

Castleton UMC Native Garden

The Castleton UMC Native Garden was established in 2011 when a group of CUMC gardeners attended a rain garden workshop. They had noticed that a detention pond east of the sanctuary was filling with cattails but very little grass. The group also learned that the city of Indianapolis was encouraging businesses and homeowners to improve water quality by planting rain gardens and native plant communities to decrease water runoff during large rain storms. The gardeners designed a native garden and planting began in 2012 with a few small beds of trees, shrubs, and perennials, many donated by CUMC gardeners. Over the years, grant money was obtained from the CUMC fish fry, the Indiana Native Plant Society, the Marion County Master Gardener Association (MCMGA), Mark M Holeman, Inc. (in-kind) and the White River Alliance. Volunteer CUMC and MCMGA gardeners provided the labor.

Years of hard work have resulted in a lovely garden! Special attention has been paid to soil conditions (wet, moderate, dry,); sun or shade needs; plant bloom colors and times; and plant textures. A stone walking path and large boulders encourage visitors to enjoy the space.

The CUMC Native Garden is a Certified Wildlife Habitat, a Monarch Way Station, and is registered with the city of Indianapolis as a Native Planting Area.

Following are plants in the garden listed in alphabetical order by common name along with what we hope is helpful information. At the bottom of the document is a list of where plants are located in the garden.



American Cranberry Bush (*Viburnum opulus v.americanum*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 6'-8'; Spread: 6'-8'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May

Lacecap white flowers in spring in flat-topped 3" wide cymes of tiny fertile florets surrounded by larger sterile florets, drooping clusters of cranberry-like red berries (drupes) in fall.

Berries are sometimes used to make jams and jellies and are attractive to birds and butterflies.

Purplish red fall foliage.



American Elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium to wet

Height: 5'-12'; Spread: 5'-8'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: Jun-Jul

Tiny lemon-scented white flowers appear in large flat-topped clusters (cymes to 10" across) in June.

Flowers give way to clusters of black elderberry fruit. Fruits are sometimes used to make jams, jellies, pie fillings and elderberry wine. Fruits are attractive to wildlife. Good accent shrub, attracts birds and butterflies.



Arrowwood viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 6'-10'; Spread: 6'-10'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May-June

Flowers give way to blue-black, berry-like drupes which are attractive to birds and wildlife. Winter hardy, drought tolerant, and vigorous; fall color is yellow to orange to red.



Autumn Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type:

Adaptable

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct

Root Type: Fibrous

Pollinated by insects, not the wind, so does not contribute to allergies. Attracts a wide variety of pollinators such as bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, and moths. Hosts the rigid sunflower borer moth. Bitter taste makes it unpalatable to grazers.



Black Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 3'-6'; Spread: 3'-6'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May

5-6 flowered clusters of white 5-petaled flowers, black autumn berries (blueberry size) and purple/red fall color. Fruits sometimes used to make jams and jellies but are very tart. Attracts birds, tolerates wet soil.



Blue False Indigo (*Baptisia australis*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Adaptable, tolerates dry, rocky soil.

Height: 2'-4'

Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: May-Jun

Root Type: Taproot; hosts a number of caterpillars.

Large, showy seed pods provide winter interest. Long lived nitrogen fixer; slow to establish; drought tolerant, hardy. Mainly pollinated by bumblebee queens, visited by hummingbirds. Hosts wild indigo, dusty wing, hoary edge skippers; frosted elfin, marine blue, orange sulphur butterflies; and many moths. Mildly toxic foliage makes them unpalatable.



Blue Flag Iris (southern blue) (*Iris virginica shrevei*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 2'-3'

Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: May-Jun

Root Type: Rhizome

Flowers attract bumblebees, long-horned bees, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts the Virginia ctenucha moth, the tiger moth, the iris borer moth, and a number of smaller insects. Mildly toxic foliage makes it unpalatable to mammals.



Blue Mist Flower (*Conoclinium coelestinum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Silt, Humus
Height: 1'-2'
Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct
Root Type: Rhizome Readily reseeds in rich, moist soils. Flowers attract long-tongued bees, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts moths such as clymene, lined ruby tiger, eupatorium borer. Late summer/early fall blooms feed pollinators, including migrating monarchs! Perfect for naturalizing lowlands and woodland edges. Deer resistant, bitter foliage makes it unpalatable to mammals.



