



NATIVE PLANTS FOR CREATING POLLINATOR HABITAT IN CENTRAL NY

Prepared by Michael Hough



As part of SUNY Cortland's Bowers Hall renovation, a bioswale was constructed and planted in the Fall of 2013. The bioswale is designed to temporarily hold stormwater runoff from the building and adjacent lawn areas to filter it and increase groundwater infiltration. The site was overtaken by weeds during the 2014 growing season as it remained under contract. A renovation project was initiated by faculty in the spring of 2015 to address this issue. The initial phase of the renovation involved intensive weeding and planting of over 800 plugs of native plants produced in the college greenhouse. The meadow was mowed and additional species were interseeded in the fall. Additional plugs will be produced in 2016 and planted in the spring.

What follows is a list of plants proposed or currently growing in the bioswale. All are native to Eastern North America, though some are not native to Central New York. Since the existing trees on the site are relatively young, the majority of plants are adapted to growing in areas that receive sunlight for most of the day. As the trees mature more shade tolerant plants will likely be added. The plants have been chosen to provide a multitude of ecosystem functions. Many of them provide nectar sources for honeybees, native bees, flies, butterflies, moths, and hummingbirds. Others serve as host plants for the larvae of native butterflies and moths. The showy asters, sunflowers, and similar plants provide abundant seeds for songbirds.

Most of the seeds used for growing the plugs were collected locally or donated by people from Cornell Plantations and the Finger Lakes Native Plant Society. The following selection of regional nurseries frequently carry potted plants of the species indicated in the list.

Amanda's Garden
8410 Harpers Ferry Road
Springwater, NY 14560
(585) 750-6288
www.amandagarden.com

Bakers Acres Inc.
Rt. 34, between Ithaca & Auburn
Groton, N.Y. 13073
(607) 533-4653
www.bakersacres.net

Maple Hill Nursery
4116 Pompey Center Rd.
Manlius, NY
(315) 447-3196

The Plantsmen Nursery
482 Peruville Rd. (Route 34B)
Groton, NY 13073
(607) 533-7193
www.plantsmen.com

White Oak Nursery
4350 Kipp Rd.
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(315) 789-3509
www.whiteoaknursery.biz

Lan's Flower Farm
4913 State Route 31
Clay, NY 13041-8708
(315) 688-8584
www.lansflowerfarm.com

Additional Resources

Finger Lakes Native Plant Society flnps.org

Habitat Gardening in Central New York www.hgcny.org

New York Flora Atlas <http://www.newyork.plantatlas.usf.edu/>

The Plant List

Plants are arranged in categories and alphabetically by scientific name. Species with an asterisk are not native to Central NY. The bloom times provided are approximate.

Light requirements:

 = Full Sun  = Part Sun  = Shade

Soil moisture requirements:

W = Wet **M** = Mesic (medium moisture) **D** = Dry

Wildlife values:



- Nectar source for bees



- Nectar source for butterflies and moths



- Food plant of native butterfly and moth caterpillars



- Nectar source for hummingbirds



- Food source for seed eating birds

Common Name	Scientific Name	Amanda's Garden	Baker's Acres	Lan's Flower Farm	Maple Hill	The Plantsmen	White Oak	Sun	Soil	Bloom	Wildlife Value
FORBS (non-graminoid herbaceous flowering plants)											
Purple False Foxglove	<i>Agalinis purpurea</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	Aug-Sep	 
Anise hyssop*	<i>Agastache foeniculum</i>	X	X	X	X	X		☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Nodding onion	<i>Allium cernuum</i>	X		X	X	X		☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jul-Aug	
Wild Columbine	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X		☀️☀️ ●	W-M-D	Apr-Jun	  
Poke Milkweed	<i>Asclepias exaltata</i>							☀️ ●	W-M-D	Jun-Jul	  
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i>	X	X	X	X	X		☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	   
Showy Milkweed*	<i>Asclepias speciosa</i>							☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	   
Prairie Milkweed*	<i>Asclepias sullivantii</i>							☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	   
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	X				X		☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	  
Butterfly Milkweed	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i>	X	X	X	X	X		☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	   
Whorled Milkweed	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jul-Sep	  
Aromatic Aster*	<i>Aster oblongifolius</i>		X					☀️	W-M-D	Aug-Nov	   
Downy Wood Mint	<i>Blephilia ciliata</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Jul	 
White Turtlehead	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	X		X	X	X		☀️	W-M-D	Jul-Sep	   

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Meadow Thistle	<i>Cirsium pumilum</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Blue Mistflower*	<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>								W-M-D	Sep-Oct	
Purple Prairie Clover*	<i>Dalea purpurea</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Showy Tick Trefoil	<i>Desmodium canadense</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Aug	
Pale Purple Coneflower*	<i>Echinacea pallida</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Jul	
Purple Coneflower*	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Rattlesnake Master*	<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Spotted Joe-pye-weed	<i>Eutrochium maculatum</i>	X	X		X	X			W-M-D	Jun-Aug	
Common Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	X			X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Upland Boneset	<i>Eupatorium sessilifolium</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Bottle Gentian	<i>Gentiana clausa</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Fringed Gentian	<i>Gentianopsis crinita</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Wild Geranium	<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	X			X	X		●	W-M-D	Apr-Jul	
Water Avens	<i>Geum rivale</i>	X				X			W-M-D	May-Jul	
Prairie Smoke	<i>Geum triflorum</i>	X			X	X			W-M-D	Apr-Jun	

