

Native Plant Lists for Polk County



Moist Woodland Edge

Medium, loamy to wet, organic soils

Partial shade 4–8 hours

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Butterflies	Hummingbirds	Songbirds	Waterfowl	Game Birds	Reptiles/Amphibian	Small Mammals	Deer
Groundcover												
Awl fruit sedge	<i>Carex stipata</i>	12-42"	NA	NA	•		•	•	•		•	•
Blue joint grass	<i>Calamagrostis canadensis</i>	3-5'	NA	NA			•	•			•	•
Caterpillar/Fringed sedge	<i>Carex crinita</i>	2-5'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Fox sedge	<i>Carex vulpinoidea</i>	18-30"	NA	NA	•		•	•	•		•	•
Fringed brome	<i>Bromus ciliatus</i>	2-4'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Prairie cordgrass	<i>Spartina pectinata</i>	4-8'	NA	NA			•		•		•	•
Virginia wild rye	<i>Elymus virginicus</i>	2-4'	NA	NA			•	•	•			•
Shrubs												
Am. mountain ash	<i>Sorbus americana</i>	to 28'	White	June			•		•			
Black chokeberry	<i>Aronia melanocarpa</i>	3-6'	White	May	•		•		•		•	•
Chokecherry°	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	to 25'	White	May-June	•		•		•		•	•
Elderberry°	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	3-9'	White	June-July			•		•		•	•
Highbush cranberry	<i>Viburnum trilobum</i>	10-13'	White	June	•		•		•		•	•
Ironwood	<i>Carpinus caroliniana</i>	to 30'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•
Meadowsweet°	<i>Spiraea alba</i>	3-6'	White	June-Aug	•		•		•			•
Nannyberry°	<i>Viburnum lentago</i>	to 20'	White	June			•		•		•	
Northern bayberry	<i>Myrica gale</i>	3-4'	NA	NA			•		•			•
Pussy willow	<i>Salix discolor</i>	10-25'	White	April-May	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Red osier dogwood°	<i>Cornus stolonifera</i>	4-10'	White	May-Aug	•		•	•	•		•	•
Sandbar willow	<i>Salix interior</i>	6-15'	White	April			•	•	•	•	•	•
Speckled alder	<i>Alnus incana</i>	10-25'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Steeplebush°	<i>Spirea tomentosa</i>	2-4'	Pink	July-Aug	•		•		•			•
Winterberry holly	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	to 10'	White	June			•		•		•	•
Trees												
Black ash°	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	to 50'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Black willow°	<i>Salix nigra</i>	to 60'	NA	NA	•		•	•	•		•	•
Green ash°	<i>Fraxinus pensylvanica</i>	to 60'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Northern white cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	to 70'	NA	NA			•				•	•
Paper birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	to 70'	NA	NA			•		•		•	•
River birch	<i>Betula nigra</i>	to 75'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Silver maple°	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>	to 80'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Tamarack	<i>Larix laricina</i>	to 80'	NA	NA			•		•		•	•
White spruce°	<i>Picea glauca</i>	to 100'	NA	NA			•				•	•
Yellow birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	to 80'	NA	NA			•	•	•	•	•	•

NA = Not Applicable - no flowers or inconspicuous flowers

° = Clay-tolerant plant

Select Species



Moist Woodland Edge

Medium, loamy to wet, organic soils

Partial shade 4–8 hours



Awl fruit sedge (*Carex stipata*)



Blue joint grass (*Calamagrostis canadensis*)



Fox sedge (*Carex vulpinoidea*)



Chokeberry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)



Chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*)



High bush cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*)



Meadowsweet (*Spiraea alba*)



Nannyberry (*Viburnum lentago*)



Red osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)



Steeplebush (*Spiraea tomentosa*)



Tamarack (*Salix nigra*)



Yellow birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*)