Blue Star Willow (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade
Soil Moisture: Medium
Height: 2'-3'; Spread: 2'-3'
Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: May
Erect, clump-forming plant featuring pyramidal clusters of 3/4", soft light blue, star-like flowers in late spring atop erect, leafy stems. Narrow, willow-shaped, green foliage turns attractive yellow in fall. Tolerates deer, drought, clay soil.



Blue Vervain (*Verbena hastata*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Wet Muck
Height: 3'-5'
Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep
Root Type: Fibrous
Tolerates seasonal flooding. Flowers for a long period; attract bees, wasps, flies, skippers, butterflies, and moths. Hosts verbena moth, verbena bud moth, and a number of smaller insects. Feeds seed-eating birds such as cardinals, finches, sparrows, and juncos. Generally avoided by mammals. bar rabbits.



Bottle Gentian (*Gentiana andrewsii*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Humus

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct

Root Type: Taproot

Striking blue, closed flowers whose shape give this gentian its common name. Flowers attract bumblebees, which are one of the few insects that can access the inside of the flower. Bitter foliage deters herbivores, but new growth is occasionally browsed by deer.



Butterfly Milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Sandy, Rocky

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Orange; Bloom Time: Jun-Aug

Root Type: Taproot

Doesn't tolerate wet soil, and is commonly overwatered. Prefers poor soils and neglect; a long taproot makes it drought resistant when established. Flowers attract a wide variety of pollinators including bees, wasps, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Hosts insects such as milkweed bugs and beetles, monarch butterfly, and cynthia moth. Rarely browsed by mammals.



Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium to wet

Height: 5'-12'; Spread: 4'-8'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: June

Flower heads are very attractive to hummingbirds, butterflies, and other insect pollinators. They mature into hard spherical ball-like fruits consisting of multiple tiny two-seeded nutlets. Fruiting heads usually persist throughout winter. Can be grown in shallow standing water.



Common Arrowhead (*Sagittaria latifolia*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet; Soil Type: Muck, Standing Water

Height: 1'-3'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep

Root Type: Rhizome

Well suited to bank naturalization and stabilization.

Prefers slow moving or still water, but can grow in saturated wetland (or bog-like) soils. Flowers attract pollinators including bees, flies, skippers, and beetles.

Hosts a number of small insects including the obscure pondweed moth. Seeds, foliage, and tubers are eaten by wetland animals such as ducks, muskrat, and aquatic turtles. Not edible by humans.



Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Loam, Clay, Sandy

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Jun-Aug

Root Type: Rhizome

Needs two plants to produce viable seeds. Flowers attract pollinators including bees, wasps, flies, skippers, moths, and butterflies. Hosts the monarch butterfly, milkweed tiger moth, unexpected cynthia moth, delicate cynthia moth, milkweed tussock moth, and some small insects. Bitter, toxic foliage makes it unpalatable to mammals.



Common Mountain Mint (*Pycnanthemum virginianum*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-2.5'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Rhizome

Flowers attract many bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, and beetles. Will happily populate bare soil; good for filling space! As with other mints, it is rarely browsed.



Common Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 5'-6'; Spread: 4'-8'

Bloom Color: White or pink; Bloom Time: May-Jun
Bark peels in strips to reveal several layers of reddish to light brown inner bark; provides winter interest, but is usually hidden by foliage during the growing season. Small pink or white, five-petaled flowers appearing in dense, flat, rounded, 1-2" diameter, spirea-like clusters in late spring.

Flowers give way to drooping clusters of reddish fruit. Grows in harsh conditions.



Compass Plant (*Silphium laciniatum*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil

Type: Loam, Sandy, Tolerates Poor Soil

Height: 5'-9'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep

Root Type: Taproot

A hardy, drought resistant plant once established, though it may take multiple years to do so. Flowers attract mainly bees and flies, but butterflies are occasional visitors.

Supports a relatively small number of insects.



Coral Bells (*Heuchera americana*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Greenish White; Bloom Time: Jun-Aug

Heart-shaped, 5- to 7-lobed, long-petioled leaves, which emerge purplish-brown and mature to a uniform green. Tiny, greenish-white, bell-shaped flowers in open, airy panicles are borne on slender, wiry stems extending well above the mound of leaves, typically to a height of 18-24". Tolerate drought.



