The Wilderness Center
2021 Native Plant Sale
Sun/Prairie Plants
Swamp (Marsh) Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata

Height: 2-5 feet
Spread: 1-3 feet
Bloom time: June-July
Light: Full sun
Soil: Best in continuously wet soil but drought tolerant.

Wildlife Value: Monarch butterfly caterpillars eat the leaves, adult butterflies drink the nectar.

Note: Perfect for the Rain Garden!
Sullivant’s Milkweed
*Asclepias sullivanti*

- Height: 3–5 feet
- Spread: 1 foot
- Bloom Time: June–August
- Light: Full sun
- Soil: Medium

Note: Clasping leaves and darker purple flowers than other milkweeds

Wildlife Value: Monarch caterpillar food source
Common Milkweed
Asclepias syriaca

Height: 3-5 feet
Spread: 1 foot
Bloom Time: June-August
Light: Full sun
Soil: Medium to dry

Wildlife Value: Monarch caterpillar food source - also serves as host plant for many other species of insects.
Butterfly Weed  
_Asclepias tuberosa_

Height: 1-3 feet  
Spread: 18”  
Bloom time: June-August  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry, prefers sandy soil

Wildlife value: The best butterfly magnet! Food from nectar for butterflies and monarch caterpillars eat the leaves.

Note: Good drainage is essential. Roots will rot if soil stays wet all the time.
Whorled Milkweed

*Asclepias verticillata*

Height: 1-2 feet  
Spread: 18 inches  
Bloom time: July-August  
Light: Full sun to partial sun  
Soil: Dry soils

Wildlife value: Butterflies and beneficial insects. Monarch caterpillars eat the leaves.

Note: Plant spreads by rhizomes to form colonies.
White False Indigo
*Baptisia alba*

- Height: 3-5 feet
- Spread: 2-4 feet
- Bloom: May–June
- Light: Full sun to light shade
- Soil: Medium

Note: Resembles an asparagus plant when it first comes out of the ground in late spring.
Blue False Indigo
*Baptisia australis*

Height: 2–4 feet
Spread: 2–4 feet
Bloom time: May–June
Light: Full sun to light shade
Soil: Dry to medium

Note: Clusters of deep blue flowers in late spring. Deep rooted and very long-lived. It forms a large “bush” at maturity.
Marsh Marigold
_Caltha palustris_

Height: 1-2 feet
Spread: 2-3 feet
Bloom time: March-June
Light: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Moist to wet

Wildlife value: Native bees

Note: A beautiful addition to the garden pond area.
Wild Hyacinth

*Camassia scilloides*

Height: 1-2 feet  
Spread: 6-12 inches  
Bloom Time: May - June  
Light: Full to partial sun  
Soil: Medium to wet

Note: A great native alternative. Will grow in full sun or woodland edge. Plants become dormant by mid-summer.
Fox Sedge  
*Carex vulpinoidea*

Height: 1–3 feet  
Spread: 1–2 feet  
Bloom Time: May – June  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Medium to wet

Note: Mound forming and great for around ponds or raingardens.
Lance-leaved Coreopsis

*Coreopsis lanceolata*

Height: 1-2 feet  
Spread: 12 inches  
Bloom time: May-August  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife value: Songbirds feed on the ripe seeds in late summer.

Note: Can bloom for weeks on end for early summer color.
**Purple Prairie Clover**

*Dalea purpurea*

- Height: 1-2 feet
- Bloom time: July-August
- Light: Full sun
- Soil: Dry to Medium

Great for restoration of naturalized areas. Tons of pollen for bees.
Shooting Star
*Dodecatheon meadia*

Height: 12–24 inches  
Spread: 12 inches  
Bloom time: May – June  
Light: Full sun to partial shade  
Soil: Medium to wet  

Native bees pollinate these downward pointing flowers. Bees need to vibrate the flower to release the pollen.
Purple Coneflower

_Echinacea purpurea_

Height: 3–4 feet
Spread: 18 inches
Bloom Time: July–August
Light: Full sun
Soil: Dry to medium

Attracts butterflies and hummingbirds with its nectar. Songbirds feed on the seeds. Leave dead plants standing for seeds for birds and winter interest.
Purple Coneflower

_Echinacea purpurea_

Height: 2-3 feet
Bloom Time: July-August
Light: Full sun
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife value: Attracts butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. Petal color from yellow-green edges to purple middle.

