

# Valley View Glades Natural Area

May 20, 2024

	<b>BOTANICAL NAME</b> (with <a href="#">etymology</a> & genus pronunciation)	<b>FAMILY</b> [CC] = <a href="#">Coefficient of Conservatism</a>	<b>COMMON NAME</b> (with tips we learned)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Amorpha canescens</a> (shapeless [referring to single-petaled corolla] + gray from pubescence) (a-MOR-fuh)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC8]	Leadplant Leaf: alternate, odd-pinnately compound, linear stipules, densely canescent, leaflets w mucro tip and rounded or cordate base (the similar <i>Tephrosia</i> - goat's rue - has a tapered base and no mucro tip)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Aristolochia serpentaria</a> (best childbirth + used for snakebites) (uh-RISS-toe-LO-kee-uh)	Aristolochiaceae [CC6]	Virginia Snakeroot (leaf: long, narrowly lanceolate, indented where the petiole joins the leaf )
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Aruncus dioicus</a> (beard of a goat + dioecious) (uh-RUNK-us)	Rosaceae [CC6]	Goatsbeard
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Asclepias viridiflora</a> (Greek god of medicine + green-flowered) (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC7]	Green Comet Milkweed / Green-Flowered Milkweed / St. Louis has a whopping 14 different milkweeds [see list <a href="#">HERE</a> ]. But 2 of them share the name "green". [We have the same problem with our Trilliums: <i>T.viridis</i> , vs. <i>T.viridescens</i> . Fortunately, the 2 milkweeds are easier to sort-out than our Trilliums.] Our <i>Asclepias viridiflora</i> has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mostly <b>opposite</b> (not alternate) leaves</li> <li>• <b>hoodless</b> flowers in <b>nodding</b> umbels</li> <li>• a more <b>solitary</b> and somewhat <b>taller</b> habit (despite one of its common names "Small Green Milkweed") growing to over 2ft. [we have a similar misleading-name problem with our <i>Pinus echinata</i> – Shortleaf Pine].</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Asclepias viridis</a> (god of medicine + green) (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC5]	Green Milkweed / Spider Milkweed / Green Antelopehorn / St. Louis has a whopping 14 different milkweeds [see list <a href="#">HERE</a> ]. But 2 of them share the name "green". [We have the same problem with our Trilliums: <i>T.viridis</i> , vs. <i>T.viridescens</i> . Fortunately, the 2 milkweeds are easier to sort-out than our Trilliums.] Our <i>Asclepias viridis</i> has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>alternate</b> (not opposite) leaves</li> <li>• flower coronas that show <b>purplish hoods in upright umbels</b></li> <li>• a bushier, somewhat <b>shorter</b> habit</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Astragalus crassicaarpus</a> (uh-STRAGG-uh-luss)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC7]	Ground Plum
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Baptisia australis</a> (to dip [as in dyeing] + southern) (bap-TIZZ-ee-uh)	Fabaceae [CC8]	Blue Wild Indigo Leaf: trifoliolate with stipules / Leaflets: glabrous, entire, with short petiolules / Fruits: the distal end of the legume has a long taper (in contrast to the squared-off end of <i>B.alba</i> ). St. Louis has 3 species of Baptisia: <i>B.alba</i> , <i>B.australis</i> , and <i>B.bracteata</i> . At CC8, this Blue Wild Indigo has the highest conservation value of them all and seems to be the most commonly cultivated.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Carex eburnea</a> (sedge + ivory-white [maybe for the whitish scales against the blackish perigynia]) (CARE-x)	Cyperaceae [CC7]	Bristleleaf Sedge / Cedar Sedge (an attractive, fine-leaved sedge / like magic almost every time it's found here there's a Redcedar nearby, however <i>Carex eburnea</i> grows in parts of the world where there are no redcedars, so they're not obligate neighbors)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Ceanothus americanus</a> (type of thistle + American) (see-uh-NO-thus)	Rhamnaceae [CC7]	New Jersey Tea shrub / leaves: alternate, ovate, finely toothed, rugose, petiolate, with short-haired pubescence on underside / flowers: panicles of white flowers on long axillary peduncles / usually goes unnoticed when not in flower / leaves have a wintergreen scent / browsed by deer /

