

ovate -

egg-shaped; having such a shape with the broader end at the base, as a leaf.

pappus -

a ring of fine feathery hairs surrounding the fruit in composite plants, such as the thistle; aids in the dispersal of the seeds by the wind.



stolon -

a long, horizontal stem that grows along the surface of the soil and propagates by producing roots and shoots at the nodes or tip.

For additional information, check out the following websites:

<http://www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora>

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/>

<http://wildones.org/land/wibirdpl>

Information in this booklet is provided  
courtesy of the Oneida County  
Land and Water Conservation Department



Resources used:  
Oneida County UW-Extension, Land and Water  
Conservation Department, Wisconsin DNR, USDA

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## NATIVE GROUND COVERS of the NORTHWOODS *Oneida County & Surrounding Areas*

Native groundcover vegetation such as wildflowers, ferns, grasses, and sedges are among the world's most diverse and ecologically important plant families, with hundreds of species in Wisconsin alone. These plants, found in wetlands, marshes, woodlands, bogs, meadows, or along shorelines are becoming increasingly popular with landscapers and home gardeners.

Learning to identify these plants or locating them where they will be the most beneficial can be challenging, and technical guides can be difficult to overwhelm for a non-specialist. The common, native vegetation in the Northwoods, mentioned within this booklet, can help make identification a little easier. It can also help you choose the best plants to add to your landscape, woodland area or shoreline to help prevent erosion, stabilize the shoreline or fill an unsightly area in your yard with a beautiful groundcover. This is only a small sample of the native vegetation found in the Northwoods. For more information, visit the internet sites located on the back of this booklet.

*RG – identified for use in Rain Gardens*

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## Some Words/Terms Used In This Publication

<b>Wetland</b>	A term used for an area in which plants tolerate or prefer moist or wet locations.
<b>Mesic</b>	A term used for an area in which plants prefer or tolerate loamy soil neither too wet nor too dry.
<b>Dry Mesic</b>	A term used for an area in which plants tolerate or prefer sandy loam or sandy conditions.
<b>Woodland</b>	A term used for an area in which plants prefer to grow in humus-rich woodland soil.
<b>Native</b>	A term used to describe plants that naturally grow in one or more of the following counties in Wisconsin: Iron, Florence, Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marinette, Oneida, Price and Vilas.

## FLOWERING PLANTS

***Actea pachypoca* – Dolls Eyes, White Baneberry.** This plant likes woodland locations and will grow from 1 to 2 feet in height. It has white flowers that bloom in June and white berries with a black “eye”. Berries are poisonous.

***Actea rubra* – Red Baneberry.** A plant that likes woodland areas and also grows from 1 to 2 feet in height. It has brilliant red berries which are also poisonous.

***Anaphalis margaritacea* – Pearly Everlasting.** A perennial herb that grows erect up to heights of about 8-12 inches and has narrow, alternate leaves. The undersides of the leaves are covered in tiny hairs, giving them a wooly feel and appearance. Stems are dry and brittle. The flower is small, whitish to yellowish, and blooms in August. This plant prefers dry, sunny climates, although it is hardy to temperatures well below freezing. It is a good accent or filler plant and a good plant for drying.



***Anemone quinquefolia* – Wood Anemone.** This perennial is a good ground cover. It likes sun to shade, dry to mesic soils, grows 2 to 8 inches tall and has white flowers that fade to pink in the spring.

***Antennaria neglecta* – Field Pussytoes.** This perennial likes sun and dry soils. It has white or pink flowers and grows 4 to 16 inches tall. Fibrous roots and colony-forming stolons make for good ground cover.

on its own as a shade lawn. It is also great for rain gardens, grows only to 8 inches in height and is a soft, graceful grass and groundcover. **RG**

### ***Carex scoparia* – Pointed Broom Sedge.**

This native perennial sedge is 1½ to 2½ feet tall, forming tight bunches of flowering culms with alternate leaves. The culms of the fertile shoots are erect to ascending, light to medium green, slender, stiff, and 3-angled. During the flowering period, three to four leaves occur along the lower half of each culm, while older leaves have withered away.



