

Hickory Canyons Natural Area

September 15, 2025

	BOTANICAL NAME (with genus pronunciation)	FAMILY [CC] = Coefficient of Conservatism	COMMON NAME ☼ = Flowering / 🌱 = Fruiting
☐	<i>Acalypha gracilens</i> (ack-uh-LY-fuh / GRASS-eh-lenz)	Euphorbiaceae (Malpighiales) [CC3]	Slender 3-Seeded Mercury 🌱
☐	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> (am-uh-LAN-kee-er)	Rosaceae [CC6]	Serviceberry
☐	<i>Aralia racemosa</i> (uh-RAY-lee-uh)	Araliaceae [CC8]	Spikenard 🌱
☐	<i>Aruncus dioicus</i> (uh-RUNK-us)	Rosaceae [CC6]	Goatsbeard 🌱
☐	<i>Asplenium pinnatifidum</i> (uh-SPLEE-nee-um)	Aspleniaceae [CC10]	Lobed Spleenwort
☐	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i> (uh-SPLEE-nee-um)	Aspleniaceae [CC9]	Maidenhair Spleenwort
☐	<i>Athyrium asplenoides</i> (uh-THEER-ee-um)	Athyriaceae (Polypodiales) [CC8]	Southern Lady Fern
☐	<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i> (uh-THEER-ee-um)	Athyriaceae (Polypodiales) [CC8]	Lady Fern
☐	<i>Aureolaria flava</i> (awr-ee-o-LAYR-ee-uh)	Orobanchaceae (Lamiales) [CC8]	Smooth Yellow False Foxglove 🌱
☐	<i>Brachyelytrum erectum</i> (brack-ee-ell-LY-trum)	Poaceae [CC5]	Long-Awned Woodgrass 🌱
☐	<i>Conocephalum salubrosum</i> (kon-o-SEFF-uh-lum)	Conocephalaceae (Marchantiales)	Snakeskin Liverwort
☐	<i>Cunila origanoides</i> (KOO-nil-lah)	Lamiaceae [CC6]	Dittany ☼
☐	<i>Dennstaedtia punctilobula</i> (den-STEE-dee-uh)	Dennstaedtiaceae (Polypodiales) [CC10]	Hay-Scented Fern
☐	<i>Deparia acrostichoides</i> (deh-PAIR-ee-uh)	Athyriaceae (Polypodiales) [CC10]	Silvery Glade Fern / Silvery Spleenwort
☐	<i>Dichanthelium commutatum</i> var <i>ashei</i> (dy-kan-THEE-lee-um)	Poaceae [CC7]	Variable Panicgrass
☐	<i>Dryopteris marginalis</i> (dry-OPP-tr-iss)	Dryopteridaceae (Polypodiales) [CC7]	Marginal Shield Fern
☐	<i>Goodyera pubescens</i> (good-YEER-uh)	Orchidaceae (Asparagales) [CC10]	Downy Rattlesnake Plantain
☐	<i>Hieracium scabrum</i> (hy-RAY-see-um)	Asteraceae (Cichorieae tribe) [CC7]	Rough Hawkweed ☼
☐	<i>Hypericum hypericoides</i> (hy-PAYR-i-kum)	Hypericaceae [CC8]	St. Andrew's Cross
☐	<i>Lactuca hirsuta</i> (lack-TOO-kuh)	Asteraceae (Cichorieae tribe) [CC4]	Hairy Lettuce ☼
☐	<i>Leucobryum glaucum</i> (loo-ko-BRY-um)	Leucobryaceae	Pincushion Moss
☐	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (lin-DEER-uh)	Lauraceae [CC5]	Spicebush 🌱
☐	<i>Lobelia cardinalis</i> (lo-BEE-lee-uh)	Campanulaceae [CC6]	Cardinal Flower ☼
☐	<i>Lobelia inflata</i> (lo-BEE-lee-uh)	Campanulaceae [CC3]	Indian Tobacco ☼
☐	<i>Malaxis unifolia</i> (mal-AX-iss)	Orchidaceae (Asparagales) [CC9]	Green Adder's Mouth Orchid
☐	<i>Mitchella repens</i> (mit-CHELL-uh)	Rubiaceae [CC7]	Partridgeberry 🌱
☐	<i>Osmunda spectabilis</i> (oss-MUN-duh)	Osmundaceae [CC7]	Royal Fern (American)
☐	<i>Osmundastrum cinnamomeum</i> (os-MUN-duh-strum)	Osmundaceae [CC8]	Cinnamon Fern
☐	<i>Polypodium virginianum</i> (poly-PO-dee-um)	Polypodiaceae (Polypodiales) [CC9]	Rock Polypody / Common Polypody

