

Engelmann Woods

April 20, 2026

	BOTANICAL NAME (with genus pronunciation)	FAMILY [CC] = Coefficient of Conservatism	COMMON NAME ☼ = Flowering / 🍂 = Fruiting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Andersonglossum virginianum</i> (an-dr-sun-GLOSS-um)	Boraginaceae [CC6]	Wild Comfrey ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Antemaria parlinii</i> (an-tin-AYR-ee-uh)	Asteracea (Gnaphalieae tribe) CC5	Parlin's Pussytoes ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Aplectrum hyemale</i> (ay-PLECK-trum)	Orchidaceae (Asparagales) [CC8]	Adam and Eve Orchid / Putty Root Orchid ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i> (uh-POSS-i-num)	Apocynaceae [CC3]	Dogbane
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Arisaema dracontium</i> (ayr-eh-SEE-muh)	Araceae [CC6]	Green Dragon
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> (ayr-eh-SEE-muh)	Araceae [CC6]	Jack-in-the-Pulpit ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Arnoglossum reniforme</i> (awr-no-GLOSS-um)	Asteraceae (Senecioneae tribe) [CC8]	Great Indian Plantain
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Asarum reflexum</i> (uh-SAYR-um)	Aristolochiaceae [CC6]	Wild Ginger ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Asclepias quadrifolia</i> (uh-SKLEE-pee-us)	Apocynaceae [CC6]	Fourleaf Milkweed ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Asplenium platyneuron</i> (uh-SPLEE-nee-um)	Aspleniaceae [CC4]	Ebony Spleenwort
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Blephilia hirsuta</i> (bleh-FILL-ee-uh)	Lamiaceae (Nepetoideae subfamily) [CC7]	Hairy Pagoda Plant / Wood Mint
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Borodinia</i> [Boechera] <i>laevigata</i> (bor-o-DINN-ee-uh)	Brassicaceae [CC6]	Smooth Rockcress ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Botrypus virginianus</i> (bo-TRY-pus)	Ophioglossaceae [CC4]	Rattlesnake Fern
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Camassia scilloides</i> (kuh-MASS-ee-uh)	Asparagaceae [CC6]	Wild Hyacinth 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex blanda</i> (CARE-ex)	Cyperaceae [CC2]	Woodland Sedge ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Carex careyana</i> (CARE-ex)	Cyperaceae [CC9]	Carey's Sedge ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cercis canadensis</i> (SR-siss)	Fabaceae (Caesalpinioideae subfam) [CC3]	Redbud 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Chaerophyllum tainturieri</i> (kee-ro-FILL-um)	Apiaceae [CC3]	Hairyfruit Chervil ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Chelidonium (Stylophorum) diphyllum</i> (chell-eh-DO-nee-um)	Papaveraceae [CC7]	Celandine Poppy ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Claytonia virginica</i> (klay-TOE-nee-uh)	Montiaceae [CC3]	Spring Beauty ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Corallorhiza wisteriana</i> (kor-al-lo-RY-zuh)	Orchidaceae [CC7]	Spring Coralroot ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cornus florida</i> (syn. <i>Benthamidia florida</i>) (KOR-nuss)	Cornaceae [CC5]	Flowering Dogwood
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cubelium [Hybanthus] concolor</i> ("q"-BELL-ee-um)	Violaceae [CC7]	Green Violet ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cunila origanoides</i> (KOO-nil-lah)	Lamiaceae [CC6]	Dittany
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Cystopteris protrusa</i> (sis-STOP-tr-riss)	Cystopteridaceae [CC5]	Lowland Bladderfern
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Delphinium tricorne</i> (del-FINN-ee-um)	Ranunculaceae [CC6]	Dwarf Larkspur ☼ & 🍂
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ellisia nyctelea</i> (eh-LISS-ee-uh)	Boraginaceae [CC1]	Aunt Lucy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Enemion biternatum</i> (eh-NEE-mee-un)	Ranunculaceae [CC5]	Lowland Rue Anemone ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i> (er-RIJ-er-on)	Asteraceae (Astereae tribe) [CC3]	Philadelphia Fleabane ☼

