

# White Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

White yarrow is an herbaceous perennial in the Aster family with an extended bloom lasting from May to September. The plant's scientific name comes from the Latin term, “a thousand leaves.” These leaves have been used by Native Americans to cure stomach issues, treat infected wounds, and repel mosquitos.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	Sand - Loam	Dry – Avg.	1 – 3 ft.



# Nodding Onion (*Allium cernuum*)

Nodding onion is a perennial that blooms a pale pink flower in mid to late summer. Interestingly, one of the most common areas this plant is found is along roadsides and railroad embankments.

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	Sand - Loam	Moist – Avg.	< 2 ft.



# Wild Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*)

Wild columbine is a perennial herb with red, downward facing flowers that hold bloom March through July. One of wild columbine's most famous pollinators is the hummingbird. This plant, including its seeds, have been used in many ethnobotanical remedies as well as in perfume and tobacco products.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	All	Moist – Avg.	1 – 3 ft.



# Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Swamp milkweed is a long-lived, slow-growing perennial with fragrant pink/purple flowers.

The downy parachutes (comas) that are attached to the seed are incredibly light in the air and buoyant in the water but are 5x warmer than wool. The swamp milkweed is fairly deer-resistant and is known for attracting the monarch and queen butterflies.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	Clay - Loam	Damp	3 - 5 ft.

# Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Common milkweed is a perennial herb with a hairy stem, hairy leaves, and small flowers that are a rose/purple color. Milkweeds contain cardiac glycosides that are poisonous to humans when ingested in large doses but are easily consumed by butterflies. Many indigenous peoples used common milkweed in ethnobotanic recipes for chest and stomach pain as well as contraception.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	All	Avg. - Moist	2 – 5 ft.

# Butterfly Weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)

Butterfly weed is a perennial herb with hairy stems, velvety leaves, and showy flowers that range from yellow to orange to red. Milkweeds, like butterfly weed, are the only plants where monarch butterflies will lay their eggs and monarch larvae will feed.

Butterfly weed roots were used extensively in ethnobotanical practices and was even listed in the U.S Pharmacopoeia from 1820 to 1905.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	All	Moist – Damp	1 – 2 ft.



# Smooth Blue Aster (*Aster laevis*)

Smooth blue aster is a perennial forb with thick, stout leaves and pale, blue ray flowers with yellow disks that bloom August to October. Along with attracting butterflies for pollination, smooth blue aster also attracts white-tailed deer, as it is very palatable to them. This plant will grow back after deer consumption, however, herbicides especially those used on quack grass, can damage the aster's establishment.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	All	Moist – Avg.	1 – 6 ft.



# Sand Coreopsis (*Coreopsis Lanceolata*)

Sand coreopsis is a perennial forb that blooms a bright yellow flower from April to June. The plant is fairly tolerable and low maintenance with its favorite conditions being sandy soil, as the name suggests. Sand coreopsis can be found throughout many of Michigan's sand dunes.

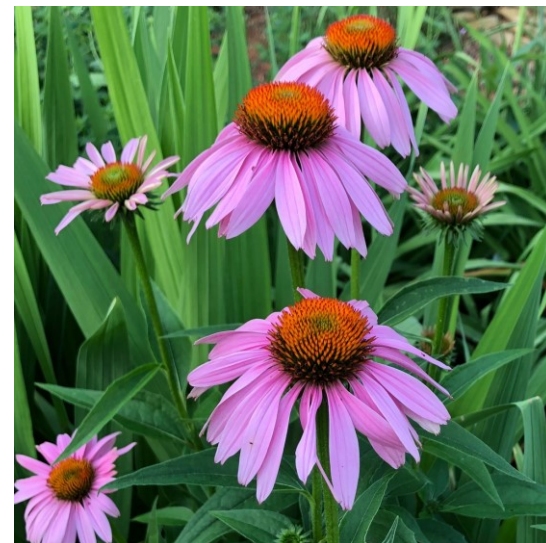


Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	Sand - Loam	Moist – Avg.	1 – 3 ft.

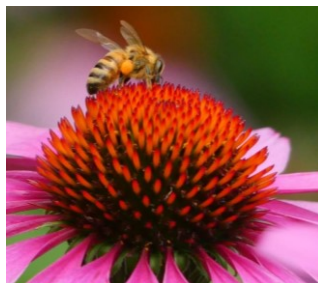


# Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea purpurea*)

Purple coneflower is a long lived perennial herb that blooms a flower with purple petals and a characteristic spikey cone in the center. The plant is named after the Greek word *echinos*, meaning “hedgehog,” the quills of which resemble the center of the flower. The plant is also called snakeroot and scurvy root, because of its ethnobotanical uses against snakebites, sicknesses, and other ailments.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	All	Moist – Avg.	1 – 3 ft.



