

Busch Greenway at Duckett Creek

June 3, 2024

	BOTANICAL NAME (with genus pronunciation)	FAMILY [CC] = Coefficient of Conservatism	COMMON NAME
<input type="checkbox"/>	Adiantum pedatum (ay-dee-ANT-um)	Pteridaceae [CC6]	Northern Maidenhair Fern
<input type="checkbox"/>	Anemone virginiana (uh-NEMM-o-nee)	Ranunculaceae [CC4]	Tall Thimbleweed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arisaema dracontium (ayr-eh-SEE-muh)	Araceae [CC6]	Green Dragon
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arisaema triphyllum (ayr-eh-SEE-muh)	Araceae [CC6]	Jack-in-the-Pulpit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Arnoglossum atriplicifolium (awr-no-GLOSS-um)	Asteraceae (Senecioneae tribe) [CC4]	Pale Indian Plantain
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asarum canadense (uh-SAYR-um)	Aristolochiaceae [CC6]	Wild Ginger
<input type="checkbox"/>	Asimina triloba (uh-SIM-in-uh)	Annonaceae [CC5]	Pawpaw
<input type="checkbox"/>	Blephilia ciliata (bleh-FILL-ee-uh)	Lamiaceae (Nepetoideae subfamily) [CC6]	Downy Pagoda Plant
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carya illinoensis (KAYR-ee-uh)	Juglandaceae [CC7]	Pecan Hickory
<input type="checkbox"/>	Ceanothus americanus (see-uh-NO-thus)	Rhamnaceae [CC7]	New Jersey Tea
<input type="checkbox"/>	Celastrus orbiculatus (sell-ASS-trus)	Celastraceae [intro]	Oriental Bittersweet
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cirsium discolor (SR-see-um)	Asteraceae (Cardueae tribe) [CC3]	Field Thistle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dioscorea villosa (dy-o-SKOR-ee-uh)	Dioscoreaceae [CC5]	Wild Yam
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elaeagnus umbellata (el-ee-AG-nus)	Elaeagnaceae [intro]	Autumn Olive
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elephantopus carolinianus (el-eh-fan-TOE-pus)	Asteraceae (Vernonieae tribe) [CC3]	Elephant's Foot
<input type="checkbox"/>	Erigeron annuus (er-RIJ-er-on)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC1]	Annual Fleabane
<input type="checkbox"/>	Glechoma hederacea (gleh-KOE-muh)	Lamiaceae [intro]	Ground Ivy / Creeping Charlie
<input type="checkbox"/>	Helianthus divaricatus () (hee-lee-ANN-thus)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC6]	Woodland Sunflower
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrangea arborescens (hy-DRAIN-jee-uh)	Hydrangeaceae [CC7]	Hydrangea
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrastis canadensis (hy-DRASS-tiss)	Ranunculaceae [CC6]	Ranunculaceae
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hylodesmum glutinosum (hy-lo-DEZZ-mum)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC3]	Pointed-Leaf Tick Trefoil
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hypericum punctatum (hy-PAYR-i-kum)	Hypericaceae [CC3]	Spotted St. John's Wort
<input type="checkbox"/>	Laportea canadensis (luh-POR-tee-uh)	Urticaceae [CC4]	Wood Nettle
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lilium michiganense () (LILL-ee-um)	Liliaceae [CC7]	Michigan Lily
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lindera benzoin (lin-DEER-uh)	Lauraceae [CC5]	Spicebush
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lobelia inflata (lo-BEE-lee-uh)	Campanulaceae [CC3]	Indian Tobacco
<input type="checkbox"/>	Maianthemum racemosum (my-ANN-the-mum)	Asparagaceae [CC4]	Solomon's Plume
<input type="checkbox"/>	Menispermum canadense men-eh-SPERM-um	Menispermaceae [CC4]	Moonseed
<input type="checkbox"/>	Morus rubra (MOHR-us)	Moraceae [CC4]	Red Mulberry

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Nabalus crepidineus</i> (NAB-uh-luss)	Asteraceae (Cichorieae tribe) [CC9]	Great White Lettuce / Nodding Rattlesnake Root
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Packera glabella</i> (PACK-r-uh)	Asteraceae (Senecioneae tribe) [CC1]	Butterweed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Phegopteris hexagonoptera</i> (fay-go-TAYR-iss)	Thelypteridaceae [CC8]	Broad Beech Fern
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Plantago rugelii</i> (plan-TAY-go)	Plantaginaceae [CC0]	Rugel's Plantain
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Polygonatum biflorum</i> (po-LIGG-o-NAY-tum)	Asparagaceae [CC4]	Solomon's Seal
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sambucus canadensis</i> (sam-BOO-kuss)	Adoxaceae [CC2]	Black Elderberry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Scrophularia marilandica</i> (skro-foo-LAYR-ee-uh)	Scrophulariaceae [CC3]	Figwort
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sicyos angulatus</i> (SISS-ee-os)	Cucurbitaceae [CC4]	Bur Cucumber
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> (SILL-fee-um)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC3]	Cup Plant
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Solidago drummondii</i> (so-lid-DAY-go)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC8]	Cliff Goldenrod
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Torilis arvensis</i> (tor-RILL-iss)	Apiaceae [intro]	Hedge Parsley
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Urtica dioica gracilis</i> (UR-tick-kuh)	Urticaceae [CC3]	Tall Stinging Nettle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Verbesina helianthoides</i> (vr-beh-SEE-nuh)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC5]	Yellow Crownbeard
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Viburnum rufidulum</i> (vy-BURR-num)	Adoxaceae [CC4]	Rusty Blackhaw

