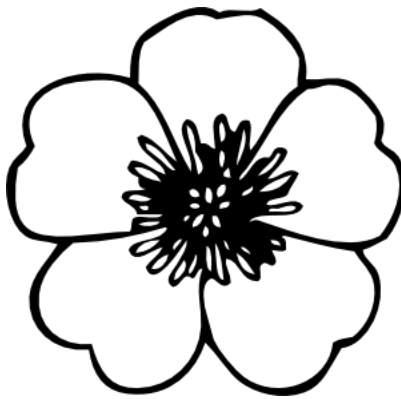


Carroll Creek Wildlife Park

Kid-Friendly Flower Guide



Compiled by Allison Diviney for the Hood College
ENSP Senior Seminar, Fall 2011

Introduction:

Welcome to the Carroll Creek Kid-Friendly Flower Guide! This guide will help you identify some of the flowering plants you can find at the Carroll Creek Wildlife Park, as well as other places in Frederick.

What is the Carroll Creek Wildlife Park?:

The Carroll Creek Wildlife Park (or the CCWP) is an environmental restoration site located behind the Frederick County Health Department building on 305 Montevue Lane. Environmental restoration means trying to fix a natural place that has been damaged by humans. At the CCWP, Hood College students and volunteers have done things like plant trees, fix the banks of the creek, and remove invasive plant species to make the park as healthy as possible again. The CCWP used to be a cow field with nothing but grass – as you can see, it's come a long way!

About the CCWP Flowers:

There are many different species of flowering plant at the CCWP. They are much easier to see and identify when they're blooming, so this guide focuses on what their flowers look like and when they bloom.

Every flower has at least two names: a common name, and a scientific name. Sometimes flowers have many common names, because people in a lot of different places and times called them different things! But flowers only have one scientific name. This is so scientists from all over the world can always know what flower they're talking about with each other. Scientific names have two parts, are italicized, and are probably hard to say. In this guide, the common name comes first, and then the scientific name in parentheses.

Some terms to know:

- Native plants: plants that come from America, and were here before the first European settlers arrived.
- Invasive plants: plants that come from other parts of the world, and were brought to America accidentally or on purpose. Sometimes these plants can hurt native plants and animals by taking over their habitat.
- Pollinators: for many plants, pollen needs to be moved from one flower to another one so they can reproduce. Bees and other flying insects carry the pollen between flowers, and so they are called pollinators.

How to use the guide:

The flower guide is set up so native flowers are listed first (pages 1 through 5), then invasive flowers (pages 6 through 9). They are listed alphabetically by their scientific names.

The last page of the guide has some questions and activity ideas for parents and educators to engage their elementary and middle school kids at the CCWP.

Native Plants

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Name: Bushy Aster (*Aster dumosus*)

Description: Many small white or light purple flowers.

Blooms: August - October



Name: Nodding Bur Marigold (*Bidens cernua*)

Description: Bright yellow flowers with eight petals.

Blooms: June - October



Name: Beggars Ticks (*Bidens frondosa*)

Description: Tiny yellow-orange flowers with small petals and thin leaves.

Blooms: July - August

Fun Fact: It has tiny seeds that can hook onto your clothes and hitch a ride!



Field Thistle (*Cirsium discolor*)

Description: Fuzzy pink flowers sticking out of a round, spiky bulb.

Blooms: June - September



Name: Mistflower (*Eupatorium coelestinum*)

Description: Pale blue or purple fuzzy flowers.

Blooms: July - November



Name: Hollow Joe-Pye Weed (*Eupatorium fistulosum*)

Description: Large, bushy plant with tall stems and lacy pink flowers.

Blooms: July - September

Fun Fact: Don't be surprised if this plant is taller than you!



Name: Common Boneset
(*Eupatorium perfoliatum*)

Description: Clusters of tiny white flowers.

Blooms: June - October

Fun Fact: People used to think this plant could fix broken bones because it looks like the stem grows straight through the leaf, or is "set" into the leaf.



Name: Spotted Touch-Me-Not or Jewelweed
(*Impatiens capensis*)

Description: Leafy, bushy plant with orange and red flowers.

Blooms: July - October

Fun Fact: If you hold a leaf underwater, it will look silvery, or "jeweled." Tiny hairs under the leaf trap air, which shines under the water.



Name: Cardinal Flower
(*Lobelia cardinalis*)

Description: Tall plant with long, spiky red flower clusters.

Blooms: May - October

Fun Fact: Their name comes from the red color of a cardinal's robes (a cardinal is an important person in the Catholic church). What kind of animal has the same name?



Name: Great Lobelia
(*Lobelia siphilitica*)

Description: Tall plant with long, spiky blue flower clusters.

