

St. Francois State Park (Fen)

June 30, 2025

	BOTANICAL NAME (with genus pronunciation)	FAMILY [CC] = Coefficient of Conservatism	COMMON NAME ☼ = Flowering / 🌱 = Fruiting
☐	<i>Achillea millefolium</i> (ack-ill-LEE-uh)	Asteraceae (Anthemideae tribe) [CC1]	Yarrow ☼
☐	<i>Anemone virginiana</i> (uh-NEMM-o-nee)	Ranunculaceae [CC4]	Tall Thimbleweed ☼
☐	<i>Apios americana</i> (AY-pee-os)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC6]	American Groundnut / Potato Bean ☼
☐	<i>Arnoglossum plantagineum</i> awr-no-GLOSS-um)	Asteraceae (Senecioneae tribe) [CC8]	Groovestem Indian Plantain ☼
☐	<i>Asclepias incarnata</i> (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC4]	Swamp Milkweed
☐	<i>Asclepias tuberosa</i> (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC5]	Butterflyweed ☼
☐	<i>Asclepias verticillata</i> (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC2]	Whorled Milkweed ☼
☐	<i>Calopogon tuberosus</i> (kal-o-PO-gon)	Orchidaceae [CC10]	Grass Pink Orchid ☼
☐	<i>Cicuta maculata</i> (sick-KOO-tuh)	Apiaceae [CC5]	Water Hemlock ☼
☐	<i>Cirsium discolor</i> (SR-see-um)	Asteraceae (Cardueae tribe) [CC3]	Field Thistle ☼
☐	<i>Clinopodium arkansanum</i> (cly-no-PO-dee-um)	Lamiaceae [CC7]	Limestone Calamint ☼
☐	<i>Daucus carota</i> (DOW-kuss)	Apiaceae [introduced]	Wild Carrot / Queen Anne's Lace / ☼
☐	<i>Dianthera americana</i> (was <i>Justicia</i>) (dy-ANN-thr-uh)	Acanthaceae [CC5]	American Water-Willow ☼
☐	<i>Dichanthelium boscii</i> (dy-kan-THEE-lee-um)	Poaceae [CC5]	Bosc's Panic Grass 🌱
☐	<i>Dioscorea villosa</i> (dy-o-SKOR-ee-uh)	Dioscoreaceae (Dioscoreales / Monocots) [CC5]	Wild Yam
☐	<i>Equisetum arvense</i> (eck-weh-SEE-tum)	Equisetaceae [CC1]	Common Horsetail
☐	<i>Erigeron strigosus</i> (er-RIJ-er-on)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC3]	Daisy Fleabane ☼
☐	<i>Euphorbia corollata</i> (yoo-FOR-bee-uh)	Euphorbiaceae [CC3]	Flowering Spurge 🌱
☐	<i>Filipendula rubra</i> (fill-lip-PEN-dyoo-luh)	Rosaceae [CC10]	Queen of the Prairie
☐	<i>Geum canadense</i> (JEE-um)	Rosaceae [CC2]	White Avens ☼
☐	<i>Geum virginianum</i> (JEE-um)	Rosaceae [CC9]	Cream Avens ☼
☐	<i>Hydrangea arborescens</i> (hy-DRAIN-jee-uh)	Hydrangeaceae [CC7]	Hydrangea ☼
☐	<i>Hylodesmum nudiflorum</i> (hy-lo-DEZZ-mum)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC4]	Naked-Flower Tick Trefoil ☼
☐	<i>Ilex decidua</i> (EYE-lex)	Aquifoliaceae [CC5]	Possumhaw / Deciduous Holly 🌱
☐	<i>Ipomoea pandurata</i> (eye-po-MEE-uh)	Convolvulaceae [CC2]	Wild Sweet Potato ☼
☐	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> (loo-KANN-thuh-mum)	Asteraceae (Anthemideae tribe) [introduced]	Oxeye Daisy ☼
☐	<i>Liatris pycnostachya</i> (ly-AY-triss)	Asteraceae (Eupatorieae tribe) [CC6]	Prairie Blazing Star ☼
☐	<i>Lobelia spicata</i> (lo-BEE-lee-uh)	Campanulaceae [CC5]	Pale-Spike Lobelia ☼
☐	<i>Lysimachia quadriflora</i> (ly-seh-MAH-kee-uh)	Primulaceae (Ericales) [CC8]	Fourflower Yellow Loosestrife ☼

