

### American Cancer-root

This fleshy plant lacks chlorophyll. It draws nourishment from the roots of oak trees. Scaly, tan stalks emerge from the soil, followed by yellow flowers between the pointed scales.



### Celandine Poppy

This flower's four round petals and pair of deeply lobed, fuzzy leaves are easily recognized. It is also referred to as the wood poppy.



### Bristly Buttercup

There are several species. All have glossy, yellow petals. The leaves alternate along the stem and are usually divided into three parts. Flowers grow singly. Buttercups are mostly found in moist places.



### Yellow Wood Sorrel

This low-growing plant has clover-like leaves that close at dusk and open in the morning. Its Latin name, *Oxalis*, refers to the sour taste of all of its parts. The flowers have five spreading petals.



## PINK-RED

### Prairie Trillium

Trillium comes from a Latin word meaning three. The flower is sessile, which means it does not have a stalk, but rests above the leaves. The sepals droop down below the leaves.



### Fire Pink

The deep-scarlet petals are easy to see in open woods or on rocky slopes. The notched petals show that this flower is in the Pink family. The carnation is probably the most recognized "relative."



### Wild Geranium

This five-petaled forest flower first opens in early May. The name *Geranium* means "crane" and refers to the long-pointed shape of the seed case that looks like a crane's bill.



### Wild Columbine

The unique orange and yellow flowers, each with five petals ending in a long spur, hang from individual stalks. Hummingbirds, moths and butterflies pollinate this plant. It is found on rocky slopes and cliffs.



## BLUE-VIOLET

### Common Blue Violet

Violet leaves can be used as cooked greens or in salads. They contain large amounts of vitamins A and C. Other species may be white or yellow.



### Spring Larkspur

The spring or dwarf larkspur grows to 4-24 inches tall. The flowers are usually a deep-violet color but are sometimes all white.



### Spiderwort

A cluster of violet flowers with three roundish petals and long, narrow, grass-like leaves makes this plant easy to recognize. It is found along wood edges, thickets and roadsides, and is cultivated in gardens.



### Virginia Bluebells

The loose cluster of tubular, bell-like flowers makes this an easy plant to identify. Pink buds contrast with the blue flowers.



### Bluets

These are small, delicate pale-blue flowers with yellow centers that grow in large patches beneath mature trees. They are also known as Quaker ladies.



### Virginia Waterleaf

The name "waterleaf" comes from the spotted appearance of the leaves, where it looks as if water were spilled. The flowers appear hairy because the stamens protrude from each cluster.



### Blue Phlox

The pale violet flowers of this plant radiate from the top of the stem, which appears somewhat hairy and sticky. The blue phlox is well known for its color and fragrance.



*The mission of the Interpretive Services is to provide information and offer interpretive experiences with Indiana's natural and cultural resources to visitors, staff and a diverse public.*

*Thanks to Bill Adams for his assistance with this brochure. Wildflower drawings by Rosemary Bauman.*  
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# COMMON Spring Wildflowers of INDIANA STATE PARKS



Fire Pink



Memories made naturally.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
Division of State Parks  
interpretiveservices.IN.gov

From late March through May, spring wildflowers carpet the woodlands of Indiana State Parks properties. A walk can bring extraordinary joy as these sentinels of a new season bloom. A good wildflower guide will help you discover rare species in addition to the common ones listed. Remember that all plants are protected on DNR properties. Enjoy the flowers and your visit.

## WHITE

### Snow Trillium

This smallest of trilliums is usually one of the first to bloom. It is often found on steep, wooded slopes when snow still covers the ground.



### Harbinger of Spring

Also known as “salt and pepper,” this flower blooms every year from an energy-rich bulb. It is one of the earliest bloomers and is found in the shelter of logs or beech leaves.



### Sharp-lobed Hepatica

“Hepatica” is Latin for liver. The three-lobed leaves of this common species resemble the human liver. The flowers are white, pink or purple.



### Bloodroot

The bright red juice seeping from the root when it is broken gives this plant its name. It is found in rich, woodland soil. The root is poisonous, but was used in small amounts by Native Americans for medicines and dyes.



### Cut-leaved Toothwort



This member of the mustard family, found in rich woodlands, has four whitish petals that may turn pinkish with age. The name comes from the tooth-shaped edges of the leaves.

### Rue-Anemone

This delicate plant has six to 10 petal-like sepals. The anemone is sometimes called “the windflower” because its weak stem causes it to shake easily in even the slightest breeze.



### Twin Leaf

The characteristic cleft leaf, the origin of the plant’s common name, is sometimes confused with the leaf of bloodroot. The plant is found on moist, woodland slopes.



### Dutchman’s Breeches

The flower resembles a pair of “breeches” hanging upside down. It has fern-like leaves and is found in rich soil in open woods.



### Squirrel Corn

The flowers of squirrel corn are more heart-shaped and lack the spreading “legs” of Dutchman’s breeches. The leaves are finer and tend to be grayer. The root tubers resemble kernels of corn and may be carried off by squirrels.



### Drooping Trillium

The flower of this trillium is usually hanging beneath the leaves. Look for this species on moist, woodland slopes.



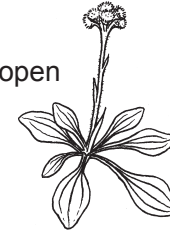
### Mayapple



The flower of the mayapple has six to nine waxy petals and grows beneath the large, deeply lobed leaves. When mayapples first appear in early May, they look like small umbrellas.

### Plaintain-leaved Pussytoes

One of the earliest bloomers in open fields and dry woodlands, the fuzzy flowers look like pussy willow. The basal leaves are woolly and silver-colored.



### Spring Beauty

This early spring flower has white to pink or pink-striped petals, which turn toward sunshine and close up at night and during cloudy weather.



### Shooting Star

Shooting star is found in patches on dry, upland sites and in open woods and meadows. The flowers range in color from white to pink.



## GREEN

### Jack-in-the-Pulpit

This flower earned its name from its resemblance to a preacher giving a sermon from a roofed pulpit. Found in wooded areas, jack-in-the-pulpit often has only one deeply divided leaf.



## BROWN (MAROON)

### Wild Ginger

The common name comes from the ginger-like smell of the root. The rich brown or maroon flower is cup-shaped and rather fleshy, and is often concealed on the ground under the heart-shaped leaves.



## YELLOW

### Trout Lily

This member of the lily family is sometimes called yellow fawn-lily because of its spotted leaves. Many flowerless leaves are seen on hillsides; it may take several years for the plant to store enough energy to produce a flower. A white species (*E. albidum*) also exists.



### Large-Flowered Bellwort

An arching stem and delicate, drooping flowers give this plant a wilted appearance. It occurs on rich, moist slopes, and may grow to 20 inches tall.



### Golden Ragwort

This plant with a tiny daisy-like flower has heart-shaped basal leaves and long, feathery leaves on the upper stem.