Blooms: July - October



Name: Pokeweed
(*Phytolacca Americana*)

Description: A large, bushy plant with hanging clusters of white flowers or dark purple berries.

Blooms: July – September
Berries: October

CAUTION: The berries might look pretty, but they are poisonous!








Name: Horsenettle
(*Solanum carolinense*)

Description: White, star-shaped flowers with bright yellow centers.

Blooms: May - October



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<p>Name: Early Goldenrod (<i>Solidago juncea</i>)</p> <p>Description: Bright yellow flower clusters, sometimes shaped like fireworks.</p> <p>Blooms: July - September</p>	
<p>Name: Yellow Crownbeard (<i>Verbesina occidentalis</i>)</p> <p>Description: Small yellow flowers with thin petals.</p> <p>Blooms: August - October</p> <p>Fun Fact: The stem has "wings," like very thin lines of leaf that run down the length of the stem.</p>	 
<p>Name: New York Ironweed (<i>Veronia noveboracensis</i>)</p> <p>Description: Small, fuzzy, bright purple-pink flowers.</p> <p>Blooms: August - October</p>	 

Invasive Plants

Name: Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

Description: White, lacy flowers, and feathery or fern-like leaves. The flowers look like a bunch of tiny flowers clumped together.

Blooms: May - June

Fun Fact: You can tell this apart from Queen Anne's Lace by the leaves, and the fact that the flower has no red spot.



Name: Queen Anne's Lace or Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*)

Description: A round, lacy white flower cluster with one dark red flower in the center.

Blooms: May - October

Fun Fact: The flower is named after a story about Queen Anne pricking her finger with a needle while making lace.



Name: Peppermint (*Mentha piperita*)

Description: Small, pale purple flowers. The leaves are small and have jagged edges.

Blooms: July - September

Fun Fact: You might smell this plant before you see it! Keep your nose sharp for something that smells like mint candy.



Name: Black Bindweed
(*Polygonum convolvulus*)

Appearance: A vine plant with thin stems, heart-shaped leaves, and very small white flowers.

Blooms: July - August



Name: Bittersweet or Bittersweet Nightshade
(*Solanum dulcamara*)

Appearance: Purple star-shaped flowers with tall yellow centers; red berries.

Blooms: May - September
Berries: August - November



Name: Aslike Clover
(*Trifolium hybridum*)

Appearance: Ball shaped flowers that are white or pink on the top and dark pink on the bottom.

Blooms: April - October



Name: Red Clover
(*Trifolium pretense*)

Appearance: Ball-shaped
flowers that are pink all
over.

Blooms: May - October



Invasive Plants – Pick these!

9

Name: Butter and Eggs or Yellow Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*)

Description: Short plant with small, folded, white and yellow flowers.

Blooms: May - September

Fun Fact: The first common name is because the colors look a lot like butter and eggs



Name: Dock-leaved smartweed or curlytop knotweed (*Polygonum lapathifolium*)

Appearance: Long, often drooping light pink flowers, tall stems, and thin leaves.

Blooms:



Name: Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

Appearance: Bushy plant with white flowers. Five heart-shaped petals and a fuzzy yellow center. Stem is branching and has thorns.

Blooms: May - June

CAUTION: This plant has thorns! If you want to take some home with you, get an adult to cut the stem with scissors or garden clippers.



For Parents and Educators:

Questions to ask at the site:

How many colors of flower can you find?

How many species of native flowers can you find? How many invasive flowers?

What is the tallest flowering plant you can find? The shortest?

Identify a flower using the guide. How do you know it's the right flower?

Critical thinking questions:

Why do you think some flowers have seeds that stick to you? (To get their seeds away from the parent plant, and spread that species of flower to a new place.)

Why do you think some flowers have bright colors? Why do they have strong smells? (To attract bees and other insects, so they can reproduce and make more plants – some insects think flowers are pretty too!)

Why are some plants poisonous? (To keep animals from eating them.)

Pick a flower with a descriptive name like goldenrod or mistflower. Ask where the child thinks the name came from. In some cases, the answer is obvious, and in others there is no right or wrong answer.

Why are plants good for people? (Many answers are possible here: make oxygen, used for food, clean the water, roots soil and prevent erosion, look pretty, etc.)

What is your favorite plant in the guide, and why?

Activities:

Have students draw or write about their favorite flowering plant.

You can grow some of these flowers in a garden at home or at school, attracting butterflies and supporting other native species. Look for nurseries that sell native plants at the Maryland Native Plant Society website (<http://mdflora.org/publications/nurseries.html>).

More information on the CCWP can be found on the sidebar at the Hood College Biology Department website (<http://www.hood.edu/academics/biology/index.html>)

More information about the flowers in this guide can be found at <http://www.wildflower.org> and <http://plants.usda.gov/java/>.