Culver's Root (*Veronicastrum virginicum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Sandy Loam, Clay Loam

Height: 3'-6'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: Jun-Aug

Root Type: Fibrous

A member of the snapdragon family and a standout in restored areas! These hardy plants form robust colonies. Flowers attract mainly bees, but occasionally moths butterflies, wasps, and flies.



Cup Plant (*Silphium perfoliatum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 5'-9'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Flowers attract bees, butterflies, skippers, wasps, and flies. Seed eating birds, particularly goldfinches, eat the seeds. Colonies provide shelter for birds, who will drink water from the 'cups'. Commonly grazed by mammals.



Dense Blazing Star (*Liatris spicata*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Clay Loam, Rocky

Height: 2'-4'

Bloom Color: Red-Purple; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Corm

Attractive to many pollinators. Protect plants while they establish, as mammals will browse foliage, and voles may eat corms. Flowers attract butterflies, birds. Tolerates drought, clay soil.



Early Goldenrod (*Solidago juncea*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Rhizome

Flowers attract many pollinators including bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, flies, and beetles. Hosts smaller insects, at least 45 species of moths; shelters the goldenrod stowaway moth that camouflages against the flowers! Seed eating birds may eat seeds; foliage is browsed sparingly by mammals.



Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 10'-20'; Spread: 10'-20'

Bloom Color: Lavender/pink; Bloom Time: Mar-Apr
Early blooms on bare branches. Flowers are followed by bean-like dry seedpods that mature to brown in summer. Heart shaped leaves turn yellow in fall. Small understory tree, deer resistant.



Fragrant Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 2'-6'; Spread: 6'-10'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: April

Male catkins form in late summer; last through winter until blooming in spring. Female flowers give way in late summer to small clusters of hairy, red berries which may persist into winter. Fruit is attractive to wildlife. Leaves turn shades of orange, red and purple in fall. Leaves and twigs are aromatic when bruised. Attracts birds and butterflies; tolerates poor soil, rabbits, black walnut.



Gray Dogwood (*Cornus racemose*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade
Soil Moisture: Medium
Height: 10'-15'; Spread: 10'-15'
Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May-June
Foliage turns dusky purplish red in fall.
Terminal stems holding the flowers are distinctively red and provide interesting contrast to the clusters of small white berries which form after the flowers have dropped. Red stem color is more easily seen after the fruits are gone, and red color often persists into early winter. Tolerates poor soil, deer. Attracts birds and butterflies.



Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam
Height: 1'-3'
Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep
Root Type: Fibrous
Naturalizes well in established plantings without forming dense colonies; at home on woodland edges. Flowers attract mainly long-tongued bees, hummingbirds and large butterflies. Hosts the pink-washed looper moth. Toxic foliage generally deters browsing, but may be lightly browsed by deer.



Green-Headed Coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*)
(Cut Leaf Coneflower)

Light: Part Sun/Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Silt-Loam
Height: 5'-8'
Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug
Root Type: Fibrous
Flowers attract a wide variety of insects including bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, skippers, and moths. Hosts the silvery checkerspot butterfly, wavy emerald moth, and a number of smaller insects. Goldfinches may eat seeds; foliage is rarely browsed.



Hairy Penstemon (*Penstemon hirsutus*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry

Soil Type: Adaptable, Well Drained

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: May-Jun

Root Type: Fibrous

Widely adaptable to sun, water, and soil texture requirements. Flowers attract mainly long-tongued bees but also other bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, skippers, and hummingbirds. Hosts the Baltimore checkerspot butterfly.



Hollow Joe-Pye Weed (*Eutrochium fistulosum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade, Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Loamy, Sandy, Gravelly

Height: 4'-9'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Adaptable to different soil types, and beneficial to insects. Flowers attract bees, butterflies, skippers, and moths. Hosts moths including the three lined flower moth, red groundling moth, and ruby tiger moth, as well as some smaller insects. Occasionally browsed by mammals.



Lance-Leaf Coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Sandy, Rocky

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: May-Jun

Root Type: Fibrous

Prefers poor soil; will adapt to fertile soil with good drainage if other plants don't overgrow it. Dead-heading encourages second or third rounds of blooms. Reseeds readily, grows quickly in open areas. Flowers attract a wide variety of insects- bees (including one obligate species), wasps, flies, beetles, butterflies, skippers, and day-flying moths. Hosts a few moths including the wavy lined emerald, and a few beetles and smaller insects. Seeds may be eaten by seed eating birds. Occasionally browsed by mammals.



