

## **NATIVE PLANTS at WILLOW POINT: *Friends Meadow***

### **Planted and maintained by volunteers from Friends of Dobbs Ferry Waterfront Park**

The Friends planted a variety of native plants in the spring of 2021. Once established, these perennial plants are low maintenance and good for the environment - and our pollinator friends. The following is a list of plants, and the reasons why we selected each one. We hope this helps you select native perennials for your own gardens. And please visit and enjoy Friends Meadow! We also invite you to join our volunteer crew to maintain these plantings. For more info, please send us a message via our website [dfwaterfrontpark.org](http://dfwaterfrontpark.org)



#### **Agastache Foeniculum (Blue Fortune) *Anise Hyssop***

- Long-blooming from mid to late summer, Agastache is an excellent plant for pollinators.
- Adds structure; its spikes of lavender blue flowers allow light to penetrate to the lower levels of the garden.
- In October, Agastache begins to turn yellow-green and then a rich dark brown, providing fall and winter character.
- Finches eat their seeds in winter.



#### **Amsonia Tabernaemontana (Starstruck) *Bluestar***

- Amsonia Tabernaemontana is a good butterfly nectar plant, spring bloomers with lovely blue flowers
- Attractive fall color and provides deciduous groundcover. Easy to grow, deer tolerant.



**Asclepias Tuberosa** *Milkweed/Butterfly weed*    **Asclepias Verticillata**

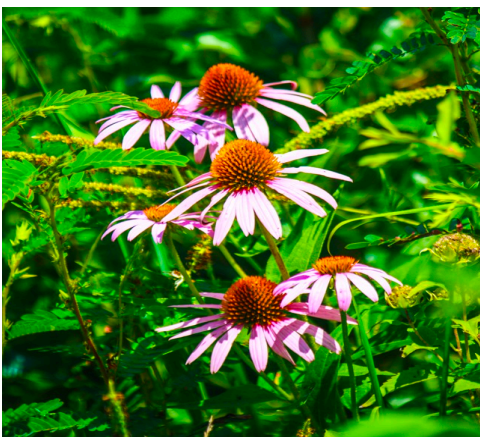
- Monarch butterflies need milkweed plants to survive. Monarchs lay their eggs on milkweed, the hatched caterpillars consume plant foliage for growth/development, and adult monarchs consume the flower nectar.
- The continuous display of orange or white flowers are highly attractive to several species of butterflies, as well as hummingbirds, from June into September.
- They have a pleasing fragrance and provide attractive fall foliage.
- They are easy to grow and are deer and drought-resistant.
- Mature plants self-seed.



**Coreopsis verticillata** (*Grandiflora*) *Tickseed*

**Coreopsis verticillata** (*Zagreb*)

- Coreopsis provides nectar and pollen for native bees and butterflies, as well as good spring forage for pollinators.
- They bloom in the spring and will continue to produce flowers into the early fall, if deadheaded.
- Low maintenance, drought-tolerant, and deer and rabbit resistant.
- They provide good ground cover, spread nicely, and are easily controlled in the landscape.



**Echinacea Purpurea** - *Purple Coneflower*

- Echinacea is an excellent source of midsummer pollen and nectar which is attractive to birds and butterflies
- Their seedheads attract goldfinches.
- They have a nice vertical upright growth and provide deciduous groundcover.





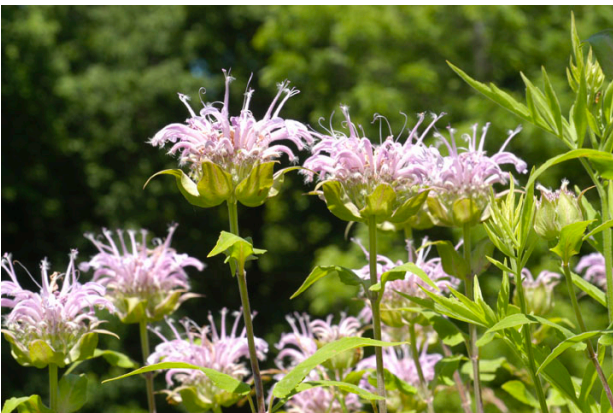
**Eitrochium Dubium** *Little Joe Pye*

- Little Joe Pye supports 41 species of caterpillars.
- They produce pollen and nectar and attract numerous bees as well as butterflies.
- Little Joe Pye blooms from July through September.
- They are easily grown and are deer-tolerant.



