



Collingwood Canopy Program



Native Plant List


Ontario has many native plant species, which have a Common name, as well as the *Species name*. The common name may be different but the species name is always the same. This list covers common native perennial flowering plants and grasses available in garden centres and nurseries. This list does not cover: ferns, sedges, shrubs or trees.

Additional ecological information for plant species:

 Host plants feed caterpillars of approximately 90% of butterfly and moth species.


























 Pollen specialist plants feed certain bees who will only eat the pollen from specific plants. These plants feed both specialist and generalist bees.

Species Name	Common Name		Moisture: Wet, Mesic, Dry	Height	Host Plant and Pollen Specialist Plant
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	White Yarrow	Full	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Many Moth species
<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>	White Baneberry	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-2.5 ft	
<i>Actaea racemosa</i>	Black Cohosh	Part, Shade	Mesic	4-6 ft	 Spring Azure
<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	Anise Hyssop	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-4 ft	
<i>Agastache nepetoides</i>	Yellow Giant Hyssop	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	3-6 ft	
<i>Agastache scrophulariifolia</i>	Purple Giant Hyssop	Full, Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic-Dry	3-6 ft	
<i>Ageratina altissima</i>	White Snakeroot	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Ruby Tiger Moth, various moth species
<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	Pearly Everlasting	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 American Lady, Painted Lady, various Skippers
<i>Allium cernuum</i>	Nodding Onion	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	
<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	Wild Leek	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1 ft	
<i>Amorpha canescens</i>	Lead Plant	Full	Mesic-Dry	1-3 ft	 Southern Dogface Butterfly  <i>Andrena quintilis</i> ,
<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	Big Bluestem	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	3-7 ft	 Northern Pearly-eye, Common-Wood Nymph, various Skippers
<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada Anemone	Full, Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-2 ft	 Veiled ear moth, one-lined Sparganothis moth
<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	Tall Thimbleweed	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	
<i>Antennaria neglecta</i>	Field Pussetoes	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	0.5-1 ft	 American Lady
<i>Apios americana</i>	Ground Nut	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic	Vine	
<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	Wild Columbine	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Columbine Duskywing, Columbine Borer Moth
<i>Aralia racemosa</i>	Spikenard	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	
<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i>	Jack-in-the-Pulpit	Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-2.5 ft	
<i>Argentina anserina</i>	Silverweed Cinquefoil	Full	Wet-Mesic	0.5-1 ft	
<i>Artemisia ludoviciana</i>	White Sage	Full	Dry	2-3 ft	
<i>Asarum canadense</i>	Wild Ginger	Shade	Wet-Mesic	0.5-1 ft	 Pipevine Swallowtail

