







## Normal Public Library – Native Seed Donations




Information on native plants that can be grown from seed donated to the Normal Public Library Seed Library by Wild Ones: Illinois Prairie Chapter is listed below. These seeds are from species native to central Illinois. Seeds from all of these plant species may not be available at the Seed Library at any given time. This document will be updated if additional seed species become available.




Viability of native seeds can be influenced by a variety of factors. Wild Ones: Illinois Prairie Chapter makes no claims on the overall viability of the seeds donated to the Seed Library. These seeds were collected by chapter members and donated for this project. Most native seeds require a period of cold stratification and/or other pre-treatment to stimulate germination. Stratification requirements and additional information on the species listed below is provided on the individual seed packets. For additional information on germinating native seeds visit




<https://illinoisprairie.wildones.org/seed-library/>. (Updated January 3, 2024)




<i>Scientific Name</i> <b>Common Name</b>	<b>Flower Picture</b>	<b>Plant Characteristics</b>
<i>Asclepias exaltata</i> <b>Poke Milkweed</b>		Blooms: June-July Height: 5' Sun: Part Shade to Shade Comments: This woodland milkweed grows in average soil and is not aggressive. Like other milkweeds, it attracts pollinators. Protect young plants from rabbits. Deer resistant. For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/woodland/plants/pk_milkweed.html">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/woodland/plants/pk_milkweed.html</a>




<p><i>Asclepias incarnata</i></p> <p><b>Swamp Milkweed</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-July          Height: 3-4'          Sun: Full Sun to Part Shade          Comments: This milkweed grows in wet to average soil. It is a monarch host plant. Great option for rain gardens.          For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sw_milkweed.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sw_milkweed.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Asclepias syriaca</i></p> <p><b>Common Milkweed</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-August          Height: 3-5'          Sun: Full-part sun          Comments: Can spread aggressively via rhizomes. Supports monarchs and a variety of other pollinators.          For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/weeds/plants/cm_milkweed.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/weeds/plants/cm_milkweed.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Asclepias tuberosa</i></p> <p><b>Butterfly Milkweed</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-August          Height: 2'          Sun: Full Sun          Comments: Prefers average to dry soil. This milkweed supports monarchs and other pollinators. Its bright orange flower earns a spot in any wildflower garden. It's a good cut flower, too.          For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/btf_milkweedx.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/btf_milkweedx.htm</a></p>




<p><i>Asclepias verticillata</i></p> <p><b>Whorled Milkweed</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 1-2' tall  Sun: Full-part sun  Comments: Prefers open areas with little competition from taller plants. Supports monarchs and other pollinators. Spreads by rhizomes.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/wh_milkweedx.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/wh_milkweedx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i></p> <p><b>Buttonbush</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-August  Height: 3-8', but may reach 20'  Sun: Full-part Sun  Comments: Prefers moist soil. Supports a variety of pollinators.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/button_bush.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/button_bush.htm</a></p> <p>Photo Courtesy of John Hilty, Illinois Wildflowers</p>
<p><i>Chelone glabra</i></p> <p><b>Turtlehead</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 5'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: A wetland plant. Baltimore Checkerspot butterfly host plant.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/wh_turtlehead.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/wh_turtlehead.htm</a></p>

<p><i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i></p> <p><b>Lance-leaf Coreopsis</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-July  Height: 2-3'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Prefers average to dry soil. The flowers on this plant glow even on cloudy days. Butterflies love it and birds eat the seeds.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/sand_coreopsisx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/sand_coreopsisx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Eutrochium maculatum</i></p> <p><b>Spotted Joe Pye Weed</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 5'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Prefers moist to wet soil. The flowers bloom for a long time and attract many species of butterflies.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sp_joepe.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/sp_joepe.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Gentiana alba</i></p> <p><b>Cream Gentian</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-September  Height: 1-2'  Sun: Part Sun  Comments: Average soils. Is pollinated by bumblebees. Blooms earlier than other native gentians.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/savanna/plants/cr_gentian.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/savanna/plants/cr_gentian.htm</a></p>