☐	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i> (po-LISS-tick-um)	Dryopteridaceae (Polypodiales) [CC5]	Christmas Fern
☐	<i>Rhus copallinum</i> (ROOS)	Anacardiaceae [CC2]	Winged Sumac 🌿
☐	<i>Smilax glauca</i> (SMY-lax)	Smilacaceae (Liliales) (Liliaceae) [CC4]	Whiteleaf Greenbrier / Cat Greenbrier
☐	<i>Solidago arguta</i> (so-lid-DAY-go)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC7]	Sharp-Leaved Goldenrod 🌼
☐	<i>Solidago buckleyi</i> (so-lid-DAY-go)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC8]	Buckley's Goldenrod 🌼
☐	<i>Solidago hispida</i> (so-lid-DAY-go)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC6]	Hairy Goldenrod 🌼
☐	<i>Sphagnum compactum</i> (SFAGG-num)	Sphagnaceae	Compact Peat Moss
☐	<i>Symphyotrichum anomalum</i> (SIMM-fee-o-TRY-kum)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC6]	Manyray Aster 🌼
☐	<i>Symphyotrichum lateriflorum</i> (SIMM-fee-o-TRY-kum)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC3]	Calico Aster 🌼 (bud)
☐	<i>Symphyotrichum patens</i> (SIMM-fee-o-TRY-kum)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC5]	Spreading Aster or Late Purple Aster 🌼
☐	<i>Ulmus alata</i> (UL-muss)	Ulmaceae [CC4]	Winged Elm
☐	<i>Vaccinium arboreum</i> (vack-SINN-ee-um)	Ericaceae [CC6]	Farkleberry
☐	<i>Vaccinium pallidum</i> (vack-SINN-ee-um)	Ericaceae [CC4]	Lowbush Blueberry

NOTES

WHERE WE WALKED: We botanized both trails, starting with the short out-and-back trail on the West side of Sprott Road, then ending with the longer loop trail on the East side of the road. This place is richly diverse. We all felt thrilled to be here.

FERNS: This is “Fern City” for sure. We identified these 11 different species without even leaving the trail:

- *Asplenium pinnatifidum* (Lobed Spleenwort)
- *Asplenium trichomanes* (Maidenhair Spleenwort)
- *Athyrium asplenoides* (Southern Lady Fern)
- *Athyrium filix-femina* (Lady Fern)
- *Dennstaedtia punctilobula* (Hay-Scented Fern)
- *Deparia acrostichoides* (Silvery Glade Fern)
- *Dryopteris marginalis* (Marginal Shield Fern)
- *Osmunda spectabilis* (American Royal Fern)
- *Osmundastrum cinnamomeum* (Cinnamon Fern)
- *Polypodium virginianum* (Common Polypody)
- *Polystichum acrostichoides* (Christmas Fern)

PHOTOS: Kathy Bildner has again kindly shared her photos with us on our Google Drive ([HERE](#)).

RHYOLITE: A small section of both trails was covered with crushed rock. It was a gray-colored rock, not the common limestone that we usually find on other trails. Len identified it as rhyolite because of its small grain. We were wondering whether this rock was chosen because it could be locally purchased at a cheaper price, or whether it was a conscious decision to protect the acidic-loving plants along the trail from the alkaline runoff of limestone.

PARTICIPANTS:

There were 8 of us botanists today, who are (in alphabetical order):

Renee Benage, Kathy Bildner, Wayne Clark, Michael Laschober, Len Meier, John Oliver, David Steinmeyer, and Kathy Thiele