Lead Plant (*Amorpha canescens*)

Light: Full Sun
Soil Moisture: Dry to Medium
Height: 2'-3'; Spread: 2'-2.5'
Bloom Color: Purple, Blue; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep
Does well in poor, sandy, somewhat dry soils.
May spread by self-seeding. Features slender, dense, 4-8" spike-like clusters of tiny, bluish-purple flowers with gold anthers. Attracts birds, butterflies; tolerates drought.



Little Bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Light: Full Sun
Soil Moisture: Dry to medium
Height: 2'-4'; Spread: 1.5'-2'
Bloom Color: Purplish Bronze; Bloom Time: Aug-Feb
Purplish-bronze flowers appear in 3" long racemes on branched stems rising above the foliage in August. Flowers are followed by clusters of fluffy, attractive silvery-white seed heads which often persist into winter. Bronze/Orange fall color. Low maintenance, tolerates deer, drought, black walnut, air pollution



Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Muck, Shallow Standing Water
Height: 1'-2'
Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Apr
Root Type: Rhizome
Related to buttercups; not a true marigold. Flowers attract flies and bees. Hosts at least two species of beetle. Foliage is generally avoided by mammalian browsers. Seeds are eaten by some wetland birds, such as ducks and rails, and some small mammals, such as voles and chipmunks.



Marsh Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

(Swamp milkweed or rose milkweed)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Clay, Loam, Silt

Height: 3'-4'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Taproot, Fibrous

Tolerates seasonal flooding. Flowers attract a wide variety of pollinators including bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, skippers, and humming birds. Hosts monarch butterflies, milkweed bugs, milkweed leaf beetles, and the yellow milkweed aphid. Generally avoided by mammalian herbivores.



Meadow Blazing Star (*Liatris ligulisyliis*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-3'

Bloom Color: Rose-Purple; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep

Root Type: Corm

Easy to grow in well drained, poor soils. Flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies. Similar to Rough Blazing Star. Good for flower arrangements.



Nannyberry viburnum (*Viburnum lentago*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 14'-16'; Spread: 6'-12'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May

Non-fragrant white flowers in flat-topped cymes give way in autumn to blue-black, berry-like drupes which can last into winter and are attractive to birds and wildlife. Fruits are edible and may be eaten off the bush when ripe or used in jams and jellies. Fall color is greenish yellow to reddish purple.



New England Aster (*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Clay

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct

Root Type: Fibrous

Flowers attract mostly bees, flies, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts many moths such as the Isabella tiger moth and aster borer moth, and some smaller insects. A valuable source of fall nectar for migrating monarchs. Occasionally browsed by turkey and mammalian herbivores. Height can be reduced by trimming back halfway through the growing season.



Nodding Wild Onion (*Allium cernuum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Sand, Rocky

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Bulb

Flowers mainly attract bees. Hosts a number of small insects. Easy to cultivate native onion and can be used for cooking in the same manner as green onion. Foliage is avoided by mammalian herbivores due to strong taste.



Northern Sea Oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*)

Light: Full Sun to part shade

Soil Moisture: Medium to wet

Height: 2'-5'; Spread: 1'-2.5'

Bloom Color: Green, bronze; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep
Flat, drooping seed heads hang in terminal clusters on thread-like pedicels from slightly arching stems; will flutter in even the softest of breezes. Leaves turn coppery after frost; good for dried flower arrangements. Winter interest, tolerates black walnut.



Ohio Spiderwort (*Tradescantia ohiensis*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil

Type: Adaptable

Height: 2'-3'

Bloom Color: Blue; Bloom Time: May-Jul

Root Type: Fibrous

Can bloom almost continuously from late May to early July, though only a few flowers will be open at once.

May have a second bloom in the fall if cut back mid-summer. Flowers attract mainly bees and flies. Hosts few insects, but is readily browsed by a variety of mammals including deer, rabbits, and box turtles.



Pink Turtlehead (*Chelone obliqua*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Humus

Height: 2'-4'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Rhizome

Large, pink, snapdragon-like flowers are said to resemble the heads of turtles. Flowers attract mainly bumblebees and occasionally hummingbirds. Bitter foliage makes them unpalatable to mammals.