## ADDITIONAL GLOSSARY WORDS



**basal** - of, at, or forming a base.

**bipinnate** - having the leaflets themselves divided into smaller leaflets.

**clonal** - to separate (a batch of cells or cell products) so that each portion produces only its own kind.

**cordate** - heart-shaped with the attachment at the notched end.

**culm** - a stem or stalk, especially the jointed and usually hollow stem of grasses.

**glabrous** - having a surface devoid of hair; without hair, smooth.

**lanceolate** - narrowing and tapering toward the apex or base, as a leaf; lance-shaped.

**Carex lacustris – Common Lake Sedge.** This plant spreads aggressively by runners and may not be suitable for small landscape plantings. It prefers wetlands and will grow to 2 feet in height. It actively grows during the spring and fall when soil temperatures are cool and grows best in shallow marshes, alder thickets and shorelines. It is well suited to lake edges and other areas of standing water. It has iris-like leaves and is an excellent shoreline stabilizer. The plant prefers sun and partial sun. **RG**



**Carex stricta – Common Tussock Sedge, Hummock Sedge, Tussock Sedge or Upright Sedge.** Primarily grows in sedge meadows and can be 16 to 40 inches tall. This plant is a clonal sedge and leaves and stems are rough. It forms hummocks and tolerates fluctuating water levels. It almost always appears in wetlands.

**Carex comosa – Bottlebrush or Bristly Sedge.**

This plant is a perennial bunch type sedge that will grow in up to 12 inches of water and tolerate seasonal flooding. It grows in marshes, lake shores and wet meadows. The drooping spikes have a “bottlebrush” appearance. It grows best in full to partial sun. Stems are coarse and grow from 20 to 40 inches in height. The plant is not drought tolerant and is apparently a long-lived species that invades gaps in wetlands. The plant grows vegetatively for the first few years and then flowers when it becomes larger. It flowers from May through July and its fruit is eaten by waterfowl. **RG**



**Carex pennsylvanica – Pennsylvania Sedge.** With its tough disposition and spreading habit, this native grass makes an excellent shade groundcover. Fine texture and fountain habit give this sedge a soft appearance that is lovely as an under-planting for bolder shade perennials or



**Antennaria howellii – Howell’s Large Pussytoes.** A native, erect perennial, 4 to 16 inches tall with fibrous roots and colony-forming stolons. Flower heads are white to pinkish and brush-like with numerous, tubular disc flowers that bloom from April through June. This plant likes dry to moderate moisture and grows in fields, woods and prairies in sandy soil. It is good for erosion control.

**Aquilegia canadensis – Wild Columbine.** This great companion plant to birch likes woodland locations and grows to 2 feet in height. Flowers are 1 to 2 inches long and have yellow petals with a red spur and red sepals which appear in late spring. The round end of the spur contains nectar, sought by butterflies and hummingbirds. This plant is a nice accent or rain garden plant. **RG**

**Aralia nudicaulis – Wild Sarsaparilla.** This plant prefers woodland areas, is 1 to 1½ feet tall with green flowers that bloom in June. It is found on beaches and in acidic soils and can grow under pines.

**Arctostaphylos uva-ursi – Bearberry, Kinnickinnick.** This plant is actually a shrub but grows low to the ground. It likes moist areas, bogs or sandy, rocky soil. It grows 2 to 6 inches in height and has white or pink flowers. It grows best in sun and part sun. It has bright red fruit that ripens in August. The shrub forms mats and has a root depth of 24 inches.