<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Clematis fremontii</i></a> (climbing plant + somebody's name) (kleh-MATT-iss)	Ranunculaceae [CC10]	Fremont's Leatherflower (not a vine / leaves entire, opposite, persists through winter as skeletonized piece of art / flower: nodding, urn-shaped with reflexed tips of its 4 purple sepals [it has no petals] / numerous free stamens and carpels [primitive type flower])
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i></a> (buglike + lance-shaped [leaf]) (kor-ee-OPP-sis)	Asteraceae (Coreopsidae tribe) [CC5]	Lanceleaf Coreopsis / Sand Coreopsis St. Louis has 6 species of Coreopsis: [ <i>C.grandiflora</i> , <i>C.lanceolata</i> , <i>C.palmata</i> , <i>C.pubescens</i> , <i>C.tinctoria</i> , and <i>C.tripteris</i> ]. They all have rays with lacerated tips and translucent "ghost phyllaries" behind their main green ones. <i>C.lanceolata</i> is distinguished by having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>only a few leaf nodes – and these are restricted to the bottom half of the plant</li> </ul> opposite leaves that are long and narrow, sometimes with a pair of lateral lobes near the base
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Coreopsis palmata</i></a> (buglike + palmate [leaf]) (kor-ee-OPP-sis)	Asteraceae (Coreopsidae tribe) [CC7]	Stiff Coreopsis St. Louis has 6 species of Coreopsis: [ <i>C.grandiflora</i> , <i>C.lanceolata</i> , <i>C.palmata</i> , <i>C.pubescens</i> , <i>C.tinctoria</i> , and <i>C.tripteris</i> ]. They all have rays with lacerated tips and translucent "ghost phyllaries" behind their main green ones. <i>C.palmata</i> is distinguished by having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>leaf blades shaped like turkey foot (lobed, but not divided, shorter than <i>C.lanceolata</i>)</li> <li>ray florets paler shade of yellow than other species</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Crocyanthemum [Helianthemum] bicknellii</i></a> (kro-CAN-the-mum)	Cistaceae (Rockrose Family) [CC6]	Hoary Frostweed (perennial / leaves: alternate, 1-inch, elliptic, toothless, sessile, surfaces covered with star-shaped hairs / flowers: 2 types: early in season are the small, yellow, 5-petal flowers with numerous orange-tipped stamens fanning-out against the petals; later in the season are the petal-less, self-pollinating cleistogamous flowers / in freezing weather, the stems burst and create frost-flowers)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Dalea candida</i></a> (somebody's name + shining white) (DAY-lee-uh)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC8]	White Prairie Clover St. Louis has 3 Dalea species [ <i>D.candida</i> , <i>D.leporina</i> , and <i>D.purpurea</i> ]. They're all conservative plants. <i>D.leporina</i> is an annual, whereas the other 2 are perennials. Comparing the Purple Prairie Clover to our white <i>Dalea candida</i> , we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>white (instead of magenta) and more elongated flower spikes</li> <li>broader leaflets but sparser foliage</li> <li>pinnately-compound leaves with 5-11 narrowly elliptic leaflets (instead of fascicles of often trifoliate leaves with linear "birds-feet" leaflets)</li> <li>blooming that begins 2 weeks before purple</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Dalea purpurea</i></a> (somebody's name + purple) (DAY-lee-uh)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC8]	Purple Prairie Clover St. Louis has 3 Dalea species [ <i>D.candida</i> , <i>D.leporina</i> , and <i>D.purpurea</i> ]. They're all conservative plants. <i>D.leporina</i> is an annual, whereas the other 2 are perennials. Compared to our White Prairie Clover, this Purple Prairie Clover has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>magenta (instead of white) color and shorter flower spikes</li> <li>narrower leaflets (but denser foliage)</li> <li>foliage often appearing as fascicles of trifoliate leaves with linear "birds-feet" leaflets (instead of pinnately-compound leaves with 5-11 elliptic or oblong leaflets)</li> <li>blooming that begins 2 weeks after white</li> </ul> The crushed leaves of Purple Prairie Clover (and presumably White Prairie Clover) have an attractive fragrance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Desmanthus illinoensis</i></a> (bundle + flower) (dez-MAN-thus)	Fabaceae (Caesalpinioideae subfam) [CC3]	Illinois Bundleflower
