

GLOSSARY

- ❖ **Alien:** a plant that is foreign in origin but that has been successfully established in our area by mistake.
- ❖ **Alternate** (as in leaf or flower arrangement): on either side of each other, not directly across; not opposite.
- ❖ **Anther:** the enlarged part of the stamen that holds the pollen.
- ❖ **Basal:** at the base; as in leaves, at ground level.
- ❖ **Bract:** modified leaves that are associated with the flower; often found below the petals and sepals and are often stiff.
- ❖ **Calyx:** the outer circle of floral leaves (individually known as sepals); usually green, sometimes like petals; may be separate or joined.
- ❖ **Compound** (leaf): divided into separate, smaller leaflets.
- ❖ **Corolla:** the showy inner floral envelope; the segments (called petals) may be separate or joined.
- ❖ **Disk** (in composites): the round or button-like center (like in a daisy) composed of numerous tubular disk flowers, usually surrounded by a circle of ray flowers.
- ❖ **Floweret:** the individual flowers of a composite/aster flower head.
- ❖ **Head:** a crowded cluster of stalk-less, or nearly stalk-less, flowers.
- ❖ **Leaflets:** the smaller, individual parts of a compound leaf.
- ❖ **Lobed** (leaf): Indented, with outer projections rounded.
- ❖ **Native:** originally from this area; not introduced.
- ❖ **Opposite** (leaves, etc.): arranged directly across from each other.
- ❖ **Palmate** (leaf): divided or lobed so as to radiate from one point (as fingers from a palm).
- ❖ **Petal:** one of the segments of the corolla; usually colored; may be joined basally or separate.
- ❖ **Petiole:** the stalk, or stem, of a leaf.
- ❖ **Pistil:** the central female organ of a flower which comprises a swollen ovary at the base, a slender stalk (style) and a divided or knobbed tip (stigma).
- ❖ **Ray flowers:** the flat strap-like blades that encircle the disk flowers (as in a daisy).
- ❖ **Sepal:** an individual segment of the calyx; usually green; a small modified leaf near the rim of the flower.
- ❖ **Sessile:** without a stalk; attached directly.
- ❖ **Simple:** not divided into smaller leaflets; not compound.
- ❖ **Spadix:** a club-shaped stalk on which are crowded tiny blossoms.
- ❖ **Spathes:** the hooded or leaf-like sheath partly enfolding the spadix.
- ❖ **Spur:** a hollow, tubular extension on a flower.
- ❖ **Stamen:** the male flower organ (usually several on one individual) composed of a slender stalk with a knob (anther) at the tip which bears pollen.
- ❖ **Stigma:** the tip of the pistil; often knobbed or divided; sticky.
- ❖ **Stipule:** a small leaf-like appendage at the base of the petiole.
- ❖ **Style:** the slender stalk of the pistil.
- ❖ **Toothed** (leaf edges): jagged, not smooth.
- ❖ **Whorl:** three or more leaves, etc., radiating around a single point.

Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation

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Lindenwood Nature Preserve

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Play well... Live well

Summer Wildflowers

June – Nov. *



*This account describes only wildflowers that normally start blooming in the months of June through November. For flowers which start blooming in March, April and May, see the Spring Wildflowers brochure.

Lindenwood Wildflowers

The wildflowers listed below are those that are most common and most-likely to be seen by park visitors; all species listed have been observed at the preserve in the past. Species are arranged by prominent flower color and then by Family. The months that are listed are the average blooming periods in this region for the flower. See the glossary for any obscure technical vocabulary included in the descriptions. A (*) located after the Family name indicates that certain general family characteristics were given in a previous color section. Note: edibility is not included; for your own benefit, DO NOT ATTEMPT TO INGEST ANY WILD PLANT.

WHITE

Bedstraw (Rubiaceae): tiny flowers are in clusters toward the terminal end of stem; leaves are whorled in groups of 4, 6 or 8.

- **Cleavers** (*Galium aparine*): leaves mostly in whorls of 8. Native. July – Sept.