**Asarum canadense – Wild Ginger.** The flower of this plant is brownish to purple inside. Some folks liken the flower to a little knocked-over jug on the ground. Wild ginger makes an excellent addition to a shade garden. Growing it from seed is not practical, but a large colony of the plant will have a large mass of underground rhizomes. Rhizomes may be dug from the ground after the plant has leafed out in the spring and transplanted to your wildflower garden.



However, harvesting wildflowers from the national forests is illegal unless you have obtained a permit. The plant is an alternate host plant for the beautiful Pipevine Swallowtail butterfly.

**Asclepias incarnate – Swamp Milkweed.** Swamp milkweed is an herbaceous perennial plant that grows upright from 4 to 6 feet in height and blooms in early to mid-summer, producing small, fragrant flowers. The flower color may vary from darker shades of purple to



soft, pinkish-purple to pink and sometimes white. After blooming, green seed pods, approximately 4½ inches long, are produced that when ripe, split open, then release light to dark brown, flat seeds that are attached to silver-white silky-hairs ideal for catching the wind. This natural mechanism for seed dispersal is similar to that used by other milkweed plants. **RG**

**Asclepias syriaca – Common Milkweed.**

This plant likes sun to partial shade and dry to mesic soils. It can grow to 3 to 6 feet tall, has pink to cream flowers and is a good plant for pollinators. The monarch butterfly is attracted to this plant as well as the swamp milkweed for food.



**Aster novae angliae – New England Aster.** This native to the Northwoods grows to 47 inches tall. Flowers have yellow disc florets at the center and ray florets ranging from deep purple or rose. It likes moist to dry mesic soil, blooms in June, but prefers sunny areas. Its handsome flowers continue to bloom even after a frost.



**Aster pilosus – Frost Aster.** This plant prefers dry mesic soil and grows from 2 to 4 feet in height. It has white flowers and tolerates sun and partial shade. It is a good choice for erosion control for poor soils.

**Aster Macrophila – Big Leaf Aster.** Here is the perfect plant for shady areas with less than perfect soil. It is drought tolerant, and does best in loamy soil with good humus content, but will also thrive in sandy loam and clay soils with good organic matter. It spreads gradually by underground rhizomes, and makes a good groundcover in hard-to-landscape, shady spots. In late summer, the three-foot-tall bluish/white flower heads appear. The plant thrives on well-drained hillsides and is an excellent choice for helping to stabilize slopes.

**Campanula rotundifolia – Harebells.** A rhizomatous perennial flowering plant in the bell-flower family. It is often referred to as the bluebell. It likes mesic to dry mesic soils and grows to 10 inches in height. Flowers bloom in August. The plant prefers sun and partial sun and has dainty, blue flowers above basal foliage.



**Glyceria canadensis – Rattlesnake Grass or Rattlesnake Manna Grass.** This plant likes wet, shallow marshes and bogs, wooded swamps and lakeshores. It grows 12 to 35 inches in height, has solitary, erect stems, drooping branches and graceful, drooping flowers and seed heads.

**Hierochloa hirta – Northern Sweet Grass or Vanilla Grass.**

Stems of this plant are semi-erect and up to 30 inches tall. It often has a reddish-purple color near the base, likes moist ground on shores, meadows and low prairies, bogs and marshes. A sweet fragrance develops once the plant is dried and it has been used as incense and fragrance. Longer leaves are braided and used for crafts or decorating baskets, bowls, trays and mats.



**Panicum virgatum – Switchgrass.** This common perennial is a warm-season grass found in prairies, native grass pastures and naturalized along roadsides. It is used primarily for soil conservation, forage production, game cover, and as an ornamental grass. It grows 36 to 72 inches in height and likes a mesic location.

**Schizachyrium scoparium – Broom Beard Grass, Little Bluestem or Prairie Beard Grass.** Grows in dry prairies and open woods and is about 48 inches tall. It can be propagated by division or by seed. Although it has a blue tint in the spring, in fall, its predominant color is red, and may retain that color throughout winter into spring. The plant prefers well-drained, sunny sites.