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Echinacea simulata</i></a> (hedgehog + imitate) (ek-in-NAY-shuh)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC7]	Wavyleaf Purple Coneflower (or Glade Coneflower) St. Louis has 3 <i>Echinacea</i> species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>E.purpurea</i> [Purple Coneflower] easiest to identify because ray florets are wide, deep pink-purple in color, and are much less droopy than the others.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>E.pallida</i> [Pale Purple Coneflower] has WHITE POLLEN, and narrow, droopy, pale ray florets</li> <li>• <i>E.simulata</i> [Wavyleaf Purple Coneflower] has YELLOW POLLEN, and narrow, droopy pale ray florets</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Erigeron strigosus</i></a> (early old man + strigose [bristly with stiff, straight, flat-lying hairs]) (er-RIJ-er-on)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC3]	Daisy Fleabane (St. Louis has 5 species of <i>Erigeron</i> ( <i>E.annuus</i> , <i>E.canadensis</i> , <i>E.philadelphicus</i> , <i>E.pulchellus</i> , <i>E.strigosus</i> ). Daisy Fleabane can be distinguished by: stem leaves that are NARROW)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Euphorbia corollata</i></a> () (yoo-FOR-bee-uh)	Euphorbiaceae [CC3]	Flowering Spurge
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Fimbristylis puberula</i></a> (fim-bri-STY-liss)	Cyperaceae [CC7]	Hairy Fimbrly or Glade Fimbrly <i>Fimbristylis</i> is a “non-Carex” genus of sedges. Most species are associated with water, but this one ( <i>Fimbristylis puberula</i> ) can be found on glades. St. Louis has 2 species of <i>Fimbristylis</i> : <i>F.autumnalis</i> [Slender Fimbrly] and <i>F.puberula</i> [Hairy Fimbrly].
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Frasera carolinianus</i></a> (John Fraser) (FRAY-zr-uh)	Gentianaceae [CC7]	American Columbo (monocarpic / bolting may be triggered by environmental cues 2 years prior / may exist as a basal rosette for 30 years)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i></a> (ash tree + Pennsylvania) (FRACK-sin-us)	Oleaceae [CC2]	Green Ash (dioecious / buds: opposite, reddish-brown with velvety texture / twigs: new ones are somewhat flattened / leaves: opposite, compound, leaflets taper at base to a short, winged petiole; undersides not whitish (in contrast to <i>F.americana</i> ) / leaf scar: straightish, not strongly curved around bud / habitat: prefers wet / more than 99% of Green Ash trees that are infested with the Emerald Ash Borer will die, however a small number of “lingering ash” will survive for cultivation) /
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Heuchera richardsonii</i></a> (HYOO-kr-ah)	Saxifragaceae [CC6]	Prairie Alumroot (St. Louis has 2 <i>Heuchera</i> species [the other being <i>H.americana</i> ] which are difficult to differentiate / this <i>Heuchera richardsonii</i> has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more tolerance to dry conditions, it doesn’t grow in the moister eastern states /</li> <li>• blooms a bit earlier [April-June] /</li> <li>• typically just has green leaves which lack the purple, bronze and cream color variations /</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Hypericum sphaerocarpum</i></a> (above + picture + round fruit) (hy-PAYR-i-kum)	Hypericaceae [CC5]	Round-Fruited St. John’s Wort
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Ilex decidua</i></a> (= holly + deciduous) (EYE-lex)	Aquifoliaceae [CC5]	Possumhaw / Deciduous Holly (dioecious / spur shoots useful for identification / leaf: obovate to elliptic with crenate margins / some leaves grow in fascicles from spur shoots)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Krigia biflora</i></a> (somebody’s name + 2 flowers) (KRIGG-ee-uh)	Asteraceae (Cichorieae tribe) [CC5]	Two-flower Dwarf Dandelion (leaves: smooth, glaucous, oblong, clasping stem / heads: all ligulate florets [no disc florets] like a dandelion, but much taller than a dandelion / may have 20 or more heads, often 2 per flower stalk)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Lithospermum canescens</i></a> (stone-seed + gray-haired) (lith-o-SPR-mum)	Boraginaceae [CC6]	Orange (or Hoary) Puccoon (perennial / leaves alternate, sessile, oblong / stems densely hairy / flowers distylous – some with long hatpin-like styles and short stamens, others with short styles and higher-placed stamens / flower color varies from deep orange to yellow / famously difficult to grow from seed because of mycorrhizal dependence)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Maianthemum racemosum</i></a> (May + flower + with a raceme) (my-ANN-the-mum)	Asparagaceae [CC4]	Solomon’s Plume (flowers are bunched together at the end of the stem (unlike Solomon’s Seal), and the leaves do not tightly clasp the stem (unlike Solomon’s Seal), and the leaves have 3 conspicuous veins (unlike Solomon’s Seal)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Menispermum canadense</i></a> (moon + seed) men-eh-SPERM-um	Menispermaceae [CC4]	Moonseed (no tendrils / leaf shape varies greatly)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Nostoc</i></a> (German “nostril”) (NOSS-stock)	Nostocaceae (family) / Nostocales (order)	Nostoc Commune / Sky Jelly (a genus of cyanobacteria encased in a gelatinous mass of polysaccharides / photosynthetic / nitrogen fixer / important)