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Common Sneezeweed	<i>Helenium autumnale</i>			X	X				W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Downy Sunflower*	<i>Helianthus mollis</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Sep	
Oxeye Sunflower	<i>Heliospopsis helianthoides</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Swamp Rose Mallow	<i>Hibiscus moscheutos</i>		X		X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Blue Flag	<i>Iris versicolor</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	May-Jul	
Round-headed Bush-clover	<i>Lespedeza capitata</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Sep	
Hairy Bush-clover	<i>Lespedeza hirta</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Sep	
Button Blazing-star*	<i>Liatris aspera</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
Marsh Blazing Star*	<i>Liatris spicata</i>		X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Cardinal Flower	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Indian Tobacco	<i>Lobelia inflata</i>							●	W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
Great Blue Lobelia	<i>Lobelia siphilitica</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
Bradbury's Bee Balm*	<i>Monarda bradburiana</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Jul	
Oswego Tea	<i>Monarda didyma</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jun	
Wild Bergamot	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	X				X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	

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Horsemint	<i>Monarda punctata</i>				X				W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Wild Quinine*	<i>Parthenium integrifolium</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Foxglove Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon digitalis</i>	X	X	X	X	X		●	W-M-D	Jun-Jul	
Hairy Beardtongue	<i>Penstemon hirsutus</i>		X					●	W-M-D	May-Jun	
Ditch Stonecrop	<i>Penthorum sedoides</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Sep	?
Sweet Everlasting	<i>Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Sep	
Blunt Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>					X			W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Slender Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Common Mountain Mint	<i>Pycnanthemum virginianum</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Yellow Coneflower*	<i>Ratibida pinnata</i>			X		X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Black-eyed Susan	<i>Rudbeckia hirta ssp. hirta</i>	X	X		X				W-M-D	Jun-Oct	
Cutleaf Coneflower	<i>Rudbeckia laciniata</i>	X		X	X	X		●	W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
Wild Petunia*	<i>Ruellia humilis</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Aug	
Maryland Figwort	<i>Scrophularia marilandica</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
American Senna	<i>Senna hebecarpa</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Aug	

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Royal Catchfly*	<i>Silene regia</i>								W-M-D	Jul-Aug	
Fire Pink*	<i>Silene virginica</i>								W-M-D	May-Jul	
Narrow-leaved Blueeye Grass	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i>								W-M-D	May-Jun	
Stiff Goldenrod	<i>Solidago rigida</i>	X							W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Heart-leaved Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum cordifolium</i>							●	W-M-D	Sep-Oct	
New England Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum novae-angliae</i>	X		X	X				W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Crooked-stemmed Aster	<i>Symphyotrichum prenanthoides</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Yellow Pimpernel	<i>Taenidia integerrima</i>							●	W-M-D	May-Jul	
Ohio Spiderwort*	<i>Tradescantia ohiensis</i>								W-M-D	May-Jul	
Giant Ironweed	<i>Vernonia gigantea</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Culver's Root	<i>Veronicastrum virginicum</i>								W-M-D	Jun-Aug	
Golden Alexanders	<i>Zizia aurea</i>	X				X			W-M-D	Apr-Jun	
GRASSES											
Big Bluestem	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	X			X	X			W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Purple Love Grass	<i>Eragrostis spectabilis</i>				X				W-M-D	Jul-Aug	

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Switchgrass	<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Little Bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i>	X	X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Oct	
Indiangrass	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	X	X			X			W-M-D	Aug-Sep	
Prairie Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus heterolepis</i>		X	X	X	X			W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
Purpletop	<i>Tridens flavus</i>								W-M-D	Aug-Oct	
SEDGES											
Yellow Sedge	<i>Carex flava</i>								W-M-D	May-Jun	
Pennsylvania Sedge	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>				X	X		●	W-M-D	Apr-May	
Gray's Sedge	<i>Carex grayi</i>								W-M-D	May-Jun	
SHRUBS											
Red Chokeberry	<i>Aronia arbutifolia</i>				X	X	X		W-M-D	May	
Red-osier Dogwood	<i>Cornus sericea</i>		X		X	X	X		W-M-D	Jun-Sep	
Shrubby St. John's Wort	<i>Hypericum prolificum</i>				X	X			W-M-D	Jul-Sep	
Inkberry*	<i>Ilex glabra</i>		X		X				W-M-D	Jun-Jul	
Winterberry Holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>		X		X	X	X	●	W-M-D	Jun-Jul	

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Mountain Laurel*	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>		X		X			☀️	W-M-D	May-Jun	 
Spicebush	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>		X		X	X	X	☀️ ●	W-M-D	Mar	  
Pinxterbloom Azalea	<i>Rhododendron periclymenoides</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	May	  
Smooth Rose	<i>Rosa blanda</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Jul	 
Carolina Rose	<i>Rosa carolina</i>							☀️☀️	W-M-D	Jun-Aug	 

TREES

Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>		X		X	X	X	☀️☀️ ●	W-M-D	Apr-May	 
Common Serviceberry	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i>					X	X	☀️☀️ ●	W-M-D	Apr-May	  
Musclewood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>				X	X	X	☀️	W-M-D	Apr-May	 
Tuliptree	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>				X	X	X	☀️	W-M-D	May-Jun	  
Sweetbay*	<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>					X		☀️☀️	W-M-D	Apr-May	 
Black Tupelo	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>				X	X	X	☀️☀️	W-M-D	May-Jun	 
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>		X		X	X	X	☀️☀️	W-M-D	May	 