- **Wild White Licorice** (*Galium circaezans*): leaves very broad and in whorls of 4. Native. June - July

Buckwheat (Polygonaceae)

- **Virginia Knotweed** (*Tovara virginiana*): broad, hairy and alternate leaves with sparse whitish flowers that hug the stem. Native. July – Oct.

Buttercup (Ranunculaceae): in all of the below species (except White Baneberry) flowers do not have “petals”; the structures that are petal-like are really the plants’ sepals, or, modified leaves.

- **Thimbleweed** (*Anemone virginiana*): “petals” often greenish and inconspicuous; fruit head suggests a thimble. Native. July – Aug.

Composite/Daisy (Asteraceae): the largest group of flowering plants. Flower heads consist of several flat strap-shaped flowers (rays) or small tube-like flowers (disks) arranged in a circle around a central disk. What is commonly believed to be the flowers’ petals is in fact one individual flower.

- **Heath Aster** (*Aster ericoides*): ray flowers sometimes tinged pink; leaves are numerous, tiny and thin. Flower heads are not as terminally clustered as in other species. Native. July – Oct.
- **Gall-of-the-earth** (*Prenanthes trifoliata*): leaves are deeply lobed, almost divided, into 3; stems are waxy and reddish. Long bracts on flower heads give the appearance of a very non-aster species; blooms are rarely seen. Native. Sept. – Oct.
- **Ox-eye Daisy** (*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*): the well-known “daisy” has a large, yellow central disk that is depressed in its center. Leaves are dark and narrow, much lobed. Alien. June – Aug.

- **White Snakeroot** (*Euopatorium rugosum*): nearly heart-shaped opposite leaves; flowers have small fuzzy heads arranged in rounded clusters. Native. July – Oct.

- **Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*): soft and aromatic leaves are delicate and fern-like. Flower heads are arranged in flat clusters; the 5 “petals”, really individual flowers, are more petal-like in appearance than in other composites. Alien. June – Aug.

Evening Primrose (Onagraceae)

- **Enchanter’s Nightshade** (*Circaea quadrisulcata*): tiny flowers have 2 deeply notched petals and 2 reflexed sepals; flowers close

after midday. Leaves are paired and irregularly toothed. Native. June – Aug.

Heath (Ericaceae)

- **Wintergreen** (*Gaultheria procumbens*): the thick, shiny, oval-shaped leaves are evergreen and fragrant; stem is creeping with short erect branches. Small, waxy, egg-shaped flowers dangle beneath the leaves. Fruit is fragrant and dry red berry. Native. July – Aug.

Lily (Liliaceae): lily species have bulb roots and flower parts in 3’s or 6’s (except for Wild Lily-of-the-valley); leaves are simple, smooth and parallel-veined.

- **Wild Leek** (*Allium tricoccum*): 2 or 3 broad, smooth, onion-scented leaves wither before the cluster of flowers blooms. Petals are often tinged with pink or purple. Native. June – July

Moonseed (Menispermaceae)

- **Canada Moonseed** (*Menispermum canadense*): a woody climbing vine with large variable leaves, often with 3-7 lobes; leaf bases are not attached to leaf stalks. Clusters of black fruits resemble wild grapes. Native. June – July

Milkweed (Asclepiadaceae)

- **Poke Milkweed** (*Asclepias exaltata*): flowers tinted with lavender or green and are arranged in drooping clusters; the 5 petals are sharply bent backward and support a crown with 5 incurved horns. Leaves are stalked and pointed at both ends. Native. June – Aug.

Nightshade (Solanaceae)

- **Jimsonweed** (*Datura stramonium*): a coarse, erect weed with trumpet-shaped white or pale violet flowers. Alien. June – Sept.

Parsley (Umbelliferae): plants in this family have numerous, small, 5-petaled flowers arranged in umbrella-like clusters (umbels).

- **Honewort** (*Cryptotaenia canadensis*): resembles preceding species but note the slender, ribbed fruit and lack of sepals on florets. Native. June – Sept.