## **SEDGES**



**Carex crinita – Fringed Sedge.** This perennial is 2 to 4 feet tall, consisting of a loose tuft of leafy culms which are light green, 3-angled, and glabrous. The leaf blades are up to 13 inches long and are light to medium green, grooved, glabrous, and rough along their margins. The two outer sides of the leaf sheaths are light green, longitudinally veined, and glabrous, becoming reddish brown toward the base of each culm. The inner side of the leaf sheaths is more membranous and deteriorates with age. **RG**

***Matteuccia pennsylvanica* – Ostrich Fern.**

Prefers woodland areas, grows 3 to 4 feet in height in part sun and shade. It is a vigorous spreading fern with a graceful upright form.



***Onoclea sensibilis* – Sensitive Fern.** This plant is also known as the bead fern and is a coarse-textured, medium to large-sized perennial. The name comes from the observation by early American settlers that it was very sensitive to frost, dying quickly when first touched by it.



***Osmonda claytoniana* – Interrupted Fern.** Likes wood to wetlands and grows 3 to 4 feet high and is suitable as a landscape specimen. It tolerates standing water and part sun to shade. **RG**

***Equisetum* – Horsetail.** This plant prefers dry mesic soils and sunny areas. Many years ago people used the stems to scour iron cooking pots, shine buttons and remove the rust from shotguns. Stems are embedded with silica making it good for sanding. It is a good choice for erosion control.

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## **GRASSES**

***Calamagrostis canadensis* – Blue Joint Grass or Canada Blue Joint Grass.** This plant likes wet to wet mesic to wet meadow locations and can grow from 20 to 60 inches in height. It stands in winter and is good food and cover for wildlife, having many slender stems.

***Elymus hystrix* – Bottlebrush Grass, Eastern Bottlebrush Grass or Glumeless Wild Rye.** This graceful ornamental grass of rich woods and woods' edges produces pale greenish-white seed heads that look like delicate bottle brushes (up to 1½ inches wide and 6 inches long), the seed heads develop in June and persist all summer. Immature seed heads are dried and used in flower arrangements.



***Caulophyllum thalictroides* – Blue Cohosh.**

This erect perennial wildflower grows to be 1 to 3 feet high. It has flowers that are green to yellow in color arranged in branched terminal clusters of 5 to 70 flowers and blooms from April to May. It has dark blue, berry-like fruit and prefers a moist habitat in woods and forests.

***Clematis virginiana* – Virgin's Bower or Woodbine.** This vine is a fragrant, fall-blooming clematis that is somewhat similar in flower to sweet autumn clematis. It is a vigorous, deciduous, twining vine with a rampant growth habit. If given support, it will climb rapidly with the aid of tendrillous leaf petioles to 20 feet. Without support, it will sprawl along the ground as a dense, tangled ground cover. It features sweetly aromatic, 1¼ inch diameter, starry, pure white flowers that give way to silky-plumed seed heads. It likes woodland areas and grows best in sun and part sun.



***Clintonia borealis* – Blue Bead Lily.** This plant grows best in woodland areas and can be 6 to 12 inches in height. It has cream colored flowers that bloom in May and likes part sun to shade. It has blue berries and pale nodding bells.

***Cornus Canadensis* – Bunchberry.** This plant is a perennial wildflower, 2 to 8 inches tall with white flowers and clusters of red berries. It prefers moist acidic soils in forests and bogs. The flowers of this perennial bloom from May through July.

***Epilobium angustifolium* – Fireweed.** This well-known wildflower often forms large colonies on roadsides. It looks similar to Foxglove and likes woods, wet and dry mesic locations. It is a hardy plant, with straight woody stems to several feet high, bearing long thin leaves.

The bright pink, four-petaled, showy flowers are similar to phlox. It is one of the first plants to colonize areas devastated by volcanoes, hence its common name, Fireweed. Seedpods are long and thin and seeds are surrounded by fluff. They can be blown far and wide by the slightest breeze spreading the plant over wide areas.