# Meadow Blazing Star (*Liatris ligustylis*)

Meadow blazing star is a perennial wildflower that blooms purple, fluffy disk flowers in the late summer and early fall. Meadow blazing star is known for attracting many pollinators including monarch butterflies. Goldfinches may also be found around the plant, as they enjoy the seeds.

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	Loam - Sand	Avg.	3 – 5 ft.





# Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*)

Cardinal flower is a very unique herbaceous perennial that blooms a bright red, two-lipped flower in late summer. The nectar of the flowers is very attractive to butterflies and hummingbirds. The cardinal flower served many ethnobotanical purposes, and according to the Pawnee Native American legend, the plant's roots and flowers could be used to create a strong love charm as well.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	Loam	Moist - Damp	2 – 5 ft.



EXTENSION





# Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Great blue lobelia is an herbaceous perennial that blooms a purple-blue two-lipped flower in late summer. The nectar of these flowers is a favorite of the butterflies and hummingbirds. The great blue lobelia has many ethnobotanical uses, especially in conjunction with the cardinal flower; however, alone, the Meskwaki believed the great blue lobelia could be consumed by husband and wife as an anti-divorce remedy.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Shade	Loam	Moist – Damp	2 – 4 ft.

# Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Wild bergamot is an herbaceous perennial with branched hairy stems and two-lipped flowers blooming from June to September, typically a pink/purple color. Many different tribes used wild bergamot for a variety of reasons, including flavoring food and beverages as well as treating ailments and acne.

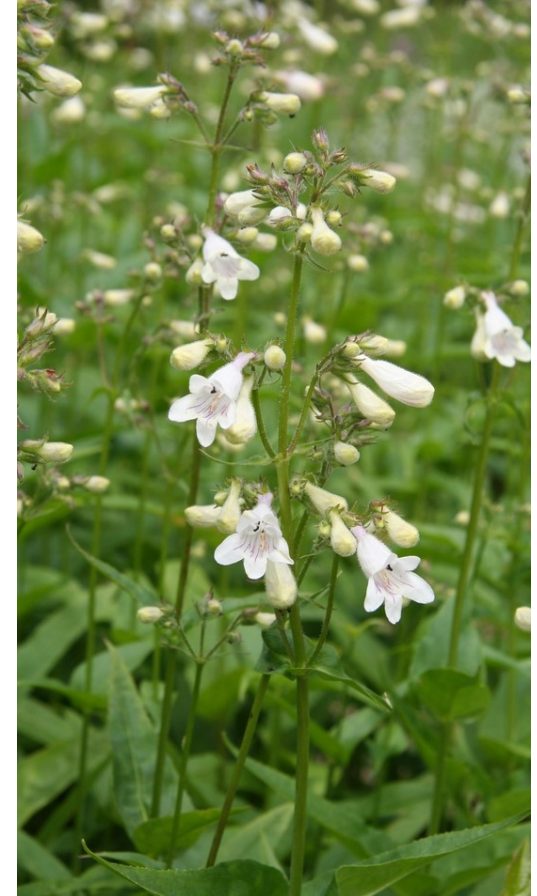
Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full - Partial	Clay	Moist	2 – 4 ft.





# Foxglove Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Foxglove beardtongue is an herbaceous perennial that blooms a white tubular flower around May/June. This plant is utilized by many long tongued pollinators like hummingbirds. The two-spotted bumble bee is another pollinator that enjoys the early bloom of the Foxglove Beardtongue.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	All	Moist – Avg.	3 – 4 ft.



# Wild Quinine (*Parthenium integrifolium*)

Wild quinine is a perennial herbaceous forb with long lasting flowers that are gray/white and clumped together. Wild quinine is a hardy plant, as it is tolerant to both hot and cold weather. Due to its robust nature, however, wild quinine has been known to displace other vegetation in the area if not properly managed.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	Loam – Clay	Dry	1 – 4 ft.

# Brown-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia triloba*)

Brown-eyed susan is a bushy perennial with one of the smaller *Rudbeckia* flower types. The flower is bright yellow with a brown disk that sometimes reveals a thin red ring around it, blooming late summer through fall. Brown-eyed susan is a fairly low maintenance plant, as it is deer and drought resistant and tolerable of a variety of soils. Notably, brown-eyed susan is an important host plant for the silvery checkerspot caterpillar and wavy-lined emerald larvae.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	Loam - Clay	Avg. – Moist	3 – 5 ft.

