


















Gibbons Pines Park Stormwater Swale Gardens Native Plant Species				
Updated 4-15-24				
Perennials (Swale)				
Photo	Native Species	Ecological Benefits	Bloom Time	Volunteer?
	Packera aurea/Golden Ragwort	Semi-evergreen, cover for beneficial insects like fireflies, nectar for native bees; excellent groundcover.	March-May	
	Dennstaedtia punctilobula/Hay-scented Fern	Excellent groundcover	N/A	
	Pycnanthemum muticum/Mountain Mint	Superior source of pollen and nectar for bees and butterflies.	Summer	
	Lobelia cardinalis/Cardinal Flower	One of the best plants for hummingbirds.	Summer-Fall	
	Lobelia siphilitica/Blue Lobelia	Excellent source of nectar for hummingbirds and nocturnal sphinx moths.	Summer-Fall	

	Penstemon digitalis/Foxglove Beardtongue	Attracts hummingbirds, moths, bees and other pollinators.	May-July	
	Monarda didyma/Bee Balm	Excellent butterfly and hummingbird plant.	Summer	
	Asclepias incarnata/Swamp Milkweed	Larval host plant for monarch butterflies. Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.	Summer	
	Asclepias tuberosa/Butterflyweed	Larval host plant for monarch butterflies. Attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.	Summer	
	Phlox divaricata/Wild Blue Phlox	Provides nectar for the hummingbird sphinx moth. Excellent groundcover.	Spring	
	Erigeron annuus/Daisy Fleabane	Nectar source for pollinators, nursery for lynx flower moth; goldfinches and other birds enjoy its seeds.	Spring	Yes

	Vernonia novaboracensis/NY Ironweed	Important pollinator plant in damp soil.	Summer	Yes
	Ageratina altissima /White Snakeroot	Pollen and nectar producer.	Fall	Yes
	Solidago rugosa/Rough Goldenrod	Excellent meadow plant that supplies cover, seed, pollen, nectar, and food for 115 species of caterpillars.	Fall	Yes
	Parthenocissus quinquefolia/Virginia Creeper	Larval host plant for several species of sphinx moths; provides berries for birds over winter; attractive fall foliage color.	June-July	Yes
	Apocynum cannabinum/Hemp Dogbane	Supports nectar for beneficial insects; larval host plant for moths and butterflies; can be aggressive.	June-July	Yes
	Viola sororia/Common Blue Violet	Larval host for Argynnis and Speyeria fritillaries	Spring	Yes

	<p>Toxicodendron radicans/Poison Ivy</p>	<p>Food source for mammals and birds. Does not harm trees by climbing on them.</p>	<p>May-June</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Perennials (Pollinator Bed)</p>				
	<p>Amsonia hubrichtii/Bluestar</p>	<p>Good butterfly nectar plant. Three season interest (attractive fall color).</p>	<p>Spring</p>	
	<p>Erigeron canadensis/Horseweed</p>	<p>Native annual that likes full sun; attracts bees; can be aggressive.</p>	<p>Summer</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Shrubs (Swale)</p>				
	<p>Cephalanthus occidentalis/Buttonbush</p>	<p>Useful along streambanks; ideal for nectaring butterflies.</p>	<p>Summer</p>	
<p>Trees (Swale)</p>				

	<p>Betula nigra/River Birch</p>	<p>Useful along streambanks; supports 411 species of caterpillars</p>	<p>Spring</p>	
	<p>Oak tree seedlings of various species</p>	<p>Best species measured for supporting caterpillars (557 species)</p>	<p>Spring</p>	<p>Yes</p>