

Native Plants of Michigan

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SITE/SOIL	SUN AVAILABILITY	OTHER NOTES
American Elderberry	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	Mesic woodlands; savanna grasses are often part of this community.		Native shrub
American Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	Oak savanna site.		Native shrub
Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>	Mesic woodlands; savanna grasses are often part of this community.		Native tree
Big Bluestem Grass	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	All textures of soils except organic; all drainage conditions.	Full sun grass	Woodland Community
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Oak savanna site.		Native tree
Bloodroot	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>		Best for shaded areas	Native perennial; suitable for use as groundcover.
Bottle Brush Grass	<i>Hystrix patula</i>		Full sun/part shade area	Native grass
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Oak savanna site or mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are often part of the community		Native tree
Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>		Full sun/part shade area	Native perennial
Canadian Wild Rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	All textures of soils except organic; all drainage conditions.	Full sun/part shade area	Native grass
Dark-green Bullrush	<i>Scirpus atrovirens</i>	Organic soils; somewhat poorly drained or poorly-drained soils without artificial drainage		Best suited for marshy soils which provide wet conditions.
Dutchman's Breeches	<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i>		Best for shaded areas	Native perennial
Grey Dogwood	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are often part of the community		
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	Floodplain forest area		Native tree
Indian Grass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	Sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam, and clay loam textures; well and moderately well drained soils.	Full sun grass	Native grass
Junegrass	<i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	oak savanna community		Native grass
Little Bluestem Grass	<i>Andropogon scoparius</i>	oak savanna community	Full sun grass	Native grass
May Apple	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i>		Best for shaded areas	Native perennial
New Jersey Tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	Oak savanna community		Native shrub
Pennsylvania Sedge	<i>Carex pennsylvanica</i>	Sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam, and clay loam textures; well and moderately well drained soils.		Native sedge; suitable for use as groundcover
Prairie Cord Grass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	Wet conditions are favorable; usually found in wet prairie	Full sun grass	Native grass
Purple Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>	Oak savanna community		Native grass
Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are abundant		Native tree
Rough Blazing Star	<i>Liatris aspera</i>	Oak savanna community		Native perennial
Shagbark hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>	Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are often found; oak savanna.		Native tree
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	Floodplain forest		Native tree
Swamp White Oak	<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are abundant		
Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	Sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam and clay loam textures; well and moderately well-drained soils	Full sun grass	Native grass
Trillium	<i>Trillium grandiflorum</i>		Best for shaded areas suitable for use as	Native perennial; groundcover
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>	Oak savanna; Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are often abundant		Native tree
Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>		Best for shaded areas	Native perennial
Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>		Best for shaded areas	Native perennial

Native Wetland Plants of Michigan

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SITE/SOIL	SUN AVAILABILITY	OTHER NOTES
Beggar-Ticks	<i>Bidens frondosa</i>	Moist, open ground, stream banks and roadsides		Provides food and cover for ducks.
Button Bush	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	Low wet ground, swamps, bogs, and lake edges.		Good source of nectar
Common Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	Soil provides generally wet conditions often marshy area.		Native perennial
False Solomon's Seal	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	Woods and shaded edges; moist soil	Partial to full shade	Decorative
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	Wooded bottomland, stream banks, moist meadows, and floodplains.		
Marsh Marigold	<i>Caltha palustris</i>	Calcareous wet soil communities; fens.		Native perennial
Nannyberry	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	Woods, swamps, roadsides.		
Northern Arrow-Wood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum recognitum</i>	Swamps, boggy woods, swampy pastures and stream banks		
Obedient Plant or False Dragonhead	<i>Physostegia virginiana</i>		Full sun/part shade forb	Native perennial
Red-Osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	Swamps, moist fields and thickets		
Silky Dogwood	<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Moist woods, meadows, old fields, and swamps.		Fruit are an excellent source of food for wildlife
Smooth Aster	<i>Aster laevis</i>		Full sun/part shade forb	Native perennial
Solomon's Seal	<i>Polygonatum pubescens</i>	Wooded slopes and stream banks		Decorative plant
Southern Arrow-Wood Viburnum	<i>Viburnum dentatum</i>	Swamps, wet woods, and open wetlands.		
Spiderwort	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>		Full sun/part shade forb	Native perennial
Spotted Joe Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	Generally marshy, wet conditions		Native perennial
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	Mesic woodlands where savanna grasses are abundant		Native tree
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	Marshy, wet conditions		Native perennial
Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	Calcareous wet soil communities; fens.		Native perennial
Tussock Sedge	<i>Carex stricta</i>	Sand, loamy sand, sandy loam, loam, silt loam and clay loam textures; well and moderately well-drained soils		Native sedge; generally found in wet conditions.
Virginia Wild Rye	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	All textures of soils except organic; all drainage conditions	Full sun/part shade grass	Native grass
Wild Bergamot/ Bee-balm	<i>Monarda fistulosa/ didyma</i>		Full sun/part shade forb	Native perennial
Winterberry	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	Swamps, bogs, moist woods, and wet shores.		

The following publications may be helpful regarding wetlands plantings and are available from the Washtenaw County MSU Extension (734) 971-0079:

“Water Front Buffer Zones”, MSU Cooperative Extension Service.

“Working with Wet Areas in the Landscape”, Harold Davidson, Department of Horticulture, MSU.

“Shoreline Plants and Landscaping”, A series of water quality fact sheets for residential areas, University of Wisconsin Extension in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.