







Butterfly Project Native Plant Share 2025

Common Name	Latin Name	Height	Spread	Bloom Color	Soil/Moisture Preference	Shade or Sun	Bloom Period	Notes	Picture
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Grasses/Sedges									
big bluestem	Andropogon gerardii (ornamental grass)	4.00 to 6.00 feet	2.00 to 3.00 feet	Purplish red	Dry to medium	Full sun	September to February	Cut stems to the ground in late winter before new shoots appear. Andropogon gerardii - Plant Finder	
white edge sedge	Carex debilis (sedge)	10 to 40 inches	2 to 7 mm wide	Greenish	Medium- Wet	part shade, sun;	June - August	Carex debilis (Weak Sedge): Minnesota Wildflowers	
Pennsylvania sedge	Carex pensylvanica (sedge)	0.50 to 1.00 feet	0.50 to 1.00 feet	Greenish	Dry to medium	Part shade to full shade	May	Carex pensylvanica - Plant Finder	



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broom sedge	Carex scoparia (sedge)	1.00 to 3.5 feet	.5 to 2 inc '	Green, brown, yellowish	Dry-medium	Part shade to full shade	June - August	Carex scoparia (Pointed Broom Sedge): Minnesota Wildflowers	
deer tongue grass	Dichanthelium clandestinum (grass)	1½-4½' tall	½-1½"	green	Medium	part sun	Mostly year round	Deer tongue grass The Morton Arboretum	
purple lovegrass	Eragrostis spectabilis (grass)	1.00 to 2.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet'	Soft reddish-purple	Dry- medium	Full sun	July to August	Tolerate: Drought, Black Walnut, Air Pollution Eragrostis spectabilis - Plant Finder	



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little bluestem	Schizachyrium scoparium (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.50 to 2.00 feet	Purplish bronze	Dry to medium	Full sun	August to February	Attracts: Birds Other: Winter Interest Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut, Air Pollution Schizachyrium scoparium - Plant Finder	
Herbaceous Perennials									
anise hyssop	Agastache foeniculum (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.50 to 3.00 feet	Lavender to purple	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	June to September	Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies Agastache foeniculum - Plant Finder	



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woman's tobacco	Antennaria Plantaginifolia (herbaceous perennial)	0.5'-1'	0.5'-1'	White tinged with pink	Dry to medium	Full sun	April-June	Butterfly attractant, Best grown in lean, gritty to rocky, dry to medium moisture, Antennaria plantaginifolia - Plant Finder	
eastern red columbine	Aquilegia canadensis (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 3.00 feet	1.00 to 1.50 feet	Light pink/yellow to blood red/yellow	medium	Full sun to part shade	April to May	Attracts: Hummingbirds Remove flowering stems after bloom to encourage additional bloom. Aquilegia canadensis - Plant Finder	



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blue columbine	Aquilegia coerulea (Herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	Blue & white	Medium	Full sun to part shade	April to May	<p>Attracts: Birds Keep soils uniformly moist after bloom to prolong attractive foliage appearance.</p> <p>Aquilegia caerulea - Plant Finder</p>	
swamp milkweed	Asclepias incarnata 'Cinderella' (Herbaceous perennial)	3-5 feet	1-3 feet	Pink	Average, moist	Full sun to part shade	Summer, late summer	<p>Fragrant, slowly spreading, long blooming period (3 months)</p> <p>Asclepias incarnata 'Cinderella' swamp milkweed from North Creek Nurseries</p>	

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showy milkweed	Asclepias speciosa (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 3.00 feet	1.00 to 1.50 feet	Purplish rose	Dry to medium	Full sun	May to June	<p>Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies</p> <p>Once established, it is best to leave plants undisturbed because they develop deep taproots which make transplanting difficult.</p> <p>Asclepias speciosa - Plant Finder</p>	
common milkweed	Asclepias syriaca (herbaceous perennial)	2'-3'	0.75'-1'	Pink, mauve, white	Dry to medium	Full sun	June to August	<p>Butterflies attractant</p> <p>Can spread somewhat rapidly by rhizomes.</p> <p>Asclepias speciosa - Plant Finder</p>	



