



http://www.clevelandaudubon.org/sanct_Aurora.htm

Native Plant Society of Northeastern Ohio

Aurora Sanctuary

Field Trip

28 September 2013

Greetings Everyone,

What a time we had out in the field on Saturday afternoon of 28 September 2013 keying out various plants, especially the asters. Leaves entire, slightly toothed, coarsely toothed, or obscurely toothed? Leaves slightly clasping the stem or clasping the stem? Violet rays, deep violet rays, or violet-purple rays? Becoming familiar with these distinctions and others takes practice. Walking through preserves with various habitats as Audubon's Aurora Sanctuary provides that opportunity to observe a wide variety of plants, like beautiful blue Gentians, the arching stems of Water Loosestrife, and a few of Ohio's **invasives!**: Barberry, Common Privet, Glossy Buckthorn, and Multiflora Rose, and learn about their characteristics. Add observing wildlife and wildlife-plant interactions into the mix and one's adventurous journey with nature begins! The best part of this outdoor classroom is each person gets to set their own pace of learning and determine their own path of adventure. Many thanks and appreciation to our hosts Tracey Knierim and Diane Johnson for sharing their time, knowledge, and enthusiasm, and helping guide us along on our path of nature sturdy! Many extended thank-yous to Charles Fletcher, Kent Scott, and John Senderak for their keen eyes and ears out in the field and Marian Swirski for sharing her Bottle Gentian habit photograph. All enhanced this Aurora Sanctuary bioObservation survey without exception! While not a complete list of all our group observed or heard during this walk, what the following list does illuminate is the diversity that can be found in nature in the space and time of a couple of hours. Experiencing the beauty of and learning about nature with all of you is always a joyous adventure!

Please visit our website, <http://www.nativeplantsocietyneohio.org/> to learn more about native plants, our Society, and other resources that can help you with your curiosity and your quest to learn about our natural world.

With kindest regards to all,

Lisa K. Schlag

Native Plant Society of NE Ohio Treasurer

11.x.13

Plant List – Herbaceous

Common Names

Botanical Names

Doll's Eyes	<i>Actaea pachypoda</i>	
Wingstem.....	<i>Actinomeris alternifolia</i>	butterfly: larval host
Wild Leek	<i>Allium tricoccum</i>	
Ramps		
Thimbleweed	<i>Anemone virginiana</i>	
Tall Anemone.....		
Indian Hemp	<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	butterfly: nectar
Common Burdock.....	<i>Arctium minus</i>	
Jack-in-the-pulpit (fruit).....	<i>Arisaema</i> sp.	
Wild Ginger	<i>Asarum canadense</i>	pollinated by ants
Swamp Milkweed	<i>Asclepias incarnate</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar & larval host
Common Milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>	butterfly: nectar & larval host
Turtlehead.....	<i>Chelone glabra</i>	butterfly: larval host
Chicory	<i>Cichorium intybus</i>	
Queen Anne's Lace.....	<i>Daucus carota</i>	butterfly: larval host
Swamp Loosestrife	<i>Decodon verticillatus</i>	insect: nectar & moth: larval host
Flat-topped White Aster.....	<i>Doellingeria umbellate</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar & larval host
Purple Coneflower	<i>Echinacea purpurea</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar & bird: seeds
Beechdrops	<i>Epifagus virginiana</i>	
Eastern Joe-Pye Weed.....	<i>Eupatorium dubium</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Spotted Joe-Pye Weed	<i>Eupatorium maculatum</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Boneset	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
White Snakeroot	<i>Eupatorium rugosum</i>	
Grass-leaved Goldenrod.....	<i>Euthamia graminifolia</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Lance-leaved Goldenrod		
Bottle Gentian.....	<i>Gentiana clausa</i>	pollinated by bumblebees & high in nectar
Closed Bottle Gentian		
Smaller Fringed Gentian	<i>Gentiana procera</i>	biennial; relies on wind scattering seed
Jewelweed.....	<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	butterfly/insect/hummingbird: nectar
Touch-me-not.....		
Tall Blue Lettuce	<i>Lactuca biennis</i>	
Partridgeberry	<i>Mitchella repens</i>	wildlife: fruit
Wild Bergamot.....	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i>	butterfly/insect/hummingbird: nectar
Water Lily.....	<i>Nymphaea</i> sp.	waterfowl: seeds
Clearweed.....	<i>Pilea pumila</i>	
Common Arrowhead.....	<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	wildlife: seeds, roots, plant parts, & cover