☐	<i>Melilotus albus</i> (mell-ih-LOH-tuss)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [introduced]	White Sweetclover ☼
☐	<i>Monarda fistulosa</i> (mo-NARR-duh)	Lamiaceae [CC4]	Wild Bergamot ☼
☐	<i>Oxypolis rigidior</i> (ock-SIPP-o-liss)	Apiaceae [CC7]	Cowbane
☐	<i>Phlox pilosa</i> (FLOCKS)	Polemoniaceae [CC6]	Downy Phlox ☼
☐	<i>Physocarpus intermedius</i> (fy-so-KARR-pus)	Rosaceae [CC5]	Midwest Ninebark 🌿
☐	<i>Pycnanthemum tenuifolium</i> (pik-NANN-thuh-mum)	Lamiaceae (Nepetoideae subfamily) [CC4]	Narrowleaf Mountainmint ☼
☐	<i>Rhus copallinum</i> (ROOS)	Anacardiaceae [CC2]	Winged Sumac
☐	<i>Rosa setigera</i> (RO-zuh)	Rosaceae [CC4]	Climbing Rose 🌿 (hips)
☐	<i>Rubus flagellaris</i> (ROO-bus)	Rosaceae [CC3]	Common Dewberry 🌿
☐	<i>Rubus pensilvanicus</i> (ROO-bus)	Rosaceae []	Pennsylvania Blackberry 🌿
☐	<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> (rood-BECK-ee-uh)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC1]	Black-Eyed-Susan ☼
☐	<i>Ruellia humilis</i> (roo-ELL-ee-uh)	Acanthaceae [CC3]	Hairy Wild Petunia ☼
☐	<i>Sabatia angularis</i> (suh-BAY-tee-uh)	Gentianaceae [CC4]	Rosepink / Rose Gential ☼
☐	<i>Scirpus pendulus</i> (SKR-pus)	Cyperaceae [CC5]	Nodding Bulrush 🌿
☐	<i>Silphium integrifolium</i> (SILL-fee-um)	Asteraceae (Heliantheae tribe) [CC4]	Rosinweed
☐	<i>Stylosanthes biflora</i> (sty-lo-SAN-thees)	Fabaceae (Faboideae subfamily) [CC5]	Pencil Flower ☼
☐	<i>Teucrium canadense</i> (TOO-kree-um)	Lamiaceae (Ajugoideae subfamily) [CC2]	Germander ☼
☐	<i>Thalictrum revolutum</i> [<i>amphibolum</i>] (thuh-LICK-trum)	Ranunculaceae [CC5]	Skunk (or Waxy-Leaf) Meadow Rue
☐	<i>Thelypteris palustris</i> (theh-LIPP-tr-iss)	Thelypteridaceae [CC10]	Marsh Fern

NOTES

WHERE WE WALKED: Today we had the privilege of botanizing on a fen. To get to this fen in the Coonville Creek Natural Area, we drove to a nondescript, easy-to-miss turnoff from Hwy 67, about 1.9 miles northeast of the St. Francois State Park's main entrance. Fens are habitats we hardly ever get to experience, and best of all they have plants we hardly ever get to see. But today we found them all!

A GLADE-FEN? Although the 2 words would seem to cancel each other out, the words "glade" and "fen" were used in the same sentence several times by different people. John explained that we were on a "glade" in the sense that it has soil so thin that it can't support trees, yet we were on a "fen" in the sense that it has a year-round seepage of alkaline water. (He added that the word "bog" would be used for other parts of the world where the water is acidic.)

HEAT PROBLEMS: We didn't expect that we'd have any problems because the temperature wasn't especially hot (maybe 90°). But when we got out onto the watery fen, the humidity was quite noticeable. And the terrain made matters even worse. We had to expend more energy than usual to get across the uneven, marshy ground and through its thick, clumpy vegetation. On a winter's day that extra work might have raised a sweat, but today it conspired with the heat and humidity to overwhelm some of us with heat sickness. Fortunately there was enough collective medical knowledge in our group to deal with the emergency effectively. We're grateful for the quick and friendly response of the park personnel for transporting us out of the fen, and for the waiting ambulance crew who checked us out and happily returned empty.

PHOTOS: As usual, Kathy Bildner has shared her beautiful photos with us on our Google Drive [HERE](#).

PARTICIPANTS:

There were 12 of us botanists today, who are (in alphabetical order):

Prem Barton, Renee Benage, Kathy Bildner, Wayne Clark, Lorie Hetrick-Volenberg, June Jeffries, HD Key, Michael Laschober, John Oliver, Kathy Thiele, George Van Brunt, and Laura Yates.