NOTES

WHERE WE WALKED:

The weather was perfect. We met at the newly-expanded parking lot and walked down the paved trail past the sewer treatment plant, trying to avoid the mosquitos and bicyclists along the way. (But we were in both of their territories, not the other way around, so we couldn't complain too much.) We continued down to the famous Katy Trail, made a right turn and walked along the cliff base until just past the "Depression Bench" (the bench that faces the rock wall instead of the vista behind it) before turning back.

ILLEGAL ENTRY ALERT:

This C10 fellow tried to sneak onto our "Plants We Found" checklist but had to be removed because we actually never found him. We searched and searched the rock wall along the Katy Trail, but the rascal was nowhere to be found:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Brickellia grandiflora</i> () (brick-ELL-ee-uh)	Asteraceae (Eupatorieae tribe) [CC10]	Tassel Flower
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And it happened yet again to another high-valued plant. This time it was the White Trillium. Even though Prem went into the woods specifically to find her, she totally escaped. So we had to remove her from our checklist too:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Trillium flexipes</i> (TRILL-ee-um)	Melanthiaceae [CC8]	Drooping Trillium / White Trillium
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FAVORITE LESSONS:

Repetition is a great way to learn. Even though this is a trail we've been on many times with plants we've seen many times, it's somehow comforting to hear John retell the important lessons that we need to know:

- that the Bittersweet vine has no tendrils while the Grape vine has tendrils opposite the leaves in a node pattern of "tendrill, tendrill, skip / tendrill, tendrill, skip"
- that the differences between "Solomon's Seal" and "Solomon's Plume" are in the flower locations and in the absence or presence of leaf petioles

- that the field thistle (*Cirsium discolor*) has one color on “dis side” [turns leaf over] but a different color on “dis side”.
- that pecan leaves are falcate – shaped like the beak of a falcon
- that Autumn Olive leaves have shiny metallic scales on their undersides
- that White Lettuce (*Nabalus*) never seems to bloom in the St. Louis area
- that Skullcap features a tractor seat
- that Annual Fleabane has teeth on its lowest leaves
- that Wood Nettle (*Laportia*) has alternate leaves and delivers a more painful sting than the opposite-leaved Stinging Nettle (*Urtica*) [which we also found today – in fact it was so tall that from a distance we mistook it for Joe Pye Weed]
- that Pagoda Plant (*Blephilia*) has flowers similar to Beebalm (*Monarda*), and that *Blephilia hirsuta* [which we looked for but didn’t find] has the best flavor of them all.
- that the number of leaflets on the Green Dragon (*Arisaema dracontium*) loosely correlates to the age of the plant
- that the now-blooming Yellow Wingstem (*Verbesina helianthoides*) is more attractive than its later, weedier sibling

Yes, repetition is a great way to learn. The countless people who’ve taken these walks can attest that it gets the job done.

POISON IVY AND ITS URUSHIOL-FREE LOOKALIKES:

We were lucky to find poison ivy and 2 of its lookalikes quite close to each other for easy comparison. The Boxelder Maple sapling (*Acer negundo*) has opposite leaves, so we knew it wasn’t P.I.. The Aromatic Sumac (*Rhus aromatica*) has 3 leaflets, but the middle leaflet doesn’t have a petiole, so we knew it wasn’t P.I.. (Since it’s a leaflet instead of a leaf, we should probably use the more precise word “petiolule” instead of “petiole”.)

SHORT OBSERVATIONS:

- Everybody was happy to see Tom, Eileen, and their dog Daisy again. They’ve not been with us for quite a while because Tom had broken his arm in a bicycle accident.
- We were happy to have Dick Palmer join us and hope to see him again.
- John invited us to run our fingers back and forth on a native Red Mulberry leaf so that we could experience the difference between “antrorse” and “retorse” hairs. (The mulberry has antrorse hairs – they point forward towards the tip of the leaf, which makes the leaf feel slippery when stroked in that direction but resistant when rubbed in the other direction.)
- We found a Wild Yam vine (*Dioscorea villosa*) that had male flowers on it. As luck would have it, a ways further down the trail we found a Wild Yam vine with female flowers on it. So we got the opportunity to compare both flowers of this dioecious plant.
- Kathy Bildner noticed the Zebra Swallowtails fluttering amongst their favorite Pawpaw trees.

PARTICIPANTS:

There were 15 of us botanists today, who are (in alphabetical order):

Brenda Adams, Prem Barton, Kathy Bildner, Tom & Eileen (and Daisy) Buescher, Jerry Castillon, Wayne Clark, Michael Laschober, Sharon Lu, Pat Lynn, Burt Noll, John Oliver, Dick Palmer, David Steinmeyer, and Laura Yates.