



Heart-leaved Aster (aka Blue Wood Aster) grows best in partial shade but will tolerate nearly full shade and nearly full sun. The wonderful array of blue flowers attracts butterflies and bees, and also makes a good cut flower.



Sweet cicely is a perennial that is part of the carrot family. This plant would be a good addition to a woodland garden. Sweet cicely attracts beneficial insects that will become food for small mammals and birds. The roots, when dug, are said to give off an anise-like flavor.



Columbine is one of the first plants to provide nectar in the spring for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Columbine is easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil and in full sun to part shade.



Poke Milkweed thrives in dappled or indirect sunlight. The foliage and flowers provide a source of food for many insects including monarch caterpillars and the larvae of several moths. Rabbits also enjoy snacking on the leaves. Though long lived, this species is not invasive or aggressive.



Native to much of eastern North America, wild geranium is a great garden flower. It has lovely dissected leaves, beautiful pinkish-purple flowers, and it readily spreads, forming patches that attract bees to butterflies. Mostly found in woodlands in the wild, it does just as well in full sun.



Bluebells can form large colonies over time and their blooms will last for many weeks in early spring (April and May) and will go dormant by mid-summer. Bluebells attract larger bees, butterflies and moths. The Virginia Bluebells prefer soils typical of a woodland - a little on the wet side.



Pale Purple Coneflower should be planted in well-drained soil in full to partial sunlight. Once the taproot is established it is extremely drought-tolerant and needs little care, but then also may be difficult to move. It blooms in early summer and provides nectar for hummingbirds and butterflies.



Ohio Spiderwort is a very attractive addition to any garden and quite easy to grow from seed. It blooms in the morning sun and closes mid-day. A stand of these long-blooming Spiderworts can be in bloom from May through July. The Spiderworts are native throughout the country with Ohio Spiderwort being the most widespread.



New England Aster is a late bloomer, providing nectar for pollinators late into the fall, including monarchs. It is drought-tolerant and deer-resistant. On many sites Asters can be prolific self seeders (remove the seed head before the seed is ripe to prevent unwanted seedlings).



Rose Milkweed, is also commonly called Swamp Milkweed, as it does well in wetter soils. It is deer-resistant and a good plant for low spots or other moist areas in the landscape. Like other milkweeds, the leaves provide food for the monarch caterpillars among other species.