**Helenium Autumnale** *Common sneezeweed*

- Helenium Autumnale attracts butterflies and many other insect pollinators.
- Late bloomers, with showy flowers which bloom from mid-summer to September.
- They are easily grown and low maintenance but may be pruned to control their size.
- Despite their nickname, sneezeweed does not have pollen grains that can be carried by wind and cause hay fever symptoms as ragweed does. Insects pollinate common sneezeweed, not wind.



**Monarda Fistulosa** *Bee balm*

- Monarda is an excellent butterfly and hummingbird plant.
- Produces pollen and nectar.
- Provides cover for wildlife and nest sites for birds.



**Pycnanthemum muticum**

*short-toothed mountain mint*

- Mountain mint is a superior source of nectar and pollen for native bees, butterflies, and other pollinators.
- Provides cover for wildlife.
- Blooms from July to September and have a pleasant mint-like fragrance when leaves are rubbed.
- They are easily grown and low maintenance.



**Pycnanthemum tenuifolium**

*narrow-leaved mountain mint*



**Rudbeckia fulgida** *Black-eyed Susan or Orange coneflower*

- Prolific daisy-like flowers with yellow rays and brownish-purple centers are useful to pollinators.
- Rudbeckia fulgida has a special value to native bees. Its nectar attracts butterflies, and it supports the reproduction of dozens of insect pollinator species. Their seeds are eaten by birds in the late fall and winter.
- They have a tall upright structure in the garden bed.
- They are easy to grow and trouble-free; they slowly self-sow and are drought-tolerant.



**Solidago Rugosa (Fireworks) Goldenrod**

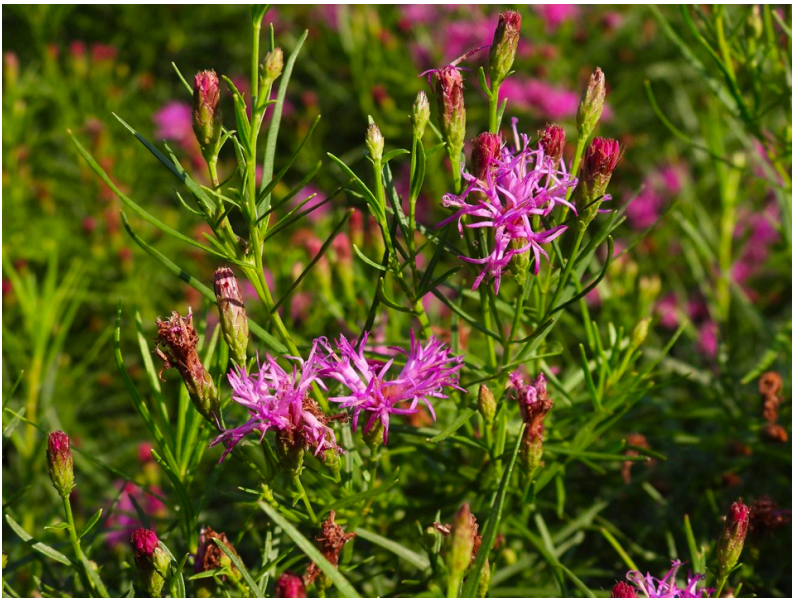
- An excellent meadow plant that supplies cover, seed, pollen, nectar, and food for 115 species of caterpillars.
- Solidago is attractive to bees and butterflies and provides nest sites for birds and food for wintering birds.
- In bloom from late August into the fall when other pollinator plants are waning.
- Solidago (goldenrod) has been wrongfully accused of causing hay fever which is an allergic reaction to wind-borne pollen from other plants such as ragweed.





**Symphotrichum Oblongifolium** *Aromatic aster*

- Asters produce nectar and pollen for all our pollinators, and host 109 species of caterpillars, including the pearl crescent butterfly and the saddleback caterpillar moth.
- They are late bloomers, with abundant flowers from August to September and provide good ground cover.



**Vernonia Lettermanii** *Iron Butterfly*

- They are an important pollinator in the garden, producing pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Their showy, long-lasting blooms are highly attractive to hummingbirds and many other pollinators, and especially for the last butterflies of the season.
- They provide food for wintering birds.
- They grow in a compact and densely mounding manner, providing good deciduous ground cover in the summer.
- They tolerate drought and occasional flooding.



**Waldsteinia fragarioides** *Barren strawberry*

- Waldsteinia is a deciduous groundcover, tolerant of shade and drought.
- Their yellow flowers produce pollen and nectar in Spring
- They can grow between other species or as a border.
- They function as cover for wildlife and erosion control.



**Zizia Aurea** *Golden Alexander*

- Zizia attracts butterflies and hosts the swallowtail.
- They are a dynamic filler layer: they find and inhabit gaps in the planting beds.
- Zizia is a spring bloomer.