

Bloom Color: Yellow

Bloom Time: August, September

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes, moderate

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, bees

Nectar Source: Yes

BRISTLY SEDGE



Carex comosa

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Sedge

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1.5-3 feet

Leaf: Basal and alternate; 0.5 inches wide, parallel venation, hairless; sheaths are concave to U-shaped at tip, papery whitish

Flower: Inflorescences are spiky clusters

Bloom Color: Green, white, brown

Bloom Time: April, May, June, July, August, September

Fruit: Achene

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Part shade

Soil: Wet; loam, clay, sand

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, skippers, moths, birds

Nectar Source: No

CANADA WILD RYE

Elymus canadensis



Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-5 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, linear, parallel venation, glabrous

Flower: Inflorescences are spikes

Bloom Color: Green

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Fruit: Caryopsis; green to tan

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, well-drained, porous, acid or calcareous sand, loam, clay, or limestone

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds, small mammals

Nectar Source: No

COMMON RUSH



Juncus effusus

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Rush

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 2-4 feet

Leaf: Spreading basal clumps; smooth, upright, cylindrical, unjointed, spire-like stems

Flower: Inflorescence is open and branched

Bloom Color: Green, brown

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Capsule, brown

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Moist, wet, clay, loam, sand

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

FOX SEDGE



Carex vulpinoidea

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Sedge

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 0.5-2feet

Leaf: Alternate; 3 feet long, 1/8 inches wide, parallel venation; top-side spotted red-brown; tussocks

Flower: Inflorescences consist dense tangled clusters

Bloom Color: Green

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Fruit: Achene

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Wet

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

FRINGED SEDGE



Carex crinita

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Sedge

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 1-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate; 16 inches long, 0.5 inches wide, parallel venation, hairless; grows in tussocks

Flower: Inflorescences are spiked clusters

Bloom Color: Green

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: Achene

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Wet; loam, clay, sand

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

GRAY'S SEDGE



Carex grayi

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Sedge

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate; 14 inches long, 0.5 inches wide, parallel venation, hairless, pleated

Flower: Inflorescences are spiked clubs

Bloom Color: Green, white

Bloom Time: May, June, July, August, September, October

Fruit: Achene

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Moist, fertile soil; at or near water

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterfly larvae

Nectar Source: No

JUNEGRASS



Koeleria macrantha

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 1-2 feet

Spread: 0.75-1.5 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, parallel venation

Flower: Inflorescences are narrow tapered, 5 inches long atop spikes

Bloom Color: Light green, yellow

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, sandy or rocky

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: Yes

PRAIRIE DROPSEED



Sporobolus heterolepis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous and short-rhizomatous

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, parallel venation, fine-textured, hair-like, 20 inches long and 1/16 inches wide; arching foliage mound

Flower: Inflorescence is a panicle

Bloom Color: Green, brown, pink, yellow

Bloom Time: August, September, October

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, sandy

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

SHORT'S SEDGE



Carex shortiana

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Sedge

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 20-30 inches

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate; 12 inches long, 1/3 inches wide, parallel venation, rough edges, blue-green; tussocks

Flower: Inflorescences consist of 3-5 spikelets; cylindrical

Bloom Color: Green, brown

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Fruit: Achene

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Wet, mesic

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds

Nectar Source: No

VIRGINIA WILD RYE



Elymus virginicus

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 1-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, linear, parallel venation, glabrous
pubescence

Flower: Inflorescences are terminal spikes

Bloom Color: Green

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September, October

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Part shade

Soil: Moist, organic, clay, loam, sandy

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds, small mammals

Nectar Source: No

BLUE CARDINAL FLOWER



Lobelia siphilitica

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Finely-toothed, lance-shaped, 5 inches long

Flower: Dense terminal raceme atop stiff, unbranched

Bloom Color: Blue

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Fruit: Capsule

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Moist, wet; clay, loam, sand

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, bees

Nectar Source: Yes

BLUE FALSE INDIGO



Baptisia australis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Deep tap root

Height: 3-4 feet

Spread: 3-4 feet

Leaf: Clover-like, trifoliate, bluish-green leaflets (2 inches)

Flower: Lupine-like flowers in erect racemes (up to 12 inches) atop flower spikes

Bloom Color: Indigo blue

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: Bluish black inflated and hardened legume (1-3 inches)

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes, once established

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

BLUE VERVAIN



Verbena hastata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Biennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 2-6 feet

Spread: 1-2.5 feet

Leaf: Lance-shaped, sharply toothed, 6 inches long

Flower: Candelabra-like inflorescences of erect, slender, pencil-like spikes (2-6 inches long) of tiny, tubular, 5-lobed, densely-packed flowers

Bloom Color: Blue, purple

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Fruit: Schizocarp

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, medium to wet

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies, bees

Nectar Source: Yes

LITTLE BLUESTEM



Schizachyrium scoparium

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Upright, slender, flat linear green leaves with tinge of blue at base