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i> (FAY-guss)	Fagaceae [CC8]	American Beech
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Fraxinus quadrangulata</i> (FRACK-sin-us)	Oleaceae [CC8]	Blue Ash
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Galium aparine</i> (GAY-lee-um)	Rubiaceae [CC0]	Common Bedstraw / Cleavers ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Galium circaeazans</i> (GAY-lee-um / sr-KAY-zanz)	Rubiaceae [CC4]	Licorice Bedstraw
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Galium concinnum</i> (GAY-lee-um)	Rubiaceae [CC4]	Shining Bedstraw
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Galium triflorum</i> (GAY-lee-um)	Rubiaceae [CC4]	Fragrant Bedstraw
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Geranium maculatum</i> (jr-RAY-nee-um)	Geraniaceae [CC5]	Wild Geranium ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gillenia stipulata</i> (gill-LEE-nee-uh)	Rosaceae [CC5]	American Ipecac
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Glyceria striata</i> (gly-SEER-ee-uh)	Poaceae [CC4]	Fowl Manna Grass 🍄
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Houstonia longifolia</i> (hew-STO-nee-uh)	Rubiaceae [CC5]	Longleaf Bluet ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Hydrophyllum appendiculatum</i> (hy-dro-FILL-um)	Boraginaceae [CC6]	Great Waterleaf / Woolen Breeches ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Hydrophyllum canadense</i> (hy-dro-FILL-um)	Boraginaceae [CC7]	Broadleaf Waterleaf 🍄
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Laportea canadensis</i> (luh-POR-tee-uh)	Urticaceae [CC4]	Wood Nettle
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Lindera benzoin</i> (lin-DEER-uh)	Lauraceae [CC5]	Spicebush
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Lonicera maackii</i> (lo-NISS-r-uh)	Caprifoliaceae [introduced]	Bush Honeysuckle ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Monarda bradburiana</i> (mo-NARR-duh)	Lamiaceae [CC5]	Bradbury's Beebalm ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Myosotis macrosperma</i> (my-o-SO-tis)	Boraginaceae (Boraginales) [CC3]	Largeseed Forget-Me-Not ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Nabalis altissimus</i> (NAB-uh-luss)	Asteraceae (Cichorieae tribe) [CC5]	Tall White Lettuce
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ornithogalum umbellatum</i> (or-nith-o-GAY-lum)	Asparagaceae [introduced]	Star of Bethlehem ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Orobanche uniflora</i> (or-o-BANK-ee)	Orobanchaceae (Lamiales) [CC7]	One-Flowered Cancer Root ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Osmorhiza longistylis</i> (oz-mo-RY-zuh)	Apiaceae [CC3]	Longstyle Sweet-Cicely ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Oxalis violacea</i> (oks-AL-iss)	Oxalidaceae CC5	Violet Wood-Sorrel ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Packera plattensis</i> (PACK-r-uh)	Asteraceae (Senecioneae tribe) [CC6]	Prairie Ragwort ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> (parth-in-o-SISS-us)	Vitaceae [CC3]	Virginia Creeper
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Penstemon pallidus</i> (PENN-steh-mun)	Plantaginaceae [CC5]	Pale Beardtongue
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Persicaria virginiana</i> (pr-seh-KAYR-ee-uh)	Polygonaceae [CC1]	Jumpseed / Virginia Knotweed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Phacelia purshii</i> (fuh-SEE-lee-uh)	Boraginaceae [CC4]	Miami Mist ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Phlox divaricata</i> (FLOCKS)	Polemoniaceae [CC4]	Woodland Phlox ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Phytolacca americana</i> (fy-toh-LACK-uh)	Phytolaccaceae [CC2]	Pokeweed
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> (po-do-FILL-um)	Berberidaceae [CC4]	Mayapple ☼ & 🍄
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Polymnia canadensis</i> (po-LIMM-nee-uh)	Asteraceae (Polymniaceae tribe) [CC6]	Whiteflower Leafcup / Whiteflower Bearsfoot
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ranunculus abortivus</i> (ruh-NUN-kyoo-lus)	Ranunculaceae [CC1]	Small-Flowered Buttercup ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ranunculus hispidus</i> (ruh-NUN-kyoo-lus)	Ranunculaceae [CC4]	Bristly Buttercup ☼