Plains Coreopsis (*Coreopsis palmata*)

(Prairie coreopsis, stiff coreopsis, and prairie tickseed)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Loam, Clay Loam, Sand Loam, Gravelly

Height: 1'-2.5'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Rhizome

Thrives in dry, poor soils. Flowers attract bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, moths, beetles, and skippers. Hosts a few species of moth, including the wavy-lined emerald, and smaller insects. Occasionally browsed by a variety of mammals.



Prairie Blazing Star (*Liatris pycnostachya*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 2'-5'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Corm

Rounded, fluffy, deep rose-purple flower heads crowded into terminal spikes (to 20" long) atop thickly-leaved, rigid flower stalks. Flowers generally open top to bottom on the spikes. Attract birds, hummingbirds, butterflies; tolerate drought, clay soil.



Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Dry to medium

Height: 2'-3'; Spread: 2'-3'

Bloom Color: Pink/Brown; Bloom Time: Aug-Oct

Fine-textured, hair-like, medium green leaves form an arching foliage mound. Foliage turns golden with orange hues in fall, fading to light bronze in winter. Open, branching flower panicles rise above the foliage clump in late summer. Flowers have pink and brown tints and unique fragrance (hints of coriander). Attracts birds; tolerates poor soil, drought, black walnut.



Prairie Sundrops (*Oenothera pilosella*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loamy

Height: 1'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jun-Jul

Root Type: Rhizome

A relative of the evening primrose. Reseeds in favorable conditions but easy to remove. Flowers attract bees, butterflies, flies, and skippers. Hosts a few moths and smaller insects. Foliage is occasionally eaten by rabbits.



Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 3'-4'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Jun-Aug

Root Type: Fibrous

A must in the butterfly garden. Flowers attract bees, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts several moths, including the wavy lined emerald and sunflower moths, and the silvery checkerspot butterfly. Seeds are sought after by goldfinches.



Purple Prairie Clover (*Dalea purpurea*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Taproot

Nitrogen fixer; hard, easy to grow in poor soil; drought tolerant. Reseeds in favorable conditions. Flowers attract bees (including several specialist species), wasps, flies, small butterflies, skippers, and beetles. Hosts the dogface sulphur and Reakirt's blue butterflies, as well as a number of smaller insects. Readily eaten by mammalian herbivores.



Rough Blazing Star (*Liatris aspersa*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-3'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Corm

Easy to grow in well drained, poor soils. Flowers attract bees, flies, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts the rare glorious flower moth. Foliage is readily eaten by mammals, and rodents may feed on the corms.



Sawtooth Sunflower (*Helianthus grosseserratus*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 3'-12'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Aug-Oct

Root Type: Rhizome

Flowers attract bees, flies, butterflies, moths, and beetles.

Hosts the silvery checkerspot and gorgone checkerspot

butterflies; sunflower borer, arge tiger and ruby tiger

moths; grasshoppers, and some smaller insects. Seeds

feed a wide variety of gamebirds, songbirds, and small

mammals. Deer occasionally browse foliage, and

groundhogs and rabbits commonly feed on young plants.



Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 15'-40'; Spread: 15'-40'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: April

Multi-stemmed, shrub-like tree. April flowers

give way to small, round berries in June that

can be used in jams, jellies, and pies. Nice fall

color; great understory tree; attractive to

birds.



Showy Goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Loam, Sand, Rocky

Height: 1'-3'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct

Root Type: Fibrous

Flowers attract bees, wasps, and beetles, occasionally

butterflies and moths. A potential host to at least 45

species of moth, including the ruby tiger and goldenrod

flower moths, and many other smaller insects.

Goldfinches eat seeds to a limited extent. Foliage is

occasionally browsed by a wide variety of herbivores.



Smooth Ironweed (*Vernonia fasciculata*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 2'-5'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Flowers attract mainly long-tongued bees, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts several moths including the red groundling and parthenice tiger moth. Bitter foliage deters grazing.



Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 6'-12'; Spread: 6'-12'

Bloom Color: Green/Yellow; Bloom Time: March

Leaves are aromatic when crushed and turn bright yellow in fall. The larva (caterpillar) of the spicebush swallowtail butterfly feeds on the leaves. Tolerates deer, drought, heavy shade, clay soil. Needs both male and female plants to set fruit.



