

Native Plants at the Watertown Municipal Center



Parthenium auriculatum (Glade Wild Quinine): A relatively rare wild quinine selected for its smaller size and silvery green leaves. It is considered a superior ornamental plant compared to the standard wild quinine. It blooms from late spring into summer with dense, flat-topped clusters of small white flowers that attract bees and butterflies. It thrives in full sun in light, well drained soil and tolerates drought once established.



Aronia arbutifolia 'Brilliantissima' (Red Chokeberry): A deciduous shrub that has three season interest with white flowers that are very attractive to native bees in spring, progressing to glossy bright-red berries and scarlet foliage in fall. The berries persist into winter, serving as a food source for birds. This shrub typically grows 6 to 8 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet wide with a narrow upright habit. It does tend to sucker, forming thickets, if its spread is not managed. It thrives in full sun to light shade and is very adaptable to different types of soils and moisture levels, including wet sites.



Blephilia ciliata (Downy Wood Mint): A deer-resistant perennial in the mint family, but is clump-forming rather than an aggressive spreader. Its whorls of pale blue to purple flowers attract pollinators from May to August. Growing to 2 feet tall, wood mint needs full sun and very well-drained soil.



Achillea millefolium (Oertel's White Yarrow): A selection of native yarrow that has a neat, short habit, making it more manageable than taller native yarrows. It thrives in full sun, producing masses of flat, white flower clusters from early summer to fall, especially if cut back. It requires dry to medium moisture in fertile, well-drained soils. It is excellent for pollinators and makes a great cut flower.



Coreopsis lanceolata (Lanceleaf Tickseed): A perennial with bright yellow, daisy-like flowers that attract butterflies and bees from late spring into early summer with repeat blooms through the growing season if deadheaded. This plant prefers full sun and well drained, even dry soil, and reaches a height from 1 to 2 feet. Its prolific seeds promote self seeding and provide food for birds.