Image courtesy of ©2018 Jelitto Perennial Seed
Rattlesnake Master
_Eryngium yuccifolium_

Height: 3–5 feet
Spread: 2 feet
Bloom Time: July–Sept.
Light: Full sun
Soil: Dry to medium

Butterflies and native bees visit the green flowers in July when it is producing nectar. Striking plants add architectural interest to your garden, even in winter.
Sweet Joe Pye Weed
_Eutrochium purpureum_

Height: 5–7 feet
Spread: 1–2 feet
Bloom time: August-September
Light: Partial to full sun
Soil: Medium

Swallowtail butterflies and others love this plant when it is in nectar. Late to emerge in the spring, but grows quickly. Divide oversized clumps in the fall.
Joe Pye Weed ‘Gateway’

*Eutrochium purpureum ssp. maculatum*

Height: 4-6 feet
Bloom time: August-September
Light: Partial to full sun
Soil: Medium
More compact, grows shorter and bushier.

Wildlife Value: Swallowtail butterflies and others love this plant when it is in nectar.
Ox-eye Sunflower

*Heliopsis helianthoides*

Height: 3-6 feet  
Spread: 1-2 feet  
Bloom Time: June-September  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife value: Native bees and butterflies.

Note: Thrives in heavy clay soils and can self sow.
Round Headed Bush Clover  
*Lespedeza capitata*

Height: 3-5 feet  
Bloom Time: August-September  
Light: Full to part sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

The seeds are a late winter food supply for birds. Bronze seed heads also provide autumn color. Nectar source.
Rough Blazing Star

*Liatris aspera*

- Height: 3-5 feet
- Spread: 1.5 feet
- Bloom time: July to September
- Light: Full sun to partial shade
- Soil: Dry sandy soils.

Magnet for Swallowtails and other butterflies. Goldfinches love the seeds! Flower clusters are larger and farther apart on stem compared to other Blazing Stars.
Marsh (Dense) Blazing Star

*Liatris spicata*

Height: 3 - 5 feet
Spread: 2 feet
Bloom time: July - September
Light: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Medium to wet soils with clay or loam.

Wildlife value: Butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds, and beneficial insects

Somewhat drought resistant once established. Makes an excellent cut flower.
Cardinal Flower
*Lobelia cardinalis*

Height: 2–4 feet  
Spread: 6–12 inches  
Bloom time: July–September  
Light: Full to partial sun  
Soil: Moist to wet soils

A hummingbird favorite, but also loved by butterflies. Thrives in the edges of water gardens and bogs. Short-lived, it may require replanting every few years. Re-seeds itself where there is disturbed soil.
Great Blue Lobelia
*Lobelia siphilitica*

Height: 1-4 feet  
Spread: 1 foot  
Bloom time: July-October  
Light: Full sun to partial shade  
Soil: Moist to wet soils with clay, loamy, or sandy soil

Wildlife Value: Butterflies, hummingbirds, songbirds, and beneficial insects.

Note: Excellent for damp clay soil. A beautiful fall bloomer.
Bee Balm
*Monarda didyma*

Height: 2-4 feet  
Spread: 1 foot  
Bloom Time: June-August  
Light: Full sun to shade  
Soil: Medium to moist

Wildlife Value: Great for hummingbirds and butterflies

Note: Leaves are used for tea. Also known as Oswego Tea.
Bee Balm ‘Jacob Cline’
*Monarda didyma ‘Jacob Cline’*

Height: 2-4 feet  
Spread: 1 foot  
Bloom Time: June-August  
Light: Full sun to shade  
Soil: Medium to moist  
Wildlife Value: Great for hummingbirds and butterflies  
Note: Mildew resistant variety of the native.
Wild Bergamot

*Monarda fistulosa*

Height: 2-5 feet
Spread: 2 feet
Bloom Time: July-September
Light: Full sun to partial shade.
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife value: A “must have” for butterfly gardens. The Clearwing Hummingbird Moth also visits often during the day.
Prairie Sundrops
*Oenothera pilosella*

Height: 1-2 feet  
Spread: 18-24 inches  
Bloom Time: May to June  
Light: Full sun to partial shade  
Soil: Medium to moist

Wildlife value: Native bees and insects.

Note: A day flowering plant from the Evening Primrose Family.
Ohio Goldenrod
*Oligoneum Ohioensis*

Height: 3-5 feet  
Spread: 1-2 feet  
Bloom Time: August-October  
Light: Sun to part sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

Late season nectar for butterflies and seeds for birds. Tallest of the goldenrods with lush basal leaves.
Hairy Penstemon

*Penstemon hirstus*

Height: 2–4 feet  
Spread: 1–2 feet  
Bloom time: May to July  
Light: Full sun to partial shade  
Soil: Medium, sandy or loamy and well-drained soil. Tolerates drought once established.  