Pokeweed (Phytolaccaceae)

- **Pokeweed or “Poke”** (*Phytolacca americana*): coarse red stems and large leaves. The greenish-white sepals look like petals; flower clusters often paired with leaves and fruit clusters droop. Berries are dark purple or black and have red stems. This plant can easily grow to 10 feet tall. Native. July – Sept.

Rose (Rosaceae)

- **Brambles, Blackberry** (*Rubus* sp.): woody, prickly shrubs. Flowers and leaves resemble wood strawberry. See a tree and shrub guide for further identification.
- **White Avens** (*Geum canadense*): leaves divided into 3’s except for simple upper leaves. Flowers are replaced by bristly seed receptacles. Native. June – Aug.

Wintergreen (Pyrolaceae)

- **Indian Pipe** (*Monotropa uniflora*): translucent, waxy pipes do not resemble flowers and are very unique. The nodding flower is either white or pink and turns black with age; leaves are scale-like. Native. June – Sept.

YELLOW

Composite/Daisy (Asteraceae)*

- **Black-eyed Susan** (*Rudbeckia hirta*): numerous, long daisy-like rays and dark brown central disk; leaves and stem very bristly and hairy. Native. June – Oct.
- **Goldenrod** (*Solidago* sp.): 62 species in our area, all with tiny-rayed blossoms in many plume-like clusters and with linear leaves. Specific identification is difficult. Native. July – Nov.
- **Maryland Golden Aster** (*Chrysopsis mariana*): similar to Golden Ragwort but leaves not dissected and rays more numerous. Native. Aug. – Oct.
- **Sunflower** (*Helianthus* sp.): several wild species, (including pale-leaved, thin-leaved and woodland), all much smaller than the more familiar, cultivated sunflowers. All species have opposite, simple and toothed leaves on smooth hairless stems; broad ray flowerets. Native. July – Oct.
- **Wingstem** (*Verbesina alternifolia*): alternate leaves flow into “wings” on the stem; few (2-8) rays reflex backward from a mop-like center. Native. Aug. – Sept.

Mint (Labiatae): plants in this family are easy to identify due to their square-shaped stems (roll between thumb and forefinger to feel edges) and the aromatic minty odor. Flowers are small and have two “lips”, an upper and a lower, which form a tube called the corolla.

- **Horse Balm** (*Collinsonia canadensis*): flowers are lemon scented; lower lip of corolla is long and slightly fringed with stamens and pistil projecting. Native. July – Sept.

Pea (Fabaceae)

- **Birdfoot Trefoil** (*Lotus corniculatus*): 5-part leaves, center 3 are clover-like in arrangement and 2 at base look like large stipules. Flowers are in clusters of 3-6 and the slender pod suggests a bird’s foot. Alien. June – Sept.

Rose (Rosaceae)

- **Agrimony** (*Agrimonia* sp.): seven species in our area. Compound leaves with large leaflets interspersed with smaller ones; flowers are small and borne in a slender spike-like wand; the hooked seed receptacles stick to clothing. Native. July – Sept.

St. Johnswort (Guttiferae)

- **Spotted St. Johnswort** (*Hypericum punctatum*): toothless leaves; flowers and leaves are conspicuously dotted with black glands. Native. June – Sept.

ORANGE

Lily (Liliaceae)*

- **Day Lily** (*Hemerocallis fulva*): upward-facing unspotted blossoms are only open for one day. Flowering stem is leafless; leaves are long and sword-like. This species is a garden escapee. Alien. June – Aug.

Milkweed (Asclepiadaceae)

- **Butterflyweed** (*Asclepias tuberosa*): stems hairy and not milky when broken; seedpod is spindle-shaped. Native. June – Sept.

Touch-me-not (Balsaminaceae)

- **Spotted Touch-me-not** (*Impatiens capensis*): spotted blossom hangs like a pendant jewel; succulent stems exude juice when broken. Ripe seedpods pop when touched. Native. July – Sept.