# Showy Goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*)

Showy goldenrod is an herbaceous perennial that blooms a cluster of small yellow flowers from August to October. This wildflower attracts a wide variety of pollinators as well as songbirds and wavy-lined emerald larvae. It was once believed that goldenrods were the cause of hay fever, but that has since been disproven.

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	All	Moist – Avg.	3 – 7 ft.



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# Hoary Vervain (*Verbena stricta*)

Hoary vervain is a perennial plant that blooms multiple small, purple/blue flowers on stalks late July through August. Hoary vervain is attractive to pests like lygus bugs but also pollinators such as digger bees, small carpenter bees, and bumble bees.

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	All	Avg. - Dry	2 – 4 ft.



# Golden Alexander (*Zizia aurea*)

Golden Alexander is a perennial forb in the carrot family that blooms small, bright-yellow flowers that cluster into a flat top bundle through May/June. The serrated, ovate leaves tend to turn light purple along with the fruit in the fall. Golden Alexander is a fairly low maintenance plant, preferring full sun and moist soil but can tolerate the opposite conditions as well.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	Loam	Moist – Avg.	1 – 2 ft.



# Prairie Junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*)

Prairie junegrass is a perennial, cool season bunch grass that begins greening early in the spring. This grass is often used for grazing livestock and wildlife as well as for revegetation and erosion control. Prairie junegrass is quite tolerable of rocky areas, however, it can be vulnerable to insects like the striped flea beetle for example.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	Sand - Loam	Avg.	0.5 – 2 ft.



# Switchgrass (*Panicum Virgatum*)

Switchgrass is a perennial warm-season grass that typically greens in late spring to early summer. Switchgrass has a white patch of hair where the leaf attaches to the stem, and the stem is rounded with a red tint color. This is another plant great for erosion control and livestock grazing, as well as wildlife habitat for pheasants, quail, and rabbits. Switchgrass is, however, vulnerable to pests like grasshoppers and diseases such as seedling blight and leaf rust.



Ted Bodner

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	Sand - Loam	Avg.	3 – 5 ft.

# Prairie Dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*)

Prairie dropseed is a dense arching tuft grass with aromatic seed heads forming in August and then turning a yellow to orange color in the fall. Prairie dropseed is a tough, drought tolerant plant. It is also deer resistant and provides food and cover for wildlife.



Mervin Wallace

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	Sandy - Loam	Dry – Avg.	1 – 2 ft.

# Jack in the Pulpit (*Arisaema triphyllum*)

Jack in the pulpit is a long lived perennial that blooms a unique green and maroon striped spathe with small flowers and red berries in March – June. The leaves and fruits of Jack in the pulpit contain calcium oxalate which can irritate the skin, so gloves are recommended when handling.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Shade	Loam	Moist - Damp	1 – 2 ft.



# Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*)

Wild ginger is a unique plant with large heart shaped leaves that covers the burgundy flowers underneath, which usually bloom in early Spring. The flowers are located close to the ground to attract hungry flies that rise early in the spring looking for food. The flies enter the flower to eat the pollen, accumulating pollen on their skin in the process, which aids in pollination for the plant. The seeds also produce an elaiosome which is similar to a piece of food attached to the seed. Ants will often take this treat to their nest and eat the elaiosome, leaving the seed to germinate.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Shade	Loam	Moist - Damp	< 1 ft.

# Turtlehead (*Chelone glabra*)

Turtlehead is a clump-forming wildflower with lanceolate leaves and showy pink/white flowers blooming from July to October. This low maintenance wildflower is native to almost the entire half of the eastern United States and Canada. Turtleheads are known for attracting pollinators like the Baltimore checkerspot and common buckeye butterflies.



Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full – Partial	Loam	Moist	3 – 4 ft.

# Compass Plant (*Silphium laciniatum*)

The compass plant is a perennial in the sunflower family that blooms large, yellow flower clusters at the top portion of the stem June through August. The plant's common name comes from the leaves' tendencies to point north and south to avoid the heat of the afternoon sun. Compass plants are popular for livestock grazing and wildlife attraction, as birds and mammals like to consume the seeds.



Jeff McMillian

Sun	Soil	Moisture	Height
Full	Clay - Loam	Moist	5 – 9 ft.