Wildlife value: Food for butterflies and native bees.
Prairie Coneflower
*Ratibidia pinnata*

Height: 3-6 feet  
Spread: 1-2 feet  
Bloom time: July-September  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife value: Goldfinches eat the seeds.

Note: This is a classic prairie plant that can survive heat, drought and flooding!
Brown-Eyed Susan
*Rudbeckia triloba*

Height: 2-5 feet
Spread: 18 inches
Bloom time: August - October
Light: Full sun to partial shade
Soil: Medium

Butterflies and bees love the nectar, songbirds eat the seeds: Easily reseeds so it may spread. Smaller flowers when compared to the Black-Eyed Susan.
Wild Petunia
*Ruellia humilis*

Height: 12 inches
Spread: 12–18 inches
Bloom time: June–August
Light: Full sun
Soil: Medium to dry.

Butterflies and bees love the nectar. Not really a Petunia but a member of the Acanthaceae family. Hardy, so it can become aggressive.
Lyreleaf Sage ‘Purple Knockout’
*Salvia lyrata ‘Purple Knockout’*

Height: 12 inches  
Bloom time: July-August  
Light: Sun part sun  
Soil: Medium to dry.

Wildlife Value: Butterflies and bees love the nectar.  
Note: A great evergreen groundcover with showy blue flowers in the spring.
Little Bluestem

*Schizachyrium scoparium*

Height: 2-4 feet  
Bloom time: August-September  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry to medium. Tolerates poor soils and drought. Excels in dry sandy soils.

Wildlife Value: Birds and small mammals

Note: Warm season grass, slow to emerge in the spring. Nice golden to reddish brown fall color lasts all winter.
Royal Catchfly
Silene regia

Height: 2–4 feet
Spread: 1–2 feet
Bloom time: July–August
Light: Full sun
Soil: Dry to medium

Wildlife Value. Bright red blooms attract Hummingbirds and butterflies.

Note: A major flowering herb of the Darby plains prairies near Columbus.
Prairie Dock
Silphium terebinthinaceum

Height: 4-8 feet  
Spread: 2-3 feet  
Bloom time: July-September  
Light: Full sun  
Soil: Dry to medium

Food source for songbirds. Goldfinches perch on the flower heads. Large leaves and tall flower spikes. This is an indicator prairie species. Drought tolerant.
Meadowsweet
*Spiraea alba*

Height: 2-3 feet  
Spread: 2 feet  
Bloom time: August - September  
Light: Full sun to partial shade  
Soil: Wet  

New England Aster
*Symphyotrichum novae-angliae*

Height: 3–6 feet
Spread: 1–2 feet
Bloom time: September–October
Light: Full sun to partial sun
Soil: Medium

Important late nectar source for butterflies and native bees. Avoid feeding with high nitrogen fertilizer as it will cause tall floppy plants.
**Sky Blue Aster**  
*Symphyotrichum azureus*

Height: 2–3 feet  
Spread: 1 foot  
Bloom time: August–October  
Light: Full sun to part sun  
Soil: Average to rich, dry to medium.

Wildlife value: Late nectar source for butterflies and native bees.
Spiderwort
*Tradescantia ohiensis*

Height: 2–4 feet  
Spread: 1 ½ –2 ½ feet  
Bloom time: May–July  
Light: Full sun to light shade  
Soil: Dry to medium moisture in average to poor soil.

Blue Vervain
Vernonia fasciculata

Height: 3–6 feet
Spread: 1–2 feet
Bloom time: July – September
Light: Full sun
Soil: Medium to Wet

Wildlife Value: An important nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds.
Western (Smooth) Iron Weed
*Vernonia fasciculata*

- Height: 4–6 feet
- Spread: 2–3 feet
- Bloom time: July – September
- Light: Full sun
- Soil: Medium to Wet

Wildlife Value: An important nectar source for butterflies.
Culver’s Root
Veronicastrum virginicum

Height: 3-6 feet  
Spread: 1-2 feet  
Bloom time: July-August  
Light: Full to partial sun  
Soil: Moist or wet soils with clay, loamy, sandy soil. Prefers organic soil types.

Wildlife Value: Butterflies, bees and beneficial insects

Note: A durable plant adds strong upright accent or backdrop in the garden.