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Maryland goldenaster	Chrysopsis mariana (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.50 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	Yellow	Dry-medium	Full sun to part shade	August to October	Drought and shade tolerant, butterfly attractant Eurybia divaricata - Species NYBG Plant Tracker	
field thistle	Cirsium discolor (herbaceous perennial)	2-8'	3'	light pink	Medium-wet	Full sun	August to september	Pasture Thistle (Cirsium discolor)	
richweed	Collinsonia canadensis (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.00 to 3.00 feet	Light yellow	medium	Part shade	August to September	Flower: Showy, Fragrant After setting fruit, plants may slow down or go dormant in hot summer months. Fragaria virginiana - Plant Finder	



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lanceleaf tickseed	Coreopsis lanceolata (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.00 feet	1.00 to 1.50 feet	Yellow	Dry to medium	Full sun-part shade	May to July	Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil Coreopsis lanceolata - Plant Finder	
narrow leaf coneflower	Echinacea angustifolia (herbaceous perennial)	. 1.00 to 2.00 feet	0.75 to 1.50 feet'	Light pink to pale purple	Dry to medium	Full sun	June- July	tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil; bee and butterfly attractant Plants usually rebloom without deadheading, however prompt removal of spent flowers improves general appearance. Echinacea angustifolia - Plant Finder	

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rattlesnake master	Eryngium yuccifolium (herbaceous perennial)	4.00 to 5.00 feet	2.00 to 3.00 feet	Greenish-white	Medium	Full sun	June to September	<p>Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Drought, Erosion, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil This is a taprooted plant which transplants poorly and is best left undisturbed once established.</p> <p>Eryngium yuccifolium - Plant Finder</p>	
common boneset	Eupatorium perfoliatum (herbaceous perennial)	4.00 to 6.00 feet	3.00 to 4.00 feet	White	Dry- medium	Full sun-part shade	July-September	<p>Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil Needs constant moisture. May flop and requires staking in rich, fertile soils.</p> <p>Eupatorium perfoliatum - Plant Finder</p>	



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white wood aster	Eurybia divaricata (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.50 feet	1.50 to 2.50 feet	White with yellow to red centers	Dry to medium	Part shade to full shade	August to September	Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Drought, Heavy Shade, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil Eurybia divaricata - Plant Finder	
flat-top goldentop	Euthamia graminifolia (herbaceous perennial)	3.00 to 5.00 feet	1.50 to 2.50 feet	Yellow	Medium to wet	Full sun	August to October	Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Clay Soil, Wet Soil May be grown from seed and may self-seed in the garden Solidago rugosa - Plant Finder	
woodland sunflower	Helianthus divaricatus (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 6.00 feet	1.00 to 3.00 feet	Yellow rays with darker yellow center disk	Dry to medium	Part shade	July to September	Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Drought Divide every 3-4 years to control spread and maintain vigor. Helianthus divaricatus - Plant Finder	



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roundhead lespedeza	Lespedeza capitata (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	Creamy white with magenta spot	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	July to September	Flower: Showy Tolerate: Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil Lespedeza capitata - Plant Finder	
cardinal flower	Lobelia cardinalis (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	Scarlet red, white or rose	Medium to wet	Full sun to part shade	July to September	Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies Tolerate: Rabbit, Deer, Wet Soil Lobelia cardinalis - Plant Finder	



