



# Native Flowers of Knoxville



## Purple aster (*Aster*)

These hardy, sunny faced lavender and pink flowers (with yellow centers) look like tiny daisies.



## Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepia*)

Gorgeous orange bloomer loved by hummingbirds and butterflies, especially the Monarch.



## Spiderwort (*Tradescantia*)

They open up in the morning. However, they close during in the afternoon in direct sunlight.



## Tennessee coneflower (*Echinacea*)

One of the nation's most rare wildflowers, this classic light pink coneflower.



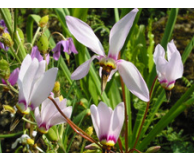
## Wild Geranium (*Geranium*)

Good for Eastern shade gardens. Seeds attract Mourning Doves, Bobwhite Quail, and White-tailed Deer.



## Dense blazing star (*Liatris*)

Especially adapted to hummingbird visitation. The stem juice is said to relieve itching from poison ivy.



## Shooting star (*Dodecatheon*)

Bees are the main pollinators. They extract the pollen by vibrating their bodies against the tube.



## Fire pink (*Silene*)

A common name for members of this genus is Catchfly, which refers to the sticky hairs or exudates which trap insects.

## Virginia bluebells (*Mertensia*)

When it grows in masses, this species makes a spectacular show.



## Bee balm (*Monarda*)

Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and of course bees, as its name suggests.



## Wild columbine (*Aquilega*)

Leaves are lobed and grouped in 3s, growing from the base and of the flowering stems.



## Bleeding heart (*Dicentra*)

Evergreen plant for Eastern shade gardens. A variety of birds and mammals eat the berries of this plant.



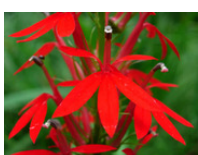
## Max sunflower (*Helianthus*)

Deer and numerous species of birds eat the seeds. It is also a useful wildlife cover plant.



## Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia*)

As most insects find it difficult to navigate the long tubular flowers, this species depends on hummingbirds.



## Solomon's seal (*Polygonatum*)

The leaf stalk breaks away, leaving a distinctive scar said to resemble the official seal of King Solomon.



## Turtlehead (*Chelone*)

The flowers, the shape of which suggest a turtle head, are purple; the lower lip bearded with tiny yellow hairs.





# Native Trees of Knoxville

## Serviceberry (*Amelanchier*)

Usually grows to 15-25 ft. tall. This tree's berries are preferred by many different species of birds and other wildlife.

## Redbud (*Cercis*)

Its pink flowers are borne in tight clusters along the stems and branches before new leaves appear, creating a showy display.

## Witch-hazel (*Hamamelis*)

Birds eat the fruits (small brown capsules). Deer and beavers browse the base. It has fragrant, strap-like yellow flowers.

## Hop-hornbeam (*Ostrya*)

Provides some food value to songbirds and small mammals. The fruit clusters resemble hops.

## Carolina buckthorn (*Rhamnus*)

Ripe berries attract birds. Leaves and bark are browsed by deer. Height ranges from 12- 15 ft.

## White/green/blue ash (*Fraxinus*)

All three types have winged seeds that attract song and game birds, also providing cover and nesting sites.

## Red/silver/sugar maple (*Acer*)

Maples are relied on by the Rosy Maple Moth and a variety of other insects. Provides a habitat for squirrels and birds.

## River birch (*Betula*)

Birch trees provide a great habitat for birds and squirrels. The silver bark peels to reveal a cinnamon-brown trunk beneath.

## Flowering dogwood (*Mertensia*)

Graceful, horizontal-tiered branching, red fruits, and scarlet-red fall foliage make this tree spectacularly beautiful.

## Fringe tree (*Chionanthus*)

The berries are attractive to wildlife. Twigs and foliage are browsed by many animals.

## American holly (*Ilex*)

The berries attract many birds and small mammal species. Also provides cover and nesting sites.

## Sourwood (*Oxydendrum*)

Height ranges from 30-70 ft. Small white lily-of-the-valley-like flowers turn red in autumn.

## Rusty blackhaw (*Viburnum*)

Glossy, dark-green, deciduous leaves turn a variety of warm hues in autumn. Flowers attract bees and butterflies.

## Tulip poplar (*Liriodendron*)

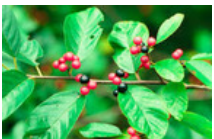
The leaves are waxy and smooth, and dependably turn bright gold in fall. This is a favorite nesting tree for birds.

## Sycamore (*Platanus*)

A shade tree, Sycamore grows to a larger trunk diameter (11 ft.) than any other native hardwood.

## Blackgum (*Nyssa*)

Smooth, waxy dark-green summer foliage changes to fluorescent yellow, orange, scarlet and purple in fall.







# Native Shrubs of Knoxville

## Bottlebrush buckeye (*Aesculus*)

Tall, cylindrical spikes of feathery white flowers with pink stamens. Flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

## Red/black chokeberry (*Aronia*)

Intermediate food source for birds. They have dark green, glossy leaves that consistently turn a rich, orange-red in fall.