Plant List – Herbaceous (cont'd)

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
False Solomon Seal.....	<i>Smilacina racemosa</i>	
Tall Goldenrod.....	<i>Solidago altissima</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Blue-stemmed Goldenrod	<i>Solidago caesia</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Zigzag Goldenrod	<i>Solidago flexicaulis</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Silverrod	<i>Solidago bicolor</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Nodding Ladies' Tresses.....	<i>Spiranthes cernua</i>	
Calico Aster	<i>Symphotrichum lateriflorus</i>	butterfly: larval host
New England Aster.....	<i>Symphotrichum novae-angliae</i> ...	butterfly: nectar & larval host
Small White Aster.....	<i>Symphotrichum racemosum</i>	butterfly: larval host
Wavy-leaved aster.....	<i>Symphotrichum undulatum</i>	butterfly: larval host
Skunk Cabbage	<i>Symplocarpus foetidus</i>	
Jumpseed	<i>Tovara virginiana</i>	
Stinging Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	butterfly: larval host

Plant List – Woody

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
Maple.....	<i>Acer</i> spp.	wildlife/bird: nectar, fruit, & insect
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	
Sugar Maple.....	<i>Acer saccharum</i>	bird: nesting
Pawpaw.....	<i>Asimina triloba</i>	butterfly: larval host & wildlife: fruit
Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	invasive! threatens native plant habitats
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovate</i>	butterfly/moth: larval host & wildlife: food, cover, & nesting
Buttonbush.....	<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>	butterfly: nectar & waterfowl: seeds, cover, & nesting
Red Osier Dogwood.....	<i>Cornus sericea</i>	bird: fruit, insect, & cover
Northern Bush-honeysuckle.....	<i>Diervilla lonicera</i>	native!
American Beech.....	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>	wildlife: food, cover, & nesting
Winterberry.....	<i>Ilex verticillata</i>	wildlife: fruit
Common Privet.....	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	invasive! threatens native plant habitats
Spicebush.....	<i>Lindera benzoin</i>	butterfly: larval host & wildlife: fruit
Black Cherry.....	<i>Prunus serotina</i>	butterfly: nectar & larval host
Alder-leaved Buckthorn.....	<i>Rhamnus alnifolia</i>	bird: fruit
Glossy Buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>	invasive! threatens native plant habitats

Plant List – Woody (cont'd)

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
Staghorn Sumac	<i>Rhus typhina</i>	wildlife: winter food
Multiflora Rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	invasive! threatens native plant habitats
Swamp Rose	<i>Rosa palustris</i>	wildlife: nectar, food, cover, & nesting
Willow	<i>Salix</i> sp.	butterfly: larval host
Common Elder.....	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>	wildlife: summer food
Corymbid Spiraea.....	<i>Spiraea corymbosa</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Meadow-sweet.....	<i>Spiraea latifolia</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Poison Sumac	<i>Toxicodendron vernix</i>	
Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra, U. fulva</i>	butterfly: larval host & bird: bud & fruit

Plant List – Ferns

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
Northern Lady Fern	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	wildlife cover
Hay-scented Fern	<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i>	wildlife cover
Spinulose Wood Fern.....	<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	wildlife cover
Sensitive Fern	<i>Onoclea sensibilis</i>	wildlife cover
Christmas Fern.....	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	wildlife cover
New York Fern	<i>Thelypteris noveboracensis</i>	wildlife cover

Plant List – Vines

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>	
Virgin's Bower	<i>Clematis virginiana</i>	butterfly/insect: nectar
Common Dodder	<i>Cuscuta gronovii</i>	
Love Vine		
Virginia Creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	bird: fruit & cover; sphinx spp. moth: larval host
Bittersweet Nightshade	<i>Solanum dulcamara</i>	wildlife: fruit & plant parts
Poison-ivy.....	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	bird: fruit & cover

Plant List – Fungi

<u>Common Names</u>	<u>Botanical Names</u>
Inky Caps.....	<i>Coprinus</i> sp.