Spotted Joe-Pye Weed (*Eutrochium maculatum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Silty Loam, Sandy Loam, Humus

Height: 4'-7'

Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Rhizome

Wetland loving. Flowers attract bees, flies, butterflies, skippers, and moths. Hosts moths including the three-lined flower moth and ruby tiger moth, and some leaf bugs and some smaller insects. Not preferred but occasionally browsed by herbivores.



Stiff Goldenrod (*Oligoneuron rigidum*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil

Type: Adaptable

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Sep-Oct

Root Type: Fibrous

Showy fall color; adaptable to soil type and moisture.

Flowers attract bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, and beetles. Typical of goldenrods, it hosts 45+ species of moth, and some other small insects. Goldfinches may feed on the seeds. Commonly browsed by a variety of mammals.



Swamp Rose Mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Loamy, Silty, Sandy

Height: 3'-6'

Bloom Color: White/Pink; Bloom Time: Jul-Sep

Root Type: Rhizome

Wetland loving native hibiscus, blooms best in full sun.

Flowers attract bees, including one obligate species, and hummingbirds. Hosts the checkered skipper, the grey hairstreak and painted lady butterflies, moths including the yellow scallop, lo, and pearly wood nymph, and other small insects. Vulnerable to Japanese beetles.



Sweet Black-Eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia subtomentosa*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Sandy Loam

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Flowers attract bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, skippers, and beetles. Hosts the silvery checkerspot butterfly, moths such as the wavy-lined emerald, and some smaller insects.



Sweet Flag (*Acorus americanus*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Muck, Shallow Water
Height: 2'-3'
Bloom Color: Green; Bloom Time: May-June
Root Type: Rhizome
Colony forming in shallow standing water, boggy conditions, and consistently moist soil. Hosts a few species of leaf beetle. Muskrats occasionally feed on various parts of the plant.



Sweet Joe-Pye Weed (*Eutrochium purpureum*)

Light: Part Sun/Shade, Shade
Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam
Height: 4'-6'
Bloom Color: Pink; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug
Root Type: Fibrous
Flowers attract long-tongued bees, skippers, moths, monarch and swallowtail butterflies. Most shade tolerant; prefers wetter soils if in sunny areas. Hosts moths such as the three-lined flower moth, common plume moth, and ruby tiger moth, as well as other small insects. Sparingly browsed by deer.



Switch Grass (*Panicum virgatum*)

Light: Full Sun to part shade
Soil Moisture: Medium to wet
Height: 2'-3'; Spread: 1.5'-2'
Bloom Color: Pink tinged; Bloom Time: Jul-Feb
Blue-green foliage turns deep wine red in early summer; topped in mid-summer by finely-textured, pink-tinged, branched flower panicles with seeds. Good fall/winter interest and a food source for birds in winter. Tolerates drought, black walnut, air pollution.



Tall Coreopsis (*Coreopsis tripteris*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 6'-8'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Rhizome

Established plants are drought tolerant. Flowers attract bees, wasps, flies, butterflies, skippers, and beetles. Hosts moths, including the dimorphic grey and wavy-lined emerald, and smaller insects. New growth is occasionally browsed by mammals.



Tall Ironweed (*Vernonia gigantea*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Clay Loam, Silt Loam, Sandy Loam

Height: 4'-9'

Bloom Color: Purple; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Capable of interbreeding with other ironweeds. Flowers attract bees, flies, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts moths such as ironweed borers and the parthenice tiger moth, the four-spotted tree cricket, the short-winged meadow katydid, and some other smaller insects. Bitter foliage is avoided by browsers such as deer.



White Prairie Clover (*Dalea candida*)

Light: Full Sun

Soil Moisture: Medium Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 1'-2'

Bloom Color: White Time: May-Jul

Tiny white flowers in dense, cylindrical, elongated, cone-like heads (to 3" long) bloom in summer bottom to top, forming a dense ruff that slowly moves up the flower head. Nitrogen fixing plant with a deep taproot so it tolerates drought. Attracts butterflies; host to larvae of clouded sulphur, marine blue, Reakirt's blue, and southern dogface.



White Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet, Wet Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Humus, Muck

Height: 2'-4'

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: Aug-Sep

Root Type: Fibrous

Plant in fertile wet soils; tolerates seasonal flooding. Flowers attract bumblebees and hummingbirds. Hosts the Baltimore checkerspot butterfly, moths such as the turtlehead borer moth, and some smaller insects. Bitter foliage and generally avoided by herbivores.