PINK / RED

Composite/Daisy (Asteraceae)*

- **Dotted Blazing Star** (*Liatris punctata*): resinous dots on leaves; flower heads supported by pointed, flat bracts with hairy margins. Flower heads sessile and arranged alternately along stem. Native. July – Sept.
- **Field Thistle** (*Cirsium discolor*): upper leaves embrace flower head; sepal-like bracts end in long colorless bristles. Native. July – Oct.
- **Gall-of-the-earth** (*Prenanthes trifoliata*): see description under WHITE
- **New York Ironweed** (*Vernonia noveboracensis*): suggests Sweet Joe-pye-weed but flower clusters more open and flowers deeper in color; leaves alternate and more slender and sessile; hair-like tips on bracts. Native. Aug. – Oct.
- **Sweet Joe-Pye-weed** (*Eupatorium purpureum*): flowers dull and pale in a fuzzy, massive somewhat domed cluster; stems purplish or blackish toward leaf joints; leaves in whorls of 3 or 4; odor of vanilla when crushed. Native. July – Sept.
- **Yarrow** (*Achillea millefolium*): see description under WHITE

Lily (Liliaceae)*

- **Wild Onion** (*Allium stellatum*): showy umbel of 6-pointed lavender flowers; grass-like leaves and bulb reeking of onion. Native. July – Aug.

Lopseed (Phrymaceae)

- **Lopseed** (*Phryma leptostachya*): the only species in its family; broad, coarsely toothed, opposite leaves; slender spike of small lavender or pinkish snapdragon-like flowers; flowers occur in pairs; flowers droop toward stem when ready to seed. Native. July – Sept.

Milkweed (Asclepiadaceae)

- **Common Milkweed** (*Asclepias syriaca*): stout and downy; domed, somewhat drooping flower clusters occur mostly in leaf axils; seedpods are warty. Native. June – Aug.

Pea (Fabaceae)

- **Pointed-leaved Tick-trefoil** (*Desmodium glutinosum*): leaves in slender cluster or whorl at tip of short stem from which the slender flower stalk rises. Native. July – Aug.

Phlox (Polemoniaceae)

- **Garden/Fall Phlox** (*Phlox paniculata*): the familiar phlox used for cultivation; stouter than other species with wider, veinier leaves (lateral veins branch from the central vein). Native. July – Oct.

Rose (Rosaceae)

- **Purple-flowering Raspberry** (*Rubus odoratus*): shrub with maple-shaped leaves and rose-like flowers; reddish-brown stems are sticky and hairy; shallow, cup-shaped berry. Native. June – Aug.

Snapdragon (Scrophulariaceae)

- **Hairy Beardtongue** (*Penstemon hirsutus*): similar to Foxglove Beardtongue (WHITE) but with hairy stem. Native. June – July

Wintergreen (Pyrolaceae)

- **Indian Pipe** (*Monotropa uniflora*): see description under WHITE

BLUE / VIOLET

Bluebell (Campanulaceae)

- **Tall Bellflower** (*Campanula americana*): 5-lobed flowers are flat, not bells, and have a paler ring at the throat; long, curved and recurved style. Native. June – Aug.
- **Great Lobelia** (*Lobelia siphilitica*): largest blue species with white stripes on lower 3 lobes and belly of corolla. Native. Aug. – Sept.

Composite/Daisy (Asteraceae)*

- **New York Ironweed** (*Vernonia noveboracensis*): see description under PINK / RED

Mint (Labiatae)*

- **Downy Woodmint** (*Blephilia ciliata*): flowers in whorls separated by a row of fringed, colored bracts; stem and leaves almost sessile, narrowed at base and downy beneath. Native. June – Aug.

Phlox (Polemoniaceae)

- **Jacob’s-ladder** (*Polemonium van-bruntiae*): loose clusters of bell-shaped flowers; “ladder” of many paired leaflets (15-19). Native. June – July

Snapdragon (Scrophulariaceae)

- **Hairy Beardtongue** (*Penstemon hirsutus*): see description under PINK / RED

Spiderwort (Commelinaceae)

- **Asiatic Dayflower** (*Commelina communis*): 3 petals, upper two are larger and blue, lower one is small and white; simple, broad leaves clasp stem. Alien. June – Oct.