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Allegheny monkeyflower	Mimulus ringens (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 3.00 feet	0.75 to 1.00 foot	Lilac-purple	Medium to wet	Full sun to part shade	June to September	Suggested Use: Water Plant, Naturalize, Rain Garden Flower: Showy Tolerate: Deer, Wet Soil Mimulus ringens - Plant Finder	
Lemon beebalm	Monarda citriodora (herbaceous perennial)	.75 to 2.5 feet	.75-1 foot	Purple	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade, prefers full sun	May to August	Flowers are showy and fragrant, drought tolerant Monarda citriodora - Plant Finder	



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wild bergamot	Monarda fistulosa (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	2.00 to 3.00 feet	Pink/lavender	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	July to September	Leaf: Fragrant Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil, Shallow-Rocky Soil, Black Walnut Monarda fistulosa - Plant Finder	
common evening primrose	Oenothera biennis (herbaceous perennial)	3.00 to 5.00 feet	2.00 to 3.00 feet	Yellow	Medium	Full sun to part shade	June to September	Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Tolerate: Drought May grow through self seeding Oenothera biennis - Plant Finder	



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foxglove beardtongue	Penstemon digitalis (herbaceous perennial)	3.00 to 5.00 feet	1.50 to 2.00 feet	White	Dry to medium	Full sun	April to June	<p>Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies</p> <p>Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil, Dry Soil</p> <p>Penstemon digitalis - Plant Finder</p>	
mountain mint	Pycnanthemum incanum (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 3.00 feet	3.00 to 4.00 feet	White sometimes tinged with lavender	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	July to September	<p>Leaf: Fragrant</p> <p>Attracts: Butterflies</p> <p>Tolerate: Drought, Erosion, Dry Soil</p> <p>Pycnanthemum incanum - Plant Finder</p>	

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Black-eyed Susan	Rudbeckia hirta (herbaceous perennial)	2-3 feet	1-2 feet	Yellow	Medium	Full sun	June-September	Drought tolerant Rudbeckia hirta - Plant Finder	
wreath goldenrod	Solidago caesia (herbaceous perennial)	1.50 to 3.00 feet	1.50 to 3.00 feet	Yellow	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	August to September	Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil Solidago caesia - Plant Finder	




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anise scented goldenrod	Solidago odora (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 4.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	Yellow	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	August to September	Leaf: Fragrant Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Drought, Clay Soil Solidago odora - Plant Finder	
Upland white aster	Solidago ptarmicoides (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.00 feet	1.00 to 2.00 feet	White with pale yellow centers	Dry to medium	Full sun	August to October	Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Tolerate: Drought, Dry Soil Solidago ptarmicoides - Plant Finder	
seaside goldenrod	Solidago sempervirens	2 to 6 feet	2 to 3 feet	Gold/Yellow	Medium- dry	Full sun	Fall Summer	Attracts: Butterflies Pollinators, Songbirds Specialized Bees Solidago (Goldenrod, Golden Rod) North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox	




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New England aster	Symphyotrichum novae-angliae (herbaceous perennial)	3.00 to 6.00 feet	2.00 to 3.00 feet	Deep pink-purple	Medium	Full sun	August to September	Attracts: Butterflies Symphyotrichum novae-angliae - Plant Finder	
Virginia tephrosia	Tephrosia virginiana (herbaceous perennial)	1.00 to 2.00 feet	0.75 to 1.50 feet	Pale yellow standard with rose-pink wings and keel	Dry to medium	Full sun	May to August	Attracts: Butterflies Tephrosia virginiana - Plant Finder	
Canada germander	Teucrium canadense (herbaceous perennial)	1.50 to 3.00 feet	1.50 to 3.00 feet	Purplish pink	Medium	Full sun to part shade	June to September	often spreads easily by rhizomes and self-seeding Teucrium canadense - Plant Finder	