<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ranunculus micranthus</i> (ruh-NUN-kyoo-lus)	Ranunculaceae [CC3]	Small-Flowered Buttercup ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Ranunculus recurvatus</i> (ruh-NUN-kyoo-lus)	Ranunculaceae [CC5]	Hooked Buttercup 🍄
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Rhus aromatica</i> (ROOS)	Anacardiaceae [CC4]	Fragrant Sumac 🍄
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Rubus allegheniensis</i> (ROO-bus)	Rosaceae [CC4]	Common Blackberry ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sanicula odorata</i> (suh-NICK-yoo-luh)	Apiaceae [CC2]	Clustered Black Snakeroot ☼ (developing)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Smilax tannoides</i> [<i>S. hispida</i>] (SMY-lax)	Smilacaceae (Liliaceae) [CC3]	Bristly Greenbrier
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> (SIMM-for-ee-KARR-pos)	Caprifoliaceae [CC1]	Coralberry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Thalictrum thalictroides</i> (thuh-LICK-trum)	Ranunculaceae [CC5]	Rue Anemone ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i> (TOCK-see-ko-DEN-dron)	Anacardiaceae [CC1]	Poison Ivy
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Trillium flexipes</i> (TRILL-ee-um)	Melanthiaceae [CC8]	Drooping Trillium / White Trillium ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Trillium recurvatum</i> (TRILL-ee-um)	Melanthiaceae [CC6]	Prairie Trillium ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i> (try-o-DAY-niss)	Campanulaceae [CC2]	Clasping Venus's Looking-Glass
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Triosteum angustifolium</i> (try-OSS-tec-um)	Caprifoliaceae [CC6]	Yellow-Fruited Horse Gentian
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Urnula craterium</i> (ur-NOO-luh)	Sarcosomataceae (Pezizales)	Devil's Urn (cup fungus)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i> (yoo-vyoo-LAYR-ee-uh)	Colchicaceae [CC6]	Largeflower Bellwort
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Veronica arvensis</i> (vr-RON-nick-uh)	Plantaginaceae [introduced]	Corn Speedwell ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Viola palmata</i> (vy-O-luh)	Violaceae [CC5]	Tri-Lobed Violet
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Viola sororia</i> (vy-O-luh)	Violaceae [CC2]	Common Blue Violet ☼
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Viola striata</i> (vy-O-luh)	Violaceae [CC3]	Striped Creamy Violet ☼

NOTES

Because of Engelmann's microscopic parking lot, we all met at Lake St. Albans and carpooled to the Natural Area. By the way, if you sometimes can't remember the name "Engelmann Woods" or confuse it with Kirkwood's "Emmenegger Park", sing this [famous song](#) and substitute "Engelmann" for "English Man". George Engelmann himself undoubtedly sang it while working in his greenhouse. Actually, his whole family probably sang it around the supper-table. Maybe sometimes Henry Shaw would join in singing tenor.

As always, we began our 1.9 mile loop by admiring the beech trees at the very start of the trail. It's rare to find a beech tree in St. Louis – at least one that doesn't have names carved into its smooth bark. And if you constantly confuse the words "beech" and "birch", read on, because soon after John had introduced us to the large beech tree, somebody noticed a young tree on the opposite side of the trail with a similar (though not exactly the same) leaf shape. While we were trying to figure out what kind of tree it was, our quick-witted Steve Bizub suggested: "maybe it's a Son of a Beech". Everybody laughed. John decided that the little tree was a Hop Hornbeam because of the forked veins along the bottom margin of the leaf. So, only a dozen steps into the trail and we had already learned two plants: *Fagus grandifolia* (C8) and *Ostrya virginiana* (C4) It was going to be a good day indeed!

Almost every place we go to throughout the year has special plants that we're on the lookout for just for the satisfaction of checking them off our mental checklist. Here in this richly diverse Engelmann Woods, the top 3 plants on most of our radars are probably the White Trillium (*Trillium flexipes*, C8), the Spring Coralroot Orchid (*Corallorhiza wisteriana*, C7), and the One-Flowered Cancer Root (*Orobancha uniflora*, C7). And we found all three! (By the way, if you feel that the word "cancer" is inappropriate, it probably refers to the plant's tuberous haustorial roots, not to the disease.)

The Coralroot Orchid and the Cancer Root are almost impossible to find in the leaf litter because they are not green. Although most plants are autotrophs (make their own sugars through photosynthesis), this orchid is a saprophyte (gets its sugars from dead or decaying organic matter) and the Cancer Root is a parasite (gets its sugars by tapping into a host). There should be an award given to those who find these hard-to-see plants. On second thought, maybe not because Kathy Bildner, David, and Prem would always win the prize.

Although we found new plants to admire around every bend, John seemed a bit disappointed that so many of the plants had already finished flowering. With the onset of spring coming earlier every year, he mentioned that he may need to reschedule future spring wildflower walks a bit earlier on the calendar.

This was a great walk. The weather was beautiful. We had the chance to become more familiar with many plants that we don't ordinarily find on other walks. We all look forward to someday returning to this richly diverse Englishman Woods.

PARTICIPANTS:

There were 22 of us botanists today, who are (in alphabetical order):

Gisela & Larry Baner, Prem Barton, Kathy Bildner, Steve Bizub, Jerry Castillon, Wayne Clark, Mike Colegrove, Christine Ellis, Ann Esswein, Karen Gabbert, Cathy Halim, June Jeffries, Michael Laschober, Burt Noll, John Oliver, David Steinmeyer, Kathy Thiele, Elaine Wolshock, Matthew Wolshock, