Recommended Fall Bloomers

Common sneezeweed

(Helenium autumnale)
Yellow, 30-60, sun, wet to mesic. Handling dry flowers/seeds causes sneezing. Plant parts are toxic if eaten. B, Bf.





Bigleaf aster

(Eurybia macrophylla)
White-pink, 12-36, partial to full shade, mesic to drier. Spreads to form ground cover. B.

Spotted Joe Pye weed

(Eutrochium maculatum)
Pink, 36-72, partial to full sun, wet to mesic. Good for rain gardens. B, Bf.





Common boneset

(Eupatorium perfoliatum)
White, 24-60, sun, wet to mesic. Leaves clasp around the stems. B, Bf, F.

Zigzag goldenrod

(Solidago flexicaulis)
Yellow, 12-36, partial to full shade, mesic to drier. Stem often zigzags.
B, Bf, F.



Other species to consider (not shown): jack-in-the-pulpit, common milkweed, evening primrose, fireweed, jewelweed, swamp verbena, native sunflowers, native asters. Spring can be especially hard for pollinators. Flowering shrubs like willow, serviceberry, or cherry can fill the gap.

Native plants can often be purchased from local conservation districts, annual Northern Native Plant sale (Bayfield, WI), native plant nurseries (look for vendors close to your location and check that they are not selling wild-dug plants). You also can collect small amounts of seed for personal use on your national forests and grow your own seedlings.

Sources for More Information

- USDA Forest Service pollinator pages: https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/pollinators/
- Pollinator partnership planting guides: http://pollinator.org/guides_code or the app: http://pollinator.org/bee-smart-app
- Xerces Society planting guide: https://xerces.org/pollinator-conservation/plant-lists/pollinator-plants-great-lakes-region/
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center native plant information: https://www.wildflower.org/plants/
- Michigan State University native plant guide: http://nativeplants.msu.edu/plant_facts/local_info/upper_peninsula
- Natural Resources Conservation Service pollinator programs: https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/help/
- Bayfield Regional Conservancy plant guide: http://www.brcland.org/native-plants.html

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USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Native Plants of the Western Upper Peninsula

- Easy to grow
- Pollinator friendly



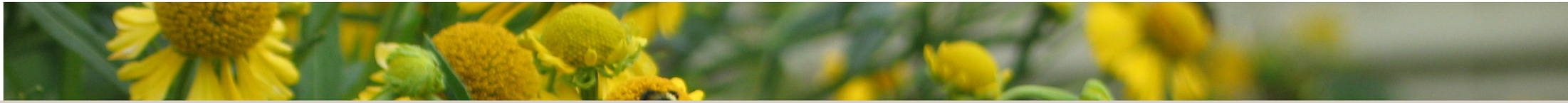








Forest Service Ottawa National Forest



Growing Native Plants

Growing native plants adds habitat and beauty to our lands. Research shows that even small gardens can benefit birds and insect pollinators. Converting lawn to native plants saves mowing and helps pollinators, many of whom are in severe decline. Native plants often require less water and fertilizer than exotic plants.

It is important to provide pollen and nectar through the blooming period—May to late September. There are many plants to choose from; this brochure highlights just a few.

Best practices:

- Help pollinators find nectar and pollen by planting in species clumps.
- Eliminate pesticides whenever possible.
- Leave some down wood and small areas of bare soil for nesting insects.
- Plant in appropriate light, moisture, and soil conditions for the species you select.
- Make sure any plants or seed you plan to use have not been treated with neonicotinoid insecticides. These are extremely toxic and long-persistent.

In our area, pollinators include bees, beetles, birds, butterflies, flies, moths, and wasps. Flowers preferred by bees are often blue, yellow, or bright white. Flowers for butterflies are often red, purple, or other bright colors. Hummingbird flowers are often scarlet, orange, red, or white, with tubular larger flowers. Moth flowers usually open at night.

Each featured plant has characteristics as listed in this order: flower color, height in inches, sun/shade preference, moisture preference (wet, dry or mesic) and comments including typical hosted pollinators (B=bees, F=flies, Bf=butterflies, Bt=beetles, H=hummingbirds).

Recommended Spring Bloomers



Dutchman's breeches
(Dicentra cucullaria)
White, 6-12, partial shade, mesic to drier. Spring ephemeral, gone by late June. Important for bumble bee queens early in season. B, Bf.

Red columbine
(Aquilegia canadensis)
Red and yellow, 12-36, partial shade to sun, mesic to drier. Plant is toxic if eaten. B, H.





Virginia strawberry
(Fragaria virginiana)
White, 2-8, sun/light shade, mesic to drier.
Edible berries. B, Bf, F.

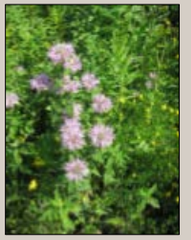
Downy yellow violet
(Viola pubescens)
Yellow, 4-12, shade, mesic. Edible flowers.
B, Bf. Try other violets too.





Canadian anemone
(Anemone canadensis)
White, 8-20, partial shade/sun, wet to mesic. No nectar.
B, Bt, F.

Recommended Summer Bloomers



Wild bergamont
(Monarda fistulosa)
Pink-purple, 24-48, partial shade to sun, mesic to drier. Don't crowd to prevent powdery mildew. Scent of Earl Grey tea. B, Bf, Bt, F, H.

Blackeyed susan
(Rudbeckia hirta)
Yellow, dark center, 12-36, partial shade to sun, mesic to drier. Tolerates drought, gravel, nutrient-poor sites.
B, Bf, Bt, F





False sunflower (smooth ox-eye)
(Heliopsis helianthoides)
Yellow, 24-60, partial to full sun, mesic to drier. Can be aggressive. B, Bf, F.

White turtlehead
(Chelone glabra)
White, 24-48, sun, wet to mesic. Larval host for Baltimore checkerspot. B, H.





Swamp milkweed
(Asclepias incarnata)
Pink, 24-48, sun, wet to mesic. Larval host for monarch butterfly.
B, B, Bf, Bt, F.