Wild Bee Balm (*Monarda fistulosa*) (Bergamot)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic, Dry; Soil Type: Adaptable

Height: 2'-4'

Bloom Color: Lavender; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Rhizome

Showy mint relative; prefers well-drained soils. Supports mainly long tongued pollinators such as long-tongued bees, bee flies, butterflies, skippers, and hummingbird moths, as well as hummingbirds. Hosts the hermit sphinx and grey marvel moths. A mild herby taste makes foliage unpalatable to browsers.



Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)

Light: Part Sun/Shade, Shade

Soil Moisture: Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 1'

Bloom Color: Light Purple; Bloom Time: Apr-May

Root Type: Rhizome

Can adapt to drier, poorer soils. Flowers attract bees (including a specialist species), flies, butterflies, and skippers. Hosts the bridled arches, omnivorous leafroller, and geranium budworm moths, and a few smaller insects. Deer occasionally browse foliage.



Wild Iris (northern blue) (Iris versicolor)

Light: Full Sun, Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium, Wet; Soil Type: Loam

Height: 2'-2.5'

Bloom Color: Light Purple; Bloom Time: May-Jun

Root Type: Rhizome

Flowering stalks rise from clump to 30" tall in late spring, produce bluish-purple flowers with bold purple veining. Fall sepals have a central yellow blotch surrounded by a white zone. Rhizome is poisonous-use gloves when handling. Tolerates deer; attracts hummingbirds.



Wild Senna (Senna hebecarpa)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic; Soil Type: Loam, Sandy Loam, Rocky Loam

Height: 3'-5'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug

Root Type: Taproot

May need staking in open conditions. Flowers attract bees, ants, beetles, and flies. Hosts the cloudless sulphur butterfly, and moths such as the black witch and common tan weave. Seeds are occasionally eaten by game birds. Rarely browsed by mammals.



Winged Sumac (Rhus copallinum)

Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium dry

Height: 5'-7'; Spread: 6'-10'

Bloom Color: Greenish yellow; Bloom Time: Jul-Aug
Effective for erosion control; male and female plants spread by suckering. Pollinated female flowers produce showy fruiting clusters that contain hairy, berry-like drupes which ripen in autumn, gradually turning maroon-brown through much of the winter. Fruit is attractive to wildlife. Leaves turn flame red in autumn. Tolerates rabbits, poor soil.



Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*)

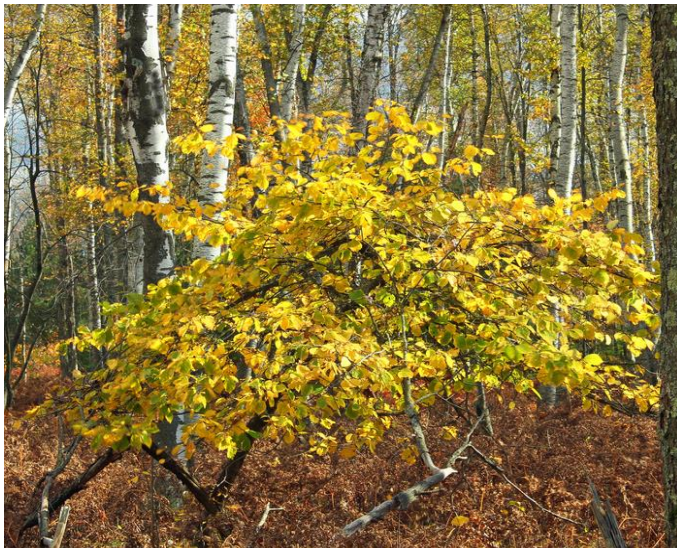
Light: Full Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 6'-12'; Spread: 6'-12'

Bloom Color: Greenish White; Bloom Time: Jun-Jul
Only fertilized female flowers will produce red berries that are the signature of the species.

Generally, one male winterberry will be sufficient for pollinating 6-10 female plants. Flowers appear on new growth; prune in early spring. Berries are showy and will last through winter. Tolerates wet and clay soil; attracts birds.



Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)

Light: Sun to Part Shade

Soil Moisture: Medium

Height: 10'-15'; Spread: 10'-15'

Bloom Color: Yellow; Bloom Time: Oct-Nov

Leaves turn bright yellow in the fall sometimes hiding blooms. There are many medicinal uses for the leaves and bark of witch hazel. Mildly drought tolerant; spreads by suckering.