			pioneer species / can enter a dehydrated dormancy for a hundred years / traditional culinary uses in Asia, however a neurotoxin has been found)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i></a> (wine-flower + big fruit) (ee-no-THEER-uh)	Onagraceae [CC7]	Missouri Evening Primrose St. Louis has 9 <i>Oenothera</i> species [see list <a href="#">HERE</a> ]. They all have the trademark Evening Primrose features, such as a basal rosette, the 4 stigma branches that famously make an X-shape, the inferior ovary that's far, far away from the flower opening, and the viscin threads that hold the pollen grains together. We have some beauties such as the Pink Evening Primrose. But when it comes to both beauty and flower size, this Missouri Primrose is our clear winner.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Parthenium integrifolium</i></a> (par-THEEN-ee-um)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC6]	Wild Quinine (leaves: spring leaves somewhat resemble prairie dock / flowerheads: look like tiny snowballs with 5 ears spaced around their perimeters, which translates to many densely pubescent male disc florets encircled by 5 female ray florets)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Passiflora lutea</i></a> (passionflower + yellow) (pass-i-FLOR-uh)	Passifloraceae [CC4]	Yellow Passionflower
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Pedicularis canadensis</i></a> (louse plant + Canada) (peddick-yoo-LAYR-iss)	Orobanchaceae [CC5]	Canadian Lousewort / Wood Betony (leaves resemble fern fronds / hemi-parasitic)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Pediomelum esculentum</i></a> (honey of the plains + edible) (ped-ee-o-MEE-lum)	Fabaceae [CC10]	Prairie Turnip stems: very pubescent with long hairs / leaves: palmately compound whorl of 5 leaflets / flowers: dense hyacinthlike racemes of purple flowers / tubers provide nutritional food
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Pediomelum tenuiflorum</i></a> (honey of the plains + slender-flowered) (ped-ee-o-MEE-lum)	Fabaceae [CC8]	Scurfy Pea (palmately compound with 3-5 narrow leaflets / the leaflets are sessile but the leaf itself is petiolate with linear, hairy, gland-dotted stipules)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Phlox pilosa</i></a> (FLOCKS)	Polemoniaceae [CC6]	Downy Phlox / Prairie Phlox (flower) (St. Louis has 3 Phlox species: <i>P.divaricata</i> [woodland], <i>P.paniculata</i> [garden], <i>P.pilosa</i> [prairie] / petals usually more of a pink than purple color / the best way to differentiate this Prairie Phlox from Woodland Phlox is to look for hair on the outside of the floral tube. This Prairie Phlox flower has hair whereas Woodland Phlox does not)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Physocarpus opulifolius</i></a> (= bladder fruit + maple-leaved) (fy-so-KARR-pus)	Rosaceae [CC5]	Ninebark (peeling bark on older branches)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Polygala senega</i></a> (much milk + Seneca) (po-LIGG-uh-luh)	Polygalaceae [CC6]	Seneca Snakeroot
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Polygonatum biflorum</i></a> (many knees [rhizome nodes] + 2-flowered) (po-LIGG-o-NAY-tum)	Asparagaceae [CC4]	Solomon's Seal These features allow Solomon's Seal to be easily differentiated from its lookalikes [Solomon's Plume and Bellwort]. Solomon's Seal has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>clasp ing leaves</b> [King Solomon was very wealthy, so the leaves want to hold-on to him as tight as they can.] By contrast, the leaves of Solomon's Plume have petioles (tiny ones) that connect the leaves to the stem, and the leaves of Bellwort are actually pierced by the stem, as if a seamstress had used the stem as a thread and had sewn it right through the leaf. / a helpful mnemonic: "Solomon's <b>S</b>eal is <b>S</b>essile, whereas Solomon's <b>P</b>lume has a <b>P</b>etiole"</li> <li>• flowers that hang from leaf axils often in clusters of 2 [<i>biflorum</i>], but not infrequently singly or in larger clusters. By contrast, Solomon's Plume's flowers are all clustered on a raceme [<i>racemosum</i>] at the end of the stem</li> <li>• leaf veins are parallel but rather inconspicuous (as contrasted with Solomon's Plume in which 3 of its veins stand out)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Prunella vulgaris</i></a> (little plum [color] + common) (pru-NELL-uh)	Lamiaceae (Nepetoideae subfamily)	Self-Heal (perennial, edible, medicinal, opposite-leaved, with dense clublike spikes of 2-lipped mint flowers atop the stem / the top