Wildlife

Insects

Hickory Tussock Moth*Lophocampa caryae*
Large Milkweed Bug*Oncopeltus fasciatus*
Dragonhunter.*Hagenius brevistylus*

Amphibians

Spring Peeper.....*Pseudacris crucifer*

Arachnid

Micrathena Spider.....*Micrathena* sp.Spider with spiny, hard, glossy abdomen
found in woods & gardens of eastern US

Birds

Red-winged Blackbird*Agelaius phoeniceus*
Great Blue Heron*Ardea herodias*
Red-tailed Hawk*Buteo jamaicensis*
Northern Cardinal*Cardinalis cardinalis*
American Goldfinch*Carduelis tristis*
Turkey Vulture.....*Cathartes aura*
Belted Kingfisher*Ceryle alcyon*
Blue Jay*Cyanocitta cristata*
Red-bellied Woodpecker.....*Melanerpes carolinus*
Black-capped Chickadee.....*Poecile atricapillus*
Eastern Bluebird*Sialia sialis*
Carolina Wren.....*Thryothorus ludovicianus*
American Robin.....*Turdus migratorius*

Bibliography

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[Ohio Department of Natural Resources website](#)

[Ohio Department of Natural Resources: Invasive Plants of Ohio Fact Sheets](#)

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[Wildflower Center: Plants with Special Value to Bumble Bees](#)



Bottle Gentian, *Gentiana clausa*, habit
Photographer: Marian Swirski, 2013



Bottle Gentian, *Gentiana clausa*, flower
Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Smaller Fringed Gentian
Gentiana procera

Photographer:
Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Swamp Loosestrife, *Decodon verticillatus*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Beechdrops, *Epifagus virginiana*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Nodding Ladies' Tresses, *Spiranthes cernua*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Calico Aster, *Symphotrichum lateriflorus*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



New England Aster, *Symphotrichum novae-angliae*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Small White Aster, *Symphotrichum racemosum*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Silverrod, *Solidago bicolor*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Zigzag Goldenrod, *Solidago flexicaulis*¹

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Winterberry, *Ilex verticillata*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013

Plants producing low-quality fruits like Winterberry and Swamp Rose which are lower in fat and Staghorn Sumac* are an important food source for resident birds and mammals in winter as well as birds migrating in spring.

Plants producing high-quality fruits rich in fat like Spicebush and Virginia Creeper are an important food source for overwintering birds and especially birds migrating in fall.



Spicebush, *Lindera benzoin*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013

* Although Sumac fruit is higher in fat content, it is considered a low-quality fruit. Unlike the lower fat content fruits of Winterberry and Swamp Rose, the small densely clustered Sumac fruit is relatively high in fat (over 20%), but the amount of digestible fruit to indigestible seed is low. Wildlife must consume larger quantities of these fruits for energy gain. *A Field Guide to Eastern Forests (Peterson Field Guide Series)*, p. 336.



Virginia Creeper, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013
Shaker Heights, Cuyahoga County, Ohio



Swamp Rose, *Rosa palustris* Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Sensitive Fern, *Onoclea sensibilis*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Large Milkweed Bugs, *Oncopeltus fasciatus*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013



Spring Peeper, *Pseudacris crucifer*

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2012
Concord Township, Lake County, Ohio



Micrathena Spider, *Micrathena* sp.

Photographer: Lisa K. Schlag, 2013

The cover photo of a Great Blue Heron, *Ardea herodias*, was taken on 28 September 2013 while I was observing the beauty of James Fulton Pond and its wildlings. All photographs were taken at Aurora Sanctuary in Portage County except those captioned and the following which serve as visual references of observations during walk: ¹ Holden Arboretum, Lake County.