## Buttonbush (*Cephalanthus*)

Flowers attract butterflies, humming birds, and bees. Waterfowl such as ducks enjoy the seeds.

## Swamp mallow (*Hibiscus*)

The creamy-white flowers have a conspicuous band of red or burgundy at their bases, which attracts hummingbirds.

## St. john's wort (*Hypericum*)

Smooth, dark- to blue-green fine-textured foliage becomes yellow-green in fall. Large yellow flowers occur in few-flowered clusters.

## Winged sumac (*Rhus*)

Winter food for many upland gamebirds, songbirds and mammals. Wildlife eat the fruit while deer also browse the twigs.

## Bladdernut (*Staphylea*)

This large shrub has bell-shaped flowers; dark-green, trifoliate leaves; greenish bark with white cracks; and interesting fruit.

## Highbush blueberry (*Vaccinium*)

Berries are relished by most birds and mammals including, of course, humans. The foliage ranges in color over the year.

## Virginia sweetspire (*Itea*)

The long tassels of white flowers and red fall foliage make this an attractive ornamental.

## Beautyberry (*Callicarpa*)

Its most striking feature is the clusters of glossy, iridescent-purple fruit, which is a great wildlife food source.

## Hearts-a-bustin (*Euonymus*)

This airy, deciduous shrub grows 6-12 ft. tall. Its ridged twigs become purplish when exposed to the sun.

## Wild hydrangea (*Hydrangea*)

Small, mound-shaped densely multi-stemmed shrub. 3-6 ft. tall, often broader than high at maturity.

## Spicebush (*Lindera*)

Very attractive to birds and butterflies. Provides a larval host for Eastern Tiger and Spicebush Swallowtail.

## Elderberry (*Sambucus*)

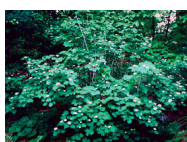
Berries are relished by many bird species and mammals. Deer eat twigs and leaves.

## Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos*)

Songbirds, ground birds, small mammals, and browsers use this plant for food, cover, and nesting sites.

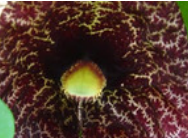
## Mapleleaf viburnum (*Viburnum*)

The distinctive, purplish-pink autumn foliage makes this a beautiful shrub. Birds eat the berries.





# Native Vines and Ground Cover of Knoxville



## **Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia*)**

This deciduous vine climbs 20-35 ft. by means of twining stems. It is also the larval home of the pipevine swallowtail.



## **Trumpet creeper (*Asclepia*)**

A fast-growing orange vine. It attracts hummingbirds and is a good choice for large fill areas.



## **Leatherflower (*Clematis*)**

An herbaceous, perennial vine climbing up to 10 ft. by means of twining petioles. Leaves are divided into 3–5 pairs of leaflets.



## **Climbing hydrangea (*Decumaria*)**

Though it can be used as both a trailing ground cover and a climber, it will only bloom when climbing.



## **Mouse-eared coreopsis (*Coreopsis*)**

The attractive foliage of the leafy rosettes persists through most of the winter. Flowers attract butterflies. Seeds attract songbirds.



## **Rattlesnake plantains (*Goodyera*)**

This plant has a cluster of white flowers atop its stem. The name refers to the mottled leaves, which resemble snake skin.



## **Carolina phlox (*Phlox*)**

Thick-leaf phlox flowers are lavender to pink. Continues to bloom intermittently until frost. It also attracts butterflies.

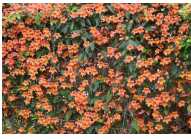


## **Maidenhair fern (*Adiantum*)**

This graceful, fan-like pattern is unique among native ferns. It also provides shelter for toads and lizards.

## **Crossvine (*Bignonia*)**

Hummingbirds are attracted to the flowers. An early nectar source for butterflies and hummingbirds.



## **Passionflower (*Passiflora*)**

Tennessee's state wildflower. Produces gorgeous flowers. The berries are loved by many birds.



## **Virgin's bower (*Clematis*)**

The flower's feathery tails or plumes give a hoary appearance and are especially showy in late summer.



## **Atlantic wisteria (*Wisteria*)**

Individual flowers are nearly 1 inch long and are lilac or bluish purple and quite fragrant. Attractive to butterflies.



## **Dwarf crested iris (*Iris*)**

Crested ridges called beards occur along the band. The flowers attract bees and butterflies.



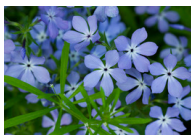
## **Foamflower (*Tiarella*)**

It spreads by underground stems, forms colonies, and makes excellent ground cover for shady, wooded sites.



## **Wild blue phlox (*Phlox*)**

Flowers attract butterflies and the roots are consumed by rabbits and voles.



## **Partridge berry (*Mitchella*)**

Fruit consumed by Ruffed Grouse, Bobwhite Quail, turkeys, skunks, and White-footed Mice.

