

# Native Plant Lists for Polk County



## Woodland Edge

Sandy to medium soils

Partial shade 4–8 hours

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Butterflies	Hummingbirds	Songbirds	Waterfowl	Game Birds	Reptiles/Amphibians	Small Mammals	Deer
<i>Groundcovers</i>												
Big bluestem°	<i>Andropogon gerardii</i>	3-8'	NA	NA			•		•	•	•	•
Bottlebrush grass	<i>Elymus hystrix</i>	3'	NA	NA	•							
Bracken fern	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	2-3'	NA	NA			•		•		•	•
Bunchberry	<i>Cornus canadensis</i>	6-8"	NA	NA			•		•			
Canada wild rye	<i>Elymus canadensis</i>	3-6'	NA	NA							•	•
Indian grass°	<i>Sorghastrum nutans</i>	3-6'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•
Little bluestem	<i>Schizachyrium scorparium</i>	2-3'	NA	NA	•		•					•
Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	2"	NA	NA							•	
Pennsylvania sedge	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	6-18"	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	
Sideoats grama	<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>	2-3'	NA	NA			•		•			•
Wintergreen	<i>Gaultheria procumbens</i>	3-6"	NA	NA					•		•	•
<i>Wild Flowers</i>												
Big-leaf aster°	<i>Aster macrophyllus</i>	6-12"	Lavender	Aug - Oct			•		•		•	•
Bird's foot violet	<i>Viola pedata</i>	6-12"	Blue	April– Sept	•		•		•		•	
Canada anemone	<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	12-24"	White	May to July								
Columbine°	<i>Aquilegia canadensis</i>	8-24"	Pink	May -June	•	•	•					
Harebell°	<i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>	4-20"	Blue	June -Sept		•						
Pearly everlasting	<i>Anaphalis margaritacea</i>	1-2'	White	June- Aug								
Slender beard tongue	<i>Penstemon gracilis</i>	1-2'	Lilac	May-Sept								
Woodland strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	4-6"	White	May-June			•		•		•	•
<i>Shrubs</i>												
Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	2-6"	Pink	May -June					•		•	•
Blueberry	<i>Vaccinium angustifolium</i>	2-3'	Pink	May-June			•		•		•	•
Bush honeysuckle°	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	2-3'	Yellow	June-Sept	•	•			•			•
Chokecherry	<i>Prunus virginiana</i>	to 20'	White	May-June	•		•		•		•	•

°= Clay tolerant plant

NA=Not Applicable – no flowers or inconspicuous flowers

Common Name	Scientific Name	Height	Flower Color	Bloom Time	Butterflies	Hummingbirds	Songbirds	Waterfowl	Game Birds	Reptiles/Amphibians	Small Mammals	Deer
<i>Shrubs, cont.</i>												
Gray dogwood°	<i>Cornus racemosa</i>	to 8'	White	May-July			•	•	•		•	•
Hazelnut	<i>Corylus americana</i>	to 8'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•
New Jersey tea	<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>	1-3'	White	June-Aug							•	•
Pagoda dogwood	<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	to 16'	White	May -June	•		•	•	•		•	•
Pin cherry	<i>Prunus pensylvanica</i>	to 25'	White	May -June			•		•		•	•
Red root	<i>Ceanothus ovatus</i>	1-3'	White	June							•	•
Serviceberry/ Juneberry	<i>Amelanchier laevis</i>	15-25'	White	April-May			•		•		•	•
Silver buffaloberry	<i>Shepherdia canadensis</i>	6-8'	White	May-June			•				•	
Snowberry	<i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	2-4'	White	June			•		•		•	•
Sweet fern	<i>Comptonia peregrina</i>	1-3'	NA	NA					•		•	•
<i>Trees</i>												
Big-tooth aspen	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	to 60'	NA	NA					•		•	•
Bur oak°	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	to 80'	NA	NA	•		•	•	•		•	•
Jack pine	<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	to 70'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•
Northern pin oak	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	to 70'	NA	NA			•		•		•	•
Northern red oak	<i>Quercus borealis</i>	to 70'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Quaking aspen°	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	to 70'	NA	NA			•	•	•		•	•
Red pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>	to 80'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•
White pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>	100+'	NA	NA	•		•		•		•	•

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Wildlife information sources:

Craven, Scott R. and Edward R. Hasselkus. *Landscape Plants that Attract Birds*. University of Wisconsin Extension.

Martin, Alexander C. et.al., *American Wildlife and Plants, a Guide to Wildlife Food Habits; the Use of Trees, Shrubs, Weeds, and Herbs by Birds and Mammals in the United States*. 1951.

Shaw, Daniel and Rusty Schmidt. *Plant Species Selection for the Upper Midwest*. Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. 2003.

Connecticut Botanical Society web site: [www.ct-botanicalsociety.org](http://www.ct-botanicalsociety.org)

Illinois Wildflowers web site: [www.illinoiswildflowers.info](http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info)

NPIN: Native Plant Database: [www.wildflower.org](http://www.wildflower.org)

# Select Species and Suggested Uses



## Woodland Edge

Sandy to medium soils

Partial shade 4–8 hours



Bottlebrush grass (*Elymus hystrix*)



Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scorparium*)



Pennsylvania Sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*)



Side oats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*)



Big leaf aster (*Aster macrophyllus*)



Columbine (*Aquilegia canadense*)



Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*)



Pearly everlasting (*Anaphalis margaritacea*)



Slender beard tongue (*Penstemon gracilis*)



Dwarf bush honeysuckle (*Diervilla lonicera*)



Gray dogwood (*Cornus racemosa*)



Pagoda dogwood (*Cornus alternifolia*)