***Erigeron strigosus* – Daisy Fleabane.** A native, annual wildflower with sparse foliage and stems with short, closely-lying hairs. Flowers are white to pink and bloom from June through September. This plant prefers fields, woods and roadsides and grows from 1 to 3 feet tall.



***Eupatorium perfoliatum* – Boneset.** This plant is a common perennial plant. It was introduced to American colonists by Indians who used the plant for breaking fevers by means of heavy sweating. It is nearly always found in low, wet areas. It is a specific butterfly food and habitat plant. It is a hairy plant with dense, flat-topped clusters of many, tiny, white flowers on top of 3 to 6 foot stems. Paired leaves, united basally, are perforated by the erect stems.

***Fragaria virginiana* – Wild Strawberry.** A low perennial, with several, slender, trailing runners and leaf stalks. Flowers are white; 2 to 15 in open clusters on stems that are usually shorter than leaves; all have 5 petals. Fruits are small, juicy, delicious, red berries; much richer in flavor than domestic species. The plants like dry to moist open woodlands and clearings, often in disturbed areas and sunny locations. The delicious fruits of wild strawberry are popular among most northern residents. They are usually eaten raw, but can also be collected in quantity and frozen, dried or made into jams and jellies. The leaves are often steeped in boiling water to make tea.



***Gaultheria procumbens* – Wintergreen.** This is actually a shrub that likes woodland areas in partial sun and shade. It has white flowers on plants 2 to 6 inches in height. Leaves and berries have a wintergreen flavor. The plant especially likes sandy areas under evergreens and oaks. It colonizes and has creeping stems.

***Geranium maculatum* – Wild Geranium.** A woodland, perennial plant that grows in dry to moist woods and is normally abundant when found. It grows to a foot tall, producing upright, usually unbranched, stems and flowers in spring to early summer. Flowers are rose-purple, pale or violet-purple (rarely white) and appear from April to June. The plant has been used in herbal medicines, and is also grown as a garden plant. This plant is easy to grow from seed.

***Waldsteinia ternata* – Barren Strawberry.** Easily grown in average to medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. This plant will tolerate a wide range of soils and is primarily a ground cover. Features strawberry-like leaves and flowers. The fruit of this plant (berries) is not edible. Typically, the plant can grow 4 to 6 inches tall and spreads by stolons and rhizomes to form a thick carpet. It is an effective edger and spreads slowly; surface runners are short. It is a good groundcover for dry to moist woods and slopes. It is used for erosion control.

***Zizia aurea* – Golden Alexander.** This plant, native to the Northwoods, usually ranges in height from 1 to 3 feet. It prefers a mesic or wetland location and has large, light yellow, flat-top flower clusters that bloom from May to June. It is a host plant for caterpillars of the Black Swallowtail butterfly. The leaves have serrated edges. In the fall both the leaves and the fruit turn purple. **RG**



## **FERNS AND OTHER NON-FLOWERING PLANTS**



***Athyrium filix femina* – Lady Fern.** This native perennial has deciduous leaves about 2 to 3½ feet long in loose tufts. The petioles are mostly light green or straw-colored, becoming darker toward the base. Each leaf blade is bipinnate with 8 or more pairs of linear-lanceolate leaflets (not necessarily opposite from each other); the larger leaflets have 16 or more pairs of subleaflets. Their margins are slightly serrated and rolled downward.

***Comptonia peregrina* – Sweet Fern.** This low shrub prefers dry areas in woods, forests, cliffs and rocky soil. It grows 2 to 4 feet high and likes sun to partial sun. It is fragrant, spreads by rhizomes, forms colonies and performs well in poor, dry soils.



early fall. ***S. flexicaulis* – Zig Zag.** Stems zig zag. Unlike the others listed above, this variety will tolerate shade. It grows in woodland areas to 12 to 48 inches in height. It likes partial sun to shade with moderate moisture and blooms in August and September. Seeds are disbursed on fluffy pappus.



***Trientalis borealis* – American Starflower.** This native wildflower has white, saucer-shaped flowers. It is an erect perennial and grows 4 to 8 inches tall from slender rhizomes. It likes moderate moisture and rich soil in forests and bogs.

***Uvularia grandiflora* – Merrybells.** This native plant to the Northwoods and likes sun to partial sun. It prefers a woodland location, blooms in May, producing large yellow flowers. The top of the plant bends downward due to the weight of the leaves and flowers. The deer love these plants.

***Verbena hastata* – Blue Vervain.** Slender, pretty, deep-blue flower spires that grow to 5 feet high. It prefers a wetland location in the sun, is a self-sowing biennial, blooms in August and attracts pollinators and birds, such as the cardinal and junco, that eat the seeds. **RG**



***Viola conspersa* – Dog Violet.** Flowers of this native plant have a typical 5-petaled shape and size, and are pale lavender to light blue fading to white at the base. The lower petal has dark purple lines and the two side petals each have a tuft of white hair (a “beard”) at the base. Each plant has a few to several flowers on branching or multiple stems. A plant can start blooming when it is less than 1 inch tall. It prefers a moist

mesic location, grows from 4 to 6 inches in height and likes sunny areas.

***Vitis riparia* – Wild Grape.** This vine prefers mesic soils, has white flowers and blooms in June. It prefers sun and partial sun, has purple fruit clusters and is good for birds, wine and jelly. It is not to be confused with *Menispermum canadense*, Canada Moonseed, that looks similar but is poisonous. Wild food foragers use caution: be sure to get a positive ID.



***Helenium autumnale* – Common Sneezeweed.**

This plant prefers mesic and wetland locations growing 4 to 5 feet in height. It has yellow flowers and is a prolific late-season bloomer. Its name refers to the former use of its dried leaves in making snuff, inhaled to cause sneezing to supposedly rid the body of evil spirits. Some parts of this plant are poisonous if ingested. **RG**



***Helianthus giganteus* – Sunflower.** This plant prefers mesic and wetland locations, grows 3 to 10 feet, is long-blooming, July through October, and has abundant yellow flowers that follow the sun.

***Helianthus hirsutus* – Rough Sunflower.** Likes dry mesic areas and grows from 2 to 6 feet tall. This plant has large, bright yellow flowers for late season color, thick stalks and blooms July through October. The leaves are hairy below and rough above.

***Heliopsis helianthoides* – Oxeye Sunflower.** This species is a rhizomatous perennial herb in the aster family growing 2 to 5 feet tall. Each flower head contains yellow ray florets. At the center are many yellow to brownish disc florets. This plant is found in wooded areas and along roadsides. It prefers a mesic location, blooms July through September and flowers are long-lasting when cut.



***Heuchera richardsonii* – Alumroot.** Flowers are in a spike-like cluster to 8 inches long. They are tubular with 5 rounded lobes and 5 orange-tipped stamens. Flower color is green, but becomes brownish or reddish in sunnier locations. A rosette of basal leaves surrounds the main stems. Leaves average 3 inches long and 2½ inches wide, are somewhat round in shape, with 5 to 9 shallow lobes, coarse sharp teeth, wavy edges, and a long, hairy stem. One plant can have several stems.

***Iris versicolor* – Blue Flag.** This lovely plant has a deep blue to purple flower. It likes a mesic to wetland location, grows to 3 to 4 feet in height and blooms in June. The bluish-green leaves are wide arching, up to 4 feet long and arise from shallowly rooted, large, branching rhizomes forming clumps. The plant is commonly found growing on lake shores, swamps, and wet meadows, occasionally in shallow water. **RG**



***Lilium michiganense* – Michigan or Turk's-Cap Lily.** A native, perennial wildflower with orange, 6-part flowers that are 3 inches wide numbering several to many nodding flowers in a cluster. This plant likes wet meadows, streambanks, bogs and woods.