Species Name	Common Name	Sun: Full, Part, Shade	Moisture: Wet, Mesic, Dry	Height	Host Plant and Pollen Specialist Plant
Asclepias incarnata	Rose Milkweed	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	 Monarch Butterfly
Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-5 ft	 Monarch Butterfly
Asclepias tuberosa	Butterflyweed	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-3 ft	 Monarch Butterfly
Asclepias verticillata	Whorled Milkweed	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-3 ft	 Monarch Butterfly
Astragalus canadensis	Canada Milk Vetch	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	1-3.5 ft	 Western Tailed Blue, Clouded Sulphur
Baptisia australis	Blue Wild Indigo	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-4 ft	 Wild Indigo Duskywing
Bouteloua curtipendula	Side Oats Grama	Full	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	 Leonard's Skipper
Caltha palustris	Marsh Marigold	Full, Part, Shade	Wet	1 ft	
Campanula americana	Tall Bellflower	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	2-5 ft	 Colletes brevicornis, Megachile campanulae
Campanula rotundifolia	Harebell	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-1.5 ft	 Colletes brevicornis
Caulophyllum thalictroides	Blue Cohosh	Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-3 ft	 Black-patched Clepsid Moth
Chelone glabra	Turtlehead	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	 Baltimore Checkerspot
Clematis virginiana	Virgins Bower	Full, Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	Vine	 Brown Bark Carpet Moth, Spotted Thyris
Coreopsis lanceolata	Lance-leaf Coreopsis	Full	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Wavy-lined Emerald, Common Tan Wave
Coreopsis grandiflora	Large-flowered Tickseed	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	 Wavy-lined Emerald  M. coreopsis
Coreopsis tripteris	Tall Coreopsis	Full	Mesic-Dry	3-8 ft	 Wavy-lined Emerald, Common Tan Wave
Cornus canadensis	Bunchberry	Shade	Wet-Mesic	6-12 in	 Eastern Pine Elfin, American Copper
Dalea purpurea	Purple Prairie Clover				 Dogface Sulphur  Pollen specialist to 4 bees
Desmodium canadense	Showy Tick Trefoil	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-6 ft	 Eastern Tailed Blue, Gray Hairstreak Northern Cloudywing butterfly
Echinacea pallida	Pale Purple Coneflower	Full	Mesic-Dry	2.5-3 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly, Wavy-Lined Emerald and Common Eupithecia Moths  Andrea helianthiformis
Echinacea purpurea	Purple Coneflower	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-4 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly, Wavy-Lined Emerald and Common Eupithecia Moths
Elymus canadensis	Canada Wild Rye	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-5 ft	 False Wainscot Moth, Various moth species
Epilobium angustifolium	Fireweed	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2-5 ft	 White-lined Sphinx, Bedstraw Hawkmoth
Erigeron pulchellus	Robin's Plantain	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Lynx Flower, Wavy-Lined Emerald Moth
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Common Boneset	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	 Clymene, Three-Lined, Boneset Borer Moths  Andrea hirticincta, A. nubecula
Eurybia divaricata	Wood Aster	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	
Eurybia macrophylla	Large-leaved Aster	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot, Pearl Crescent, Goldenrod Hooded Owlet  Pollen specialist to 5 bees
Euthamia graminifolia	Flat-topped Goldenrod	Full	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2-4 ft	 various Moth species
Eutrochium maculatum	Spotted Joe Pye Weed	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	3-5 ft	 Three-Lined Flower Moth, Ruby Tiger Moth

Species Name	Common Name	Sun: Full, Part, Shade	Moisture: Wet, Mesic, Dry	Height	Host Plant and Pollen Specialist Plant
Eutrochium purpureum	Sweet Joe Pye Weed	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	3-7 ft	 Ruby Tiger Moth, Three-Lined Flower Moth
Fragaria virginica	Wild Strawberry	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-6 inches	 Grizzled Skipper, Gray Hairstreak
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-3 ft	 White-Marked Tussock, Bridled Arches Moth  <i>Andrea distans</i>
Geum triflorum	Prairie Smoke	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	0.5-1 ft	
Helenium autumnale	Helen's Flower	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	3-5 ft	 Dainty Sulphur, Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly
Helianthus divaricatus	Woodland Sunflower	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	2.6 ft	
Helianthus giganteus	Giant Sunflower	Full	Wet-Mesic	4-10 ft	 Pollen specialist to 6 bees
Helianthus maximiliani	Maximilian Sunflower	Full	Mesic-Dry	3-8 ft	 Silvery checkerspot  Pollen specialist to 5 bees
Heliopsis helianthoides	Sweet Oxeye	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	3-5 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot, Painted Lady Butterfly, Rigid Sunflower Borer Moth
Heuchera richardsonii	Prairie Alumroot	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2 ft	 <i>Colletes aestivalis</i>
Hierochloe odorata	Sweetgrass	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	1-3 ft	
Hydrophyllum virginianum	Virginia Waterleaf	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic-Dry	0.5-1 ft	 <i>Andrea geranii</i>
Hypericum pyramidatum	Great St. John's Wort	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	3-6 ft	 Black Arches, Gray Half-Spot Moth
Hystrix patula	Bottlebrush Grass	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	2-4 ft	
Iris versicolor	Northern Blue Flag Iris	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-3 ft	
Koeleria macrantha	Junegrass	Full	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	Leafhoppers: <i>Auridius helvus</i> and <i>Rosenus cruciatus</i>
Liatriis aspera	Rough Blazingstar	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Glorious Flower Moth
Liatriis cylindracea	Cylindrical Blazing Star	Full	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Glorious Flower Moth
Liatriis spicata	Dense Blazing Star	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-5 ft	 Glorious Flower Moth
Lilium michiganense	Michigan Lily	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	3-5 ft	 Burdock Borer Moth
Lobelia cardinalis	Cardinal Flower	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	
Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	
Lupinus perennis	Wild Lupine	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	 Karner Blue, Frosted Elfin, Wild Indigo & Perseus Duskywing, Orange Sulphur, Painted Lady
Mentha arvensis	Wild Mint	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	1.2 ft	 Summer Azure
Mertensia virginica	Virginia Bluebells	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-2.5 ft	
Mimulus ringens	Monkey Flower	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2 ft	 Common Buckeye, Baltimore Checkerspot
Mitella diphylla	Bishop's Cap	Part, Shade	Mesic	1 ft	
Monarda didyma	Oswego Tea Beebalm	Full	Wet-Mesic	2-3 ft	 Hermit Sphinx Moth, Gray Marvel
Monarda fistulosa	Wild Bergamot	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2-4 ft	 Hermit Sphinx, Snout, Gray Marvel Moths  <i>Dufourea monardae</i>
Monarda punctata	Dotted Beebalm	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Gray Marvel Raspberry Pyrausta, Snout Moth  Pollen specialist to 3 bees