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Eastern marsh fern	Thelypteris palustris (herbaceous perennial)	.5 to 2.5 Feet	3-7 inch	Green	Medium	Full sun to part shade	Summer	Thelypteris palustris (Northern Marsh Fern): Minnesota Wildflowers	
Ohio spiderwort	Tradescantia ohiensis (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 3.00 feet	1.50 to 2.50 feet	Deep blue to rose blue	Dry to medium	Full sun to part shade	May to July	cut back to 6-12" in mid-summer to encourage new growth and a possible fall bloom. Tradescantia ohiensis - Plant Finder	
swamp verbena	Verbena hastata (herbaceous perennial)	2.00 to 6.00 feet	1.00 to 2.50 feet	Purplish blue	Medium to wet	Full sun	July to September	Attracts: Hummingbirds, Butterflies Tolerate: Wet Soil Copy of Native Plant Share List to Update for 2025 - Google Docs	

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Woody plants (trees, shrubs, vines)

flowering dogwood	Cornus florida (tree)	15.00 to 30.00 feet	15.00 to 30.00 feet'	White (bracts)	Medium	Full sun to part shade	April to May	Tolerate: Deer, Clay Soil, Black Walnut Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Cornus florida - Plant Finder	
red osier dogwood	Cornus sericea (shrub)	6.00 to 9.00 feet	7.00 to 10.00 feet	White	Medium to wet	full sun to part shade	May to June	Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Although pruning is not required, many gardeners choose to remove 20-25% of the oldest stems in early spring Cornus sericea - Plant Finder	

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inkberry	Ilex glabra (broadleaf evergreen)	5.00 to 8.00 feet	5.00 to 8.00 feet	Greenish-white	Medium to wet	Full sun to part shade	May to June	<p>Attracts: Birds</p> <p>Prune to shape in early spring just before new growth begins.</p> <p>Ilex glabra - Plant Finder</p>	
common winterberry	Ilex verticillata (shrub)	6.00 to 12.00 feet	6.00 to 12.00 feet	Greenish-white	Medium to wet	Full sun to part shade	June to July	<p>Attracts: Birds</p> <p>Fruit: Showy</p> <p>Prune to shape in early spring just before new growth appears.</p> <p>Ilex verticillata - Plant Finder</p> <p>Note: Winterberries are dioecious (separate male and female plants).</p>	




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trumpet honeysuckle	Lonicera sempervirens (vine)	8.00 to 15.00 feet	3.00 to 6.00 feet	Scarlet/orange with yellow inside	Medium	Full sun to part shade	May- June	Attracts: Birds, Hummingbirds, Butterflies Fruit: Showy Tolerate: Deer, Clay Soil, best flowering is in full sun. Lonicera sempervirens - Plant Finder	
Virginia rose	Rosa virginiana (herbaceous perennial)	1.50 to 3.00 feet	1.00 to 1.50 feet	Blue to violet-blue, rarely rose or white	Medium	Part shade to full shade	May to July	Flowers bloom in succession from late May into early July. Tradescantia virginiana - Plant Finder	
white meadowsweet	Spiraea alba v. latifolia (shrub)	3.00 to 4.00 feet	3.00 to 4.00 feet	White	Full sun to part shade	Medium to wet	June to August	Attracts: Butterflies Tolerate: Deer, Wet Soil Spiraea alba - Plant Finder	

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Blue Ridge blueberry	Vaccinium pallidum (shrub)	2 to 3 feet tall	2 to 3 feet	White	Dry to medium	Full Sun to Partial Shade	Spring	It is a low maintenance and drought tolerant plant Vaccinium pallidum	
witherod	Viburnum nudum var. cassinoides (shrub)	5.00 to 12.00 feet	5.00 to 12.00 feet	Creamy white	Medium to wet	Full sun to part shade	May to June	Attracts: Birds, Butterflies Viburnum cassinoides - Plant Finder	
fox grape	Vitis labrusca (vine)	15.00 to 20.00 feet	15.00 to 20.00 feet	Greenish	Medium	Full sun	May to June	Attracts: Birds Fruit: Showy, Edible Tolerate: Rabbit, Deer Vitis labrusca - Plant Finder	

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