		[CC1]	lip is a purple hood and the bottom lip is often white / oddly there are only a few flowers open at a time, and they seem to be located without pattern here and there around the inflorescence / an important part of the picture is a matched pair of sessile leaves sticking out like a collar below the inflorescence)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i></a> (dense flowers + narrow leaves) (pik-NANN-thuh-mum)	Lamiaceae (Nepetoideae subfamily) [CC4]	Narrowleaf Mountainmint St. Louis has 3 species of mountainmint [ <i>P.pilosum</i> , <i>P.tenuifolium</i> , and <i>P.virginianum</i> ]. With its narrow leaves and weaker flavor, <i>P.tenuifolium</i> can usually be sorted out rather easily.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Rhus copallinum</i></a> (sumac + gummy resin) (ROOS)	Anacardiaceae / Sapindales [CC2]	Winged Sumac (rachis has wings, but leaflets are toothless / compare with our <i>Rhus glabra</i> which has a wingless rachis, but has toothed leaflets. So you either get teeth or wings, but not both.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Rosa carolina</i></a> () (RO-zuh)	Rosaceae [CC4]	Carolina Rose (perennial shrub / straight needle-like thorns / 5 pink petals with a yellow center /
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Sabulina michauxii</i></a> (sandy + botanist's name) / synonyms: <i>Minuartia michauxii</i> and <i>Arenaria stricta</i> (sab-yoo-LY-nuh / mish-SHOW-ee-eye)	Caryophyllaceae [CC9]	Rock Sandwort / Stiff Sandwort / (leaves: needle-like, dense lower on stem, absent higher on stem / habitat: limestone glades, rocky soils / attractive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Scutellaria parvula</i></a> (small dish + small [flower]) (skoo-teh-LAYR-ee-uh)	Lamiaceae / Lamiales [CC4]	Small Skullcap St. Louis has 5 different species of Skullcap [ <i>S.elliptica</i> , <i>S.incana</i> , <i>S.lateriflora</i> , <i>S.ovata</i> , and <i>S.parvula</i> ]. They all have opposite leaves, square stems, and a "tractor seat" protuberance on the back of their calyx called a "scutellum". This <i>Scutellaria parvula</i> has distinguishing features: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It's short (3-9" tall)</li> <li>• It has ovate leaves with entire leaf margins</li> <li>• It has small (1/3") blue flowers</li> <li>• Its inflorescence is special with flowers produced individually from leaf axils [rather than in terminal or axillary racemes]</li> <li>• It grows in shallow soils over bedrock</li> </ul> There are 3 varieties of <i>Scutellaria parvula</i> (which some treat as species). The varieties are distinguished by differences in leaf blade venation and pubescence. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• var.australis</li> <li>• var.leonardii</li> <li>• var.parvula</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Silphium integrifolium</i></a> (= extinct Greek plant that was resinous and medicinal + undivided leaves) (SILL-fee-um)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC4]	Rosinweed St. Louis has 4 Silphiums (Rosinweed, Compass Plant, Cup Plant, Prairie Dock) – and they're all special. The distinguishing features of Rosinweed include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• opposite, sessile in decussate pairs, oval with acutely tapered tip</li> <li>• leaves feel sandpapery above but more silky below</li> <li>• big, chunky, ovate phyllaries</li> <li>• only the ray florets are fertile – the disk florets are sterile (which is the opposite with sunflowers)</li> <li>• the ray florets produce an exerted split style, while the disk florets produce a column of brown stamens with long, stringy, style-like tips</li> <li>• produces flowers before the sunflowers do</li> <li>• a member of the tall-grass prairie</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Taenidia integerrima</i></a> (small ribbon + entire) (teh-NIDD-ee-uh)	Apiaceae [CC6]	Yellow Pimpernel There are several St. Louis plants with yellow compound umbels that some of us dread identifying. But thanks to the Yellow Pimpernel's smooth, oblong, toothless leaflets, finding this plant brings a smile instead of dread. Also, the small umbellets point in all directions, like a fireworks starburst. And finally, as a bonus, bruising the leaves releases a spicy, currylike fragrance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Triosteum angustifolium</i></a> (3 bones + narrow leaves) (try-OSS-tee-um)	Caprifoliaceae [CC6]	Yellow-Fruited Horse Gentian / Yellow-Flowered Horse Gentian St. Louis has 3 species of <i>Triosteum</i> :

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>T.angustifolium</i></li> <li>• <i>T.aurantiacum</i></li> <li>• <i>T.perfoliatum</i></li> </ul> <p>They are all opposite-leaved perennials and difficult to differentiate. The key's first sorting is on the hairiness of the calyx lobes, suggesting that non-flowering plants are particularly difficult to key-out. Here are some features that generally point to <i>T.angustifolium</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• calyx lobes: surface mostly glabrous, but margins conspicuously bristly (hispid-ciliate)</li> <li>• leaf blades narrower (0.75 – 2.25 inch), but base may flare into a winged petiole, wider than <i>T.aurantiacum</i></li> <li>• leaves not gamophyllous (perfoliate or “married leaves”)</li> <li>• stem hairs</li> <li>• flower color: usually yellow (but sometimes orange to red)</li> <li>• fruit color: orange (although its common name suggests “yellow”, the internet has no photos of ripe yellow fruit to support it)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Uvularia grandiflora</i></a> (uvula – the hanging flap in the back of the throat + large flower) (yoo-vyoo-LAYR-ee-uh)	Colchicaceae [CC6]	Largeflower Bellwort (perfoliate leaves look like they've been sewn through by the threadlike stem)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#"><i>Viburnum rufidulum</i></a> (= to tie [maybe referring to the pliancy of the twigs] + reddish) (vy-BURR-num)	Adoxaceae / Dipsacales [CC4]	Rusty Blackhaw St. Louis only has 2 Viburnums: this <i>V.rufidulum</i> and <i>V.prunifolium</i> . They both have opposite, broadly elliptic, finely-toothed leaves. They both have flowers in large, white, snowball inflorescences. However there are differences: Leaf: <i>V.rufidulum</i> has somewhat thick, leathery leaves with a glossy upper surface and with petioles densely covered with red-brown stellate hairs. Winter Bud: <i>V.rufidulum</i> has bivalve leaf-bud scales that are not sticky and densely pubescent with red-brown stellate hairs.

## NOTES

### WHERE WE WALKED:

We began walking counterclockwise on the 2.8 mile Valley View Trail, but soon left the trail and walked across several glades. It's surprising how easy it is to get lost on glades. Although John with his GPS reader didn't get us lost, most of us would probably have trouble retracing our steps. It seems that we walked along the edge of a glade, cut through the woods, then walked across another glade or two until we eventually rejoined the lush, wooded trail a half-mile or so before its end.

### WHAT THE GLADES LOOKED LIKE:

No, they weren't straw-colored. The glades were green. At this particular time of year and as far as the eye could see, two iconic plants visually dominate the glades: the huge, yellow flowers of Missouri Evening-Primrose, and the taller Glade Coneflowers with their pale purple ray-florets drooping down. It's a sight worthy of a painting.

- **Missouri Evening Primrose.** *Oenothera macrocarpa*. “Macro” is right. In St. Louis we probably don't have any native flowers more “Macro” than our *Oenothera macrocarpa*. But “carpa” doesn't mean “flower” – it means “fruit”. That's okay because its fruits are also surprisingly large – at least for such a small plant. They look like the “starfruits” that are sold in Asian grocery stores. When starfruits are sliced, each section is star-shaped. (By the way, starfruits are in the vinegary Oxalis Family of all places!) Speaking of families, our *Oenothera* is not in the Primrose Family (Primulaceae), but rather in the EVENING Primrose Family (Onagraceae). They strangely share a name, but the two families are far apart from each other on the evolutionary tree-of-life. As for the pronunciation of “*Oenothera*”, John and others seem to pronounce it as “ee-no-THEER-uh”. It's important to not avoid that word. Whoever gave “*Oenothera*” that “Oe” at the beginning sure didn't do it any favors.
- **Glade Coneflower.** *Echinacea simulata*. The word “Echinacea” is derived from a Greek word meaning “hedgehog”, which is a fun metaphor for the spikey, conic shape of the flower. St. Louis has 3 *Echinacea* species: *E.purpurea* (Purple Coneflower), *E.pallida* (Pale Purple Coneflower), and *E.simulata* (Glade Coneflower). [Unfortunately the beautiful yellow *Echinacea paradoxa* doesn't count as a St. Louisian because it's

a few counties southeast of us. It's a paradox that it isn't purple like the other ones.]

Of our 3 species, *E.purpurea* is the cheerful one with welcoming, outstretched ray florets. In contrast, both *E.pallida* and *E.simulata* always appear thirsty, droopy, faded, and depressed. You would never want to make a bouquet of them for somebody in the hospital. "Pallida" means "pale". *E.pallida* has white pollen – and you can't get paler than white. Our Glade Coneflower (*E.simulata*) tries to simulate the Pale Coneflower and does a really good job of it – except for the pollen. It tries and tries to get the pollen down to white, but only makes it to yellow. Fortunately for us, this gives us a way to tell them apart.

#### PEDIOMELUM = PLAINS + HONEY

No, not "child" – that would be "pedia". No, not "foot" – that would be "podia". St. Louis has 2 "Honey-of-the-Plains" species, and we found both of them here at Valley View! They're both highly conservative plants, with *Pedimelum esculentum* (Prairie turnip) being a C10 and *Pedimelum tenuiflorum* (Scurfy Pea) being a C8. And if you (like me) confuse these foods with our "Ground Plum" (*Astragalus crassicaarpus*), don't worry because it's here too! And it's a C7! With all these high numbers, you almost need a calculator to go walking here.

#### SHORT OBSERVATIONS:

- We were lucky to meet Elizabeth Thompson in the parking lot before our walk. She's a wildlife biologist and was just returning to her truck after dealing with some invasive plants. She shared some of her goals and strategies for the area. She then joined us for our botany walk, giving us interesting behind-the-scenes information about managing such an important habitat. We all enjoyed her company.
- What? You're not satisfied because your scribe was too lazy to record all the plants we actually found? Well, the Missouri Native Plant Society provides a more inclusive species list for Valley View Glades. It can be found [HERE](#).
- It's always helpful to find easy-to-confuse species close to each other so that we can compare them. Today we found both Green Milkweeds in flower (*Asclepias viridiflora* and *Asclepias viridis*). [A couple months ago we found 2 Green Trilliums together. Fortunately, the milkweeds are much easier to differentiate.] We also found 2 snakeroots (*Aristolochia serpentaria* and *Polygala senega*), 2 *Coreopsis* (*Coreopsis lanceolata* and *Coreopsis palmata*), 2 Prairie Clovers (*Dalea candida* and *Dalea purpurea*), both Moonseed and Yellow Passionflower (*Menispermum canadense* and *Passiflora lutea*), 2 Honey-of-the-Plains (*Pedimelum esculentum* and *Pedimelum tenuiflorum*), and all 3 Solomon lookalikes (*Maianthemum racemosum*, *Polygonatum biflorum*, and *Uvularia grandiflora*) The differences between these impersonators are hopefully sorted-out on our species list.
- We found a 3<sup>rd</sup> Frostflower! We were already familiar with Dittany (*Cunila origanoides*) and White Wingstem (*Verbesina virginica*). Now we get to add Hoary Frostweed (*Crocantemum bicknellii*) to the list!

#### PARTICIPANTS:

There were 16 of us botanists today, who are (in alphabetical order):

Brenda Adams, Rick Armstrong, Prem Barton, Kathy Bildner, Steve Bizub, June Jeffries, Michael Laschober, Burt Noll, John Oliver, David Steinmeyer, Kathy Thiele, Elizabeth Thompson, Mark & Deb Tolcou, George Van Brunt, and Laura Yates