Species Name	Common Name	Sun: Full, Part, Shade	Moisture: Wet, Mesic, Dry	Height	Host Plant and Pollen Specialist Plant
Oenothera biennis	Evening Primrose	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-5 ft	 Primrose Moth, Pearly Wood Nymph, Grape Leafroller Moth, White-Lined Sphinx  <i>Anthedonia compta</i>
Oenothera fruticosa	Prairie Sundrops	Full, Part	Mesic	1-2 ft	 Momphid moths  <i>Lasioglossum oenotherae</i>
Panicum virgatum	Switch Grass	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	3-4 ft	 Skippers: Tawny-edge, Delaware, Leonard's, Indian, Hobomok, Northern Broken-Dash
Packera paupercula	Balsam Ragwort	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1 ft	 Canadian Agonopterix moth,  <i>Andrena gardineri</i>
Penstemon digitalis	Foxglove Beardtongue	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Baltimore Checkerspot  <i>Osmia distincta</i>
Penstemon hirsutus	Hairy Beardtongue	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Baltimore Checkerspot
Penstemon pallidus	Pale Beardtongue	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 Saunder's Sallow Moth  <i>Osmia distincta</i>
Phlox divaricata	Wild Blue Phlox	Shade	Mesic-Dry	1 ft	 Spotted Straw, Olive Arches moths
Physostegia virginiana	Obedient Plant	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-4 ft	
Polemonium reptans	Jacob's Ladder	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	 <i>Andrena polemonii</i>
Polygonatum biflorum	Solomon's Seal	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	1-3 ft	 Black-patched Clepsid Moth
Potentilla arguta	Tall Cinquefoil	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	1-3 ft	
Podophyllum peltatum	Mayapple	Part, Shade	Mesic	1-3 ft	
Pycnanthemum tenuifolium	Slender Mountain Mint	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	
Pycnanthemum virginianum	Mountain Mint	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	1-3 ft	
Ratibida pinnata	Grey-headed Coneflower	Full	Mesic-Dry	3-5 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly, Wavy-Lined Emerald Moth, Common Eupithecia Moth  <i>Andrena rudbeckiae</i>
Rudbeckia hirta	Black-eyed Susan	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	1-2.5 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly, Common Epithelia, Wavy-Lined & Southern Emerald  Pollen specialist to 8 bees
Rudbeckia laciniata	Green-headed Coneflower	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	5-7 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot Butterfly, Wavy-Lined Emerald Moth, Common Eupithecia Moth
Rudbeckia triloba	Brown-eyed Susan	Full, Part	Mesic	2-3 ft	
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot	Shade	Mesic	1 ft	
Schizachyrium scoparium	Little Bluestem	Full	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Skippers: Dusted, Cobweb, Ottoe, Indian, Swarthy, and the Crossline Skipper
Scutellaria lateriflora	Blue Skullcap	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2 ft	 <i>Prochoreutis inflatella</i> Moth
Senna hebecarpa	Wild Senna	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	3-5 ft	 Orange Sulphur, Cloudless Sulphur,
Scrophularia marilandica	Eastern Figwort	Full, Part, Shade			
Silphium laciniatum	Compass Flower	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	4-9 ft	
Silphium perfoliatum	Cup Plant	Full	Wet-Mesic	5-7 ft	
Silphium terebinthinaceum	Prairie Dock	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic-Dry	4-9 ft	

