


## Wildflower Loop, Indian Creek Nature Center

The trail loops through a mature deciduous forest and has over the years provided a good display of spring ephemerals. Ephemerals are plants that grow and flower before the tree canopy above them has leafed-out, thus capturing the brief period of sunlight that reaches the floor in a forest. First to bloom is Hepatica, followed by Spring Beauty, whose leaves (and flowers) are gone by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Squirrel Corn and Dutchman's Breeches follow very closely, then Blue Cohosh. The purple-hued vegetation of Blue Cohosh is noticeable before the flowers open. Toothwort flowers a bit after Blue Cohosh, and the flowers of both will be past by late May. The stems of the Blue Cohosh will be yellowed and sporting blue berries where the flowers were by late July. Leek leaves are abundant in the spring but will disappear with the warmer weather, though the plants will send up a flowering stalk in their place.

List of vascular plants and season of flowering or when most noticeable. A = anytime, Sp = Spring, Su = Summer, and F = Fall. An asterisk (\*) denotes a non-native species. A  denotes a picture of the plant is contained in the corresponding season's "Wildflower Loop" brochure.












### Ferns and Fern Allies

Fern, Lady	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> ssp. <i>angustum</i> (A)
Wood fern, Spinulose	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> (A)
Fern, Fancy	<i>Dryopteris intermedia</i> ssp. <i>intermedia</i> (A)
Fern, Sensitive	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i> (A)
Fern, Royal	<i>Osmunda regalis</i> var. <i>spectabilis</i> (A)
Fern, Christmas	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> (A)

### Grasses, Sedges, and Rushes

*Vernalgrass, Sweet	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> (Sp)
Sedge	<i>Carex albursina</i> (Sp)
Sedge, Filiform	<i>Carex gracillima</i> (Su)
Sedge, Bladder	<i>Carex intumescens</i> (Su)
Sedge, Loose-flowered	<i>Carex laxiflora</i> (Sp)
Sedge, Radiate	<i>Carex radiata</i> (Sp)
Rush, Path	<i>Juncus tenuis</i> (Su)

### Herbaceous Plants

Baneberry, Red	<i>Actaea rubra</i> (Sp) 
Agrimony	<i>Agrimonia gryposepala</i> (Su)
*Mustard, Garlic	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i> (Sp) 
Leek, Wild; Ramp	<i>Allium tricoccum</i> var. <i>tricoccum</i> (A)
Jack-in-the-pulpit	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> ssp. <i>triphyllum</i> (Su)
Crinkleroot, Toothwort	<i>Cardamine diphylla</i> (Sp) 
Blue cohosh	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i> (Sp) 
Enchanter's nightshade	<i>Circaea lutetiana</i> ssp. <i>canadensis</i> (Sp)
Spring-beauty	<i>Claytonia caroliniana</i> (Sp) 
Goldthread	<i>Coptis groenlandica</i> (Sp) 
Squirrel Corn	<i>Dicentra canadensis</i> 
Dutchman's Breeches	<i>Dicentra cucullaria</i> 
Troutlily; Dog-tooth violet	<i>Erythronium americanum</i> ssp. <i>americanum</i> (Sp) 
Strawberry, Wild	<i>Fragaria virginiana</i> (Sp) 
Bedstraw, Sweet-scented	<i>Galium triflorum</i> (Su)
*Herb-robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i> (A)
Avens, White	<i>Geum canadense</i> (Su)
Stickseed; Beggar-lice	<i>Hackelia virginiana</i> (Su)
Liverleaf	<i>Hepatica nobilis</i> var. <i>obtusata</i> (Sp) 
Waterleaf, Virginia	<i>Hydrophyllum virginianum</i> (Sp)
Jewelweed, Spotted	<i>Impatiens capensis</i> (Su)
Indian-tobacco	<i>Lobelia inflata</i> (Su)

Lily-of-the-Valley, False  
Miterwort  
Clearweed  
Solomon's seal  
\*Heal-all  
Buttercup, Kidney-leaf  
Blackberry, Common  
Raspberry, Red  
Raspberry, Dwarf  
\*Nightshade, Deadly  
Aster; Calico  
Aster, Purple-stemmed  
Meadow-rue, Early  
Foamflower  
Poison ivy  
Trillium, Purple or Red  
Trillium, White  
Wild Oats  
\*Speedwell  
Violet, Sweet White  
Violet, Canada  
Violet, Dog  
Violet, Yellow  
Violet, Common

#### **Shrubs**

Dogwood, Pagoda  
Cherry, Choke  
Gooseberry, Prickly  
Gooseberry, Northern  
Elderberry, Red

#### **Trees**

Maple, Sugar  
Hickory, Shagbark  
Beech, American  
Ash, White  
Butternut  
Hop hornbeam  
Cherry, Black  
Basswood  
Hemlock

#### **Vines**

Virginia creeper, Woodbine  
Grape, Frost or Riverbank

*Maianthemum canadense* (Sp)  
*Mitella diphylla* (Sp) ☞  
*Pilea pumila* (Su)  
*Polygonatum pubescens* (Sp)  
*Prunella vulgaris* (Su)  
*Ranunculus abortivus* (Sp)  
*Rubus allegheniensis* (Su)  
*Rubus idaeus* ssp. *strigosus* (Su)  
*Rubus pubescens* var. *pubescens* (Su)  
*Solanum dulcamara* var. *dulcamara* (Su)  
*Symphyotrichum lateriflorum* var. *lateriflorum* (F)  
*Symphyotrichum puniceum* var. *puniceum* (F)  
*Thalictrum dioicum* (Sp)  
*Tiarella cordifolia* (Sp)  
*Toxicodendron radicans* ssp. *negundo* (A)  
*Trillium erectum* (Sp) ☞  
*Trillium grandiflorum* (Sp) ☞  
*Uvularia sessilifolia* (Sp) ☞  
*Veronica officinalis* (A)  
*Viola blanda* (Sp)  
*Viola canadensis* var. *canadensis* (Sp)  
*Viola labradorica* (Sp)  
*Viola pubescens* var. *pubescens* (Sp)  
*Viola sororia* (Sp)

*Cornus alternifolia* (Sp)  
*Prunus virginiana* (A)  
*Ribes cynosbati* (Sp)  
*Ribes hirtellum* (A)  
*Sambucus racemosa* var. *racemosa* (Sp)

*Acer saccharum* var. *saccharum* (A)  
*Carya ovata* (A)  
*Fagus grandifolia* (A)  
*Fraxinus americana* (A)  
*Juglans cinerea* (A)  
*Ostrya virginiana* (A)  
*Prunus serotina* (A)  
*Tilia americana* var. *americana* (A)  
*Tsuga canadensis* (A)

*Parthenocissus vitacea* (A)  
*Vitis riparia* (A)