<p><i>Hibiscus laevis</i></p> <p><b>Rose Mallow</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 3-6'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Prefers wet areas.  For more information on this species visit  <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/halberd_mallow.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/halberd_mallow.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Liatris aspera</i></p> <p><b>Rough Blazing Star</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-September  Height: 3'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Great pollinator flower. Drought tolerant. Good cut flower.  For more information on this species visit  <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/rgh_blazingstarx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/rgh_blazingstarx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Liatris ligulistylis</i></p> <p><b>Meadow Blazing Star</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-September  Height: 3' -5'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Great pollinator flower. Considered a monarch magnet.  For more information on this species visit  <a href="https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=a745">https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=a745</a></p>

<p><i>Liatris pycnostachya</i></p> <p><b>Prairie Blazing Star</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-August  Height: 3-5'  Sun: July-August  Comments: Prefers average to moist soil. A natural for the home landscape. Attracts pollinators.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/pr_b_lazingstarx.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/pr_b_lazingstarx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Liatris spicata</i></p> <p><b>Marsh/Dense Blazing Star</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-September  Height: 3-6'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Prefers moist soil. Use this plant in a butterfly garden. Provides blooms for late season pollinators.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/msh_bla_zingstar.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/msh_bla_zingstar.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Lobelia cardinalis</i></p> <p><b>Cardinal Flower</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-September  Height: 2 - 3 1/2'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Prefers wet soil. Its bright red flowers attract hummingbirds.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/cardinal.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/wetland/plants/cardinal.htm</a></p>

<p><i>Monarda fistulosa</i></p> <p><b>Wild Bergamot</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 2-4'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Grows in moist, average, or dry soil. It attracts a variety of pollinators.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/wld_bergamotx.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/wld_bergamotx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Oligoneuron rigidum</i></p> <p><b>Stiff Goldenrod</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-October  Height: 4'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Prefers medium to dry soil. Attracts butterflies and other pollinators in the fall. Spreads through rhizomes.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/stf_goldenrodx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/stf_goldenrodx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Ptelea trifoliata</i></p> <p><b>Wafer Ash</b></p>		<p>Blooms: May-June  Height: Up to 20'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Supports bees and other insects. Larval host plant for Giant Swallowtail butterflies.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/wafer_ash.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/trees/plants/wafer_ash.htm</a></p> <p>Photo courtesy of John Hilty, Illinois Wildflowers</p>

<p><i>Ratibida pinnata</i></p> <p><b>Yellow/Gray-headed Coneflower</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-September  Height: 3-5'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Prefers average to dry soil. Drought tolerant. A classic prairie flower.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/yl_coneflowerx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/yl_coneflowerx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Ruellia humilis</i></p> <p><b>Wild Petunia</b></p>		<p>Blooms: June-August  Height: 1-2'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Tolerates dry soil. Long bloom period. Plant wild petunia at the base of taller plants and it will fill in to help prevent weeds. Reseeds freely.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/hw_petuniax.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/hw_petuniax.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Schizachryium scoparium</i></p> <p><b>Little Bluestem</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-October  Height: 3'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Supports butterflies and birds. Attractive prairie grass.  For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/grasses/plants/little_bluestem.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/grasses/plants/little_bluestem.htm</a></p>



<p><i>Silene regia</i></p> <p><b>Royal Catchfly</b></p>		<p>Blooms: July-August  Height: 2-4'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Grows in average soil. Has a long bloom time. The bright red flowers attract hummingbirds. For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/royal_catc_hflyx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/royal_catc_hflyx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i></p> <p><b>New England Aster</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-October  Height: 3-6'  Sun: Full to Part Sun  Comments: Drought tolerant. Fall food source for butterflies and other pollinators. For more information on this species visit <a href="https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/ne_asterx.htm">https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/ne_asterx.htm</a></p>
<p><i>Symphotrichum oblongifolium</i></p> <p><b>Aromatic Aster</b></p>		<p>Blooms: August-October  Height: 2'  Sun: Full Sun  Comments: Tolerates dry soil. Low mounding habit. Mound slowly increases in size. Lots of flowers providing late season nectar for pollinators. For more information on this species visit <a href="https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/aromatic_asterx.htm">https://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/aromatic_asterx.htm</a></p>

Zizia aurea

**Golden Alexander**



Blooms: April-June

Height: 2'

Sun: Full to Part Sun

Comments: Important source of food for native bees.

Host plant for Black Swallowtail butterfly caterpillars.

For more information on this species visit

[https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/gld\\_alexanderx.htm](https://illinoiswildflowers.info/prairie/plantx/gld_alexanderx.htm)