Species Name	Common Name	Sun: Full, Part, Shade	Moisture: Wet, Mesic, Dry	Height	Host Plant and Pollen Specialist Plant
Sisyrinchium montanum	Blue-eyed Grass	Full, Part	Mesic	1 ft	
Solidago caesia	Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	Part, Shade	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Pollen specialist to 9 bees
Solidago flexicaulis	Zigzag Goldenrod	Shade	Wet-Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Moths: Bilobed Dichomeris, Owlet, Twirler  Pollen specialist to 8 bees
Solidago ohioense	Ohio Goldenrod	Full	Wet-Mesic	3 ft	 Moths: Twirler, Geometer, Owlet, Tortricid
Solidago ptarmicoides	White Goldenrod	Full	Mesic-Dry	1-2 ft	
Solidago rigida	Stiff Goldenrod	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	4 ft	 Host over 100 species of caterpillars  Pollen specialist to 14 bees
Solidago speciosa	Showy Goldenrod				 Pollen specialist to 10 bees
Sorghastrum nutans	Indian Grass	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	3-7 ft	 Pepper and Salt Skipper and the Ottoe Skipper.
Sporobolus heterolepis	Prairie Dropseed	Full	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	Red-Tailed Leafhopper
Symphyotrichum cordifolium	Heart-leaved Aster	Shade	Wet-Mesic	3-4 ft	
Symphyotrichum novae angliae	New England Aster	Full	Wet-Mesic	2-5 ft	 Northern and Pearl Crescent Butterfly, Canadian Sonia Moth, American Lady  Pollen specialist to 11 bees
Symphyotrichum laeve	Smooth Aster	Full, Part	Mesic	2-4 ft	 Silvery Checkerspot and Pearl Crescent Butterfly, many moth species
Symphyotrichum oolentangiense	Sky Blue Aster	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Pollen specialist to 9 bees
Symphyotrichum puniceum	Swamp Aster	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-5 ft	
Thalictrum pubescens	Tall Meadow Rue	Part, Shade	Wet-Mesic	3-6 ft	
Tiarella cordifolia	Foamflower	Part, Shade	Mesic	1 ft	
Tradescantia ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	Full, Part	Mesic	2 ft	
Trillium grandifolium	White Trillium	Part, Shade	Mesic	1 ft	
Verbena hastata	Blue Vervain	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	2-5 ft	 Common Buckeye, Verbenna Moth  Calliopsis nebraskensis
Verbena simplex	Narrow-leaved Vervain	Full, Part	Mesic-Dry	2 ft	 Baltimore Checkerspot, Common Buckeye
Verbena stricta	Hoary Vervain	Full	Mesic-Dry	2-3 ft	 Baltimore Checkerspot Common Buckeye Butterfly, Verbenna Moth, Fine-Lined Sallow Moth  Calliopsis nebraskensis
Vernonia gigantea	Tall Ironweed	Full, Part	Wet-Mesic	5-7 ft	 Parthenice Tiger Moth, Red Groundling Moth, and Ironweed Borer Moth
Vernonia missurica	Missouri Ironweed	Full	Wet-Mesic	3-6 ft	 Parthenice Tiger Moth, Painted Lady  Melissodes denticulatus, M vernoniae
Veronicastrum virginicum	Culvers Root	Full, Part	Mesic	3-5 ft	 Culver Root Borer Moth
Viola sororia	Woolly Blue Violet	Full, Part	Mesic	6-8 inches	 Great Spangled Fritillary, Meadow Fritillary  Andrena violae
Zizia aurea	Golden Alexander	Full, Part, Shade	Mesic	1-3 ft	 Black Swallowtail  Andrena ziziae