Woodland Stonecrop (*Sedum ternatum*)

Light: Full Sun, Part Sun/Shade, Shade

Soil Moisture: Wet Mesic, Mesic, Dry Mesic; Soil Type: Humus, Loam, Rocky Loam

Height: 2"-4"

Bloom Color: White; Bloom Time: May

Root Type: Rhizome

Somewhat drought resistant but protect from midday sun. Generally adaptable. Flowers attract mainly bees, but occasionally wasps and flies. Hosts a few smaller insects. Chipmunks may feed on roots.

Common Name	Scientific Name	Garden location*
American Cranberry Bush	<i>Viburnum opulus v.americanum</i>	North
American Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Northwest
Arrowwood viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	North
Autumn Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>	Northwest
Black Chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	South
Blue False Indigo	<i>Baptisia australis</i>	Northeast
Blue Flag Iris	<i>Iris virginica shrevei</i>	West
Blue Mist Flower	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>	Northeast
Blue Star Willow	<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i>	South
Blue Vervain	<i>Verbena hastata</i>	North
Bottle Gentian	<i>Gentiana andrewsii</i>	South
Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	North
Buttonbush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	West
Common Arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	West
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	Northeast
Common Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>	North
Common Ninebark	<i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i>	Northeast
Compass Plant	<i>Silphium laciniatum</i>	South
Coral Bells	<i>Heuchera americana</i>	North
Culver's Root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>	South
Cup Plant	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i>	South
Dense Blazing Star	<i>Liatris spicata</i>	North
Early Goldenrod	<i>Solidago juncea</i>	Northwest
Eastern Redbud	<i>Cercis canadensis</i>	Northeast
Fragrant Sumac	<i>Rhus aromatica</i>	North
Gray Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemose</i>	South
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	North
Green-Headed Coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	South
Hairy Penstemon	<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>	East
Hollow Joe-Pye Weed	<i>Eutrochium fistulosum</i>	West
Lance-Leaf Coreopsis	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i>	Center
Lead Plant	<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Center
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	East
Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	South
Marsh Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	South
Meadow Blazing Star	<i>Liatris ligulistylis</i>	North
Nannyberry viburnum	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	North
New England Aster	<i>Symphiotrichum novae-angliae</i>	East

Common Name	Scientific Name	Garden location*
Nodding Wild Onion	Allium cernuum	South
Northern Sea Oats	Chasmanthium latifolium	East
Ohio Spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis	Northeast
Pink Turtlehead	Chelone obliqua	Southwest
Plains Coreopsis	Coreopsis palmata	Center
Prairie Blazing Star	Liatris pycnostachya	North
Prairie Dropseed	Sporobolus heterolepis	East
Prairie Sundrops	Oenothera pilosella	East
Purple Coneflower	Echinacea purpurea	East
Purple Prairie Clover	Dalea purpurea	Center
Rough Blazing Star	Liatris aspersa	North
Sawtooth Sunflower	Helianthus grosseserratus	Northwest
Serviceberry	Amelanchier laevis	Center
Showy Goldenrod	Solidago speciosa	Northwest
Smooth Ironweed	Vernonia fasciculata	North
Spicebush	Lindera benzoin	Center
Spotted Joe Pye Weed	Eutrochium maculatum	West
Stiff Goldenrod	Oligoneuron rigidum	Northwest
Swamp Rose Mallow	Hibiscus noscheutos	West
Sweet Black-Eyed Susan	Rudbeckia subtomentosa	East
Sweet Flag	Acorus americanus	West
Sweet Joe-Pye Weed	Eutrochium purpureum	West
Switch Grass	Panicum virgatum	East
Tall Coreopsis	Coreopsis tripteris	East
Tall Ironweed	Vernonia gigantea	South
White Prairie Clover	Dalea candida	Center
White Turtlehead	Chelone glabra	South
Wild Bee Balm	Monarda fistulosa	South
Wild Geranium	Geranium maculatum	North
Wild Iris	Iris versicolor	West
Wild Senna	Senna hebecarpa	South
Winged Sumac	Rhus copallinum	East
Winterberry	Ilex verticillata	South
Witch Hazel	Hamamelis virginiana	South
Woodland Stonecrop	Sedum ternatum	North
	*Refers to original plant site; several plants have migrated to other locations.	