***Lupinus perennis* – Wild Lupine.** This Northwoods native is a popular butterfly food. It could be confused with *Lupinus polyphyllus* or big leaf lupine, that has been introduced and can become invasive. It likes sun to part shade, sandy soils and grows 8 to 24 inches tall. It can have blue to, less common, white flowers and blooms in early summer. It is an endangered but important plant for the butterfly and caterpillar.



***Maianthemum canadense* – Canada Mayflower.** This native, perennial wildflower grows 2 to 8 inches tall. The leaves are up to 3 inches long and 2 inches across and smooth. The flowers typically occur in pairs. Individual flowers have 4 white parts, 4 stamens with white filaments, pale yellow anthers, and a white to greenish-white pistil. Each flower is a little less than 1/4 inch across.

***Mitchella repens* – Partridge Berry.** Partridge Berry is an evergreen plant growing as a non-climbing vine with creeping stems 6 to 12 inches long. The dark green, shiny leaves are ovate to cordate in shape. The leaves have a pale yellow midrib. The petioles are short, and the leaves are paired oppositely on the stems. Rooting stems may branch and root repeatedly, producing loose spreading mats.

***Monarda fistulosa* – Beebalm.** A plant in the mint family ranging in height from 1 to 3 feet. Plants have an equal spread, with slender, long-tapering leaves from 3 to 6 inches in length. In all species, the leaves, when crushed, exude a spicy, highly fragrant oil. The plant prefers a mesic location, has a pretty lavender color and blooms in June. It prefers sun to partial sun and is highly adaptable to varying soil conditions. Seeds can be collected and scattered. This plant attracts bees and hummingbirds.

***Prenanthes alba* – Rattlesnake Root.** This perennial wildflower has pink to cream ray flowers arranged with nodding heads in long, branched clusters. It blooms from August to September and prefers dry, rocky soils in woods and forests. Stems are thick, and often purplish.



***Rosa palustris* – Swamp Rose.** This plant is a nice addition to a rain garden, prefers a wetland location and grows to about 4 feet in height. It has pink flowers that bloom in June and prefers sunny areas. It survives in wetlands, riverbanks, wet shorelands and has very fragrant flowers. **RG**



***Rudbeckia hirta* – Black-eyed Susan.** This plant is native to the Northwoods and many species are cultivated in gardens for their showy yellow or gold flower heads. It is herbaceous and mostly perennial although some are annual or biennial growing to about 15 inches tall. The flowers are daisy-like with yellow or orange florets arranged in a prominent, cone-shaped head. This plant likes a meadow or mesic location blooms from June through August in sunny to partly sunny areas. It is self-sowing and is a good cut flower in arrangements.

***Smilacina racemosa* – Solomon's Plume/False Solomon's Seal.** This plant prefers woodland areas, grows to 32 inches in height, has cream to white flower clusters shaped like a pyramid that bloom in May and June. This plant also has brilliant red berries in the fall.

***Solidago sp.* – canadensis Goldenrod.** - A native wildflower with small, yellow flowers sometimes browsed by deer. It is good to fair as food for cattle or horses. It is found in a variety of habitats, prefers a mesic location and is not shade tolerant. It is a good plant for erosion control and, contrary to popular belief, does NOT cause hay fever. It just happens to bloom at the same time as ragweed. ***S. nemoralis* – Old Field.** 18 to 40 inches high, yellow; blooms August through September. Grows in clumps in woods, prairies and rocky, sandy soil. ***S. speciosa* – Showy.** A native perennial up to 5 feet tall. The showy flower area is up to 1 foot long, with small yellow, compound flowers. Flowering stems are held erect or curve upward and occasionally have a fragrance. They bloom late summer or