Flower: Racemes, 3 inches

Bloom Color: Purplish bronze

Bloom Time: August, September, October

Fruit: Fluffy, silvery-white seed heads

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

NORTHERN BLUE FLAG



Iris versicolor

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 2-2.5 feet

Spread: 2-2.5 feet

Leaf: Narrow, arching-to-erect, sword-shaped, blue-green,
24 inches long

Flower: 4 inches wide, purple veining, 3-5 flowers per stalk

Bloom Color: Violet blue

Bloom Time: May, June

Fruit: 3-celled, bluntly angled capsule

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Medium to wet

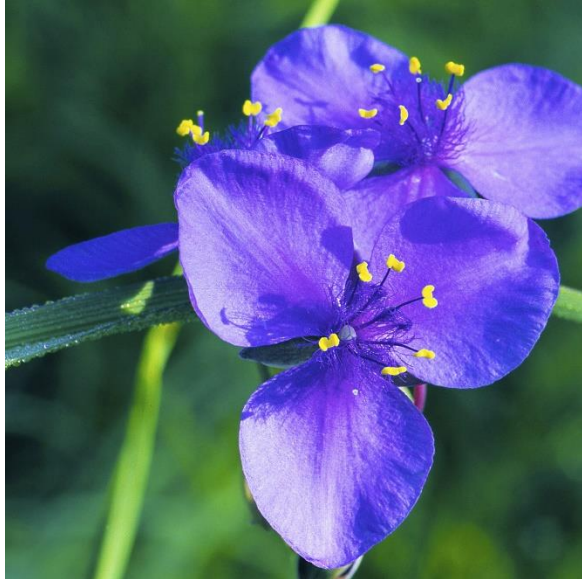
Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes

OHIO SPIDERWORT



Tradescantia ohiensis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Thick, fleshy, and fibrous

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 1.5-2.5 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, parallel venation, arching, grass-like, dark bluish-green, 1.5 feet long and 1.75 inches wide

Flower: Three-petaled, clusters; each flower only opens for one day

Bloom Color: Blue, white, pink

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Fruit: Capsule



Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Average, dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Bees

Nectar Source: No

WILD LUPINE



Lupinus perennis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Thick, deep taproot

Height: 2 feet

Spread: 10-18 inches

Leaf: Alternate, palmately compound with 7-11 obovate leaflets

Flower: Pea-like flowers in upright, elongated, terminal cluster on an erect stem

Bloom Color: Blue, purple, white, pink

Bloom Time: April, May, June, July

Fruit: Legume

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Dry, moist, sandy

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, birds, bees, small mammals, deer

Nectar Source: Yes

DENSE BLAZING STAR



Liatris spicata

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Corms with shallow fibrous roots

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 0.75-1.5 feet

Leaf: Basal tuft of narrow grass-like leaves, up to 12 inches long, leaves gradually decrease in size toward the top

Flower: Terminal spikes of sessile, rounded fluffy, deep purple flower heads atop rigid, erect, leafy flower stalks

Bloom Color: Purple, red-purple

Bloom Time: July, August

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

MISSOURI IRONWEED



Vernonia missurica

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Densely fibrous and rhizomatous

Height: 3-5 feet

Spread: 3-4 feet

Leaf: Narrow lance-shaped to narrow-ovate, serrated edges, 7 inches long; hairy underside; hairy stem

Flower: Composite flowers with dense, fluffy disks (rays absent)

Bloom Color: Magenta purple

Bloom Time: July, August

Fruit: Cypsela, rusty-colored

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, medium to wet, fertile loam, clay-loam

Drought Tolerance: No

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

MONKEY FLOWER



Mimulus ringens

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Rhizomatous

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 10-12 inches

Leaf: Sessile, opposite, oblong to lanceolate and sharply-toothed, 2-4 inches

Stem: Square

Flower: Snapdragon-like flowers, in pairs, 1 inch long

Bloom Color: Purple, blue

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September

Fruit: Capsule

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Moist, wet. Loam

Drought Tolerance: Little to none

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, bees, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes

PURPLE CONEFLOWER



Echinacea purpurea

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-5 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Lanceolate, ovate, serrated edges

Stem: Coarse, rough-hairy

Flower: Daisy-like (5 inch diameter)

Bloom Color: Purplish pink

Bloom Time: June, July, August

Fruit: Cypsela

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Average, dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

PURPLE PRAIRIE CLOVER



Dalea purpurea

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-3 feet

Spread: 1-1.5 feet

Leaf: Alternate, odd-pinnate with 3-5 narrow linear leaflets

Flower: Tiny flowers in dense, cone-like heads (up to 2 inches long) atop erect, wiry stems

Bloom Color: Purple

Bloom Time: June, July, August, September

Fruit: Legume

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, average, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

PURPLETOP



Tridens flavus

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Bunchgrass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 2-6 feet

Spread: 1-3 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple, linear with parallel venation

Flower: Pyramid shaped inflorescence is open and drooping (6-14 inches)

Bloom Color: Purple

Bloom Time: August, September, October

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Part shade

Soil: Dry soils; sandy, sandy loam, medium loam, clay loam, clay

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

SIDEOATS GRAMA



Bouteloua curtipendula

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Grass

Root Type: Fibrous

Height: 1.5-2.5 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Alternate, simple with parallel leaf venation

Flower: Inflorescence spike

Bloom Color: Purplish

Bloom Time: July, August

Fruit: Caryopsis

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium moisture; well-drained sandy to heavy clays

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds

Nectar Source: No

WILD BERGAMOT



Monarda fistulosa

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Deep branched roots with shallow rhizomes

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Toothed, oblong, 4 inches long, grayish-green

Flower: Two-lipped, tubular flowers in dense, globular, solitary, terminal heads atop square stems

Bloom Color: Lavender, pink, white

Bloom Time: July, August, September

Fruit: 4 brown nutlets

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun, part shade

Soil: Dry to medium moisture; well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes; moderate

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

FLAT-TOPPED WHITE ASTER



Aster umbellatus

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Fibrous and rhizomatous

Height: 2-7 feet

Spread: 2-4 feet

Leaf: 3-6 inches long, 1 inch wide; lance-elliptic, tapers to point at both ends, edges toothless but rough from short hairs

Flower: Flat, branching clusters up to 10 inches across at the top of the stem; individual flowers are $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inches with 2-15 ray flowers

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: July, August, September, October

Fruit: Dry seed with a tuft of whitish hairs

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Slightly acidic sandy loam; moist to occasionally wet

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

FOXGLOVE BEARDTONGUE



Penstemon digitalis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Tap root

Height: 3-5 feet

Spread: 1.5-2 feet

Leaf: Basal leaves are elliptic and stem leaves are lanceolate to oblong

Flower: Panicle of two-lipped, tubular flowers (1.25 inches)

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: April, May, June

Fruit: Capsule, light brown

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium moisture, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes, occasionally once established

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Hummingbirds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

PRAIRIE BUNDLEFLOWER



Desmanthus illinoensis

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Woody caudex and deep taproot

Height: 2-3 feet

Spread: 2-3 feet

Leaf: Alternate, bipinnate, linear

Flower: Globular flower heads (0.5 inches) of extremely tiny 5-petaled, white flowers (30-50 flowers per head); projecting yellow stamens

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: June

Fruit: Legume; curved dark brown seed pods develop in clusters

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Average, dry to medium, well-drained

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Birds, butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

WHITE PRAIRIE CLOVER



Dalea candida

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Taproot

Height: 1-2 feet

Spread: 0.75-1.5 feet

Leaf: Alternate, odd-pinnate with 5-7 narrow linear leaflets;
dull green

Flower: Tiny flowers in dense, cylindrical, elongated, cone-like heads (up to 3 inches long) atop erect, slender stems

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: May, June, July

Fruit: Legume

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Full sun

Soil: Dry, average, well-drained

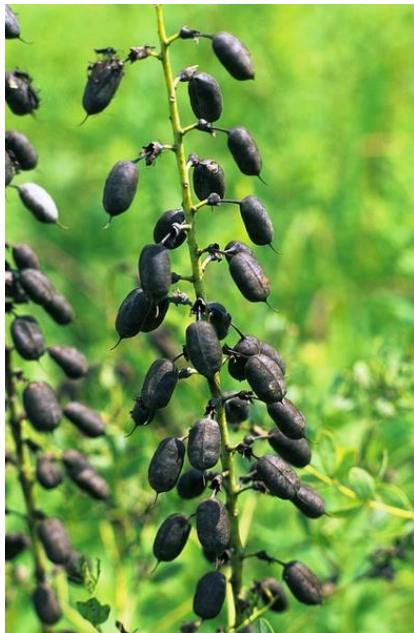
Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies

Nectar Source: Yes

WHITE WILD INDIGO



Baptisia alba

Plant Characteristics

Life Cycle: Perennial

Habit: Herbaceous

Root Type: Deep, extensive once established

Height: 2-4 feet

Spread: 2-2.5 feet

Leaf: Alternate, trifoliate

Flower: 1 inch in 6-9 inch spikes

Bloom Color: White

Bloom Time: April, May, June

Fruit: Inflated green or black legumes up to 1 inch

Growing Conditions

Light Requirement: Sun

Soil: Rocky or sandy, acid soils; dry to moist

Drought Tolerance: Yes

Wildlife Benefit

Attracts: Butterflies, bees, hummingbirds

Nectar Source: Yes