

NATIVE FLOWERS

For Gardening and Landscaping



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Smooth White Beardtongue (*Penstemon digitalis*)

Also known as foxglove beardtongue. Beautiful addition to pollinator garden or perennial border. Long blooming period in early summer. "Husker Red" is popular cultivar with dark red leaves.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Dry - moist, well drained	12 - 36"	3-9



Canada Anemone (*Anemone canadensis*)

Dense clusters of bright green leaves topped by classic 1" white anemone flowers. Makes splendid tall groundcover for open damp areas. Long bloom period in late spring.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Dry - wet, flood tolerant	12 - 24"	2-9



Northern Blueflag (*Iris versicolor*)

Narrow sword-shaped leaves stay attractive all season. Spring bloomer with several blue-violet flowers per stem.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Moist - wet, tolerant of standing water	24 - 36"	3-9



Joe-Pye Weed (*Eutrochium* spp.)

Several similar species with tall leafy stems and flat to rounded heads of small pink flowers. Butterfly magnet in mid-late summer. Shorter cultivars now widely available. An essential plant for butterfly and pollinator gardens.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Moist, flood tolerant	36 - 72"	4-8



Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Essential food plant for eastern monarch caterpillars. Bold, handsome foliage and baseball-sized spheres of fragrant pink flowers. Spreading roots can be controlled with simple root barrier.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun	Dry - moist, flood tolerant	36 - 60"	4-9



Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*)

Clumping milkweed, popular for rain and butterfly gardens. Easy to grow with adequate moisture. Smaller and less assertive than common milkweed. Valuable monarch resource.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - light shade	Moist - wet, flood tolerant	24 - 48"	3-9



Great Blue Lobelia (*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Late summer beauty with sturdy spire of blue flowers on leafy stem. Easier to grow than related cardinal flower. May last for decades in garden as long as no competition. Will self-sow on bare disturbed soil. A bumblebee favorite.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - shade	Moist - wet, flood tolerant	24 - 36"	3-9



Wild Bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*)

Grows in clumps, less spreading than many related bee-balms. Late summer lavender flowers draw bees and butterflies. Aromatic foliage. May get powdery mildew in damp weather.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun	Dry - moist, flood and drought tolerant	36 - 48"	3-9



Sneezeweed (*Helenium autumnale*)

This popular garden perennial with its many cultivars is actually a native wildflower often found on prairies and open fields. Valuable butterfly and pollinator plant. Long blooming period in late summer. Wild plants are tall with yellow flowers, but garden cultivars, available in many colors, are shorter and more compact. The common name comes from historic use of dried leaves as snuff.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Moist to wet, tolerant of standing water	36 - 60"	3-8



Smooth Blue Aster (*Symphotrichum laeve*)

Native asters are a valuable late summer resource for butterflies and pollinators. Smooth blue aster has numerous 3/4 inch blue flowers and is a mainstay for a native aster garden. Combine with purple New England aster and heath aster with its tiny white flowers.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - partial shade	Dry - moist	12 - 36"	3-9



Bluets (*Houstonia caerulea*)

Tiny spring wildflower that can form delicate carpets of pale blue on dry sunny sites. A classic rock garden plant and groundcover.

Light	Soil	Height (in)	Zone
Full sun - light shade	Moist to dry. Drought tolerant	2 - 6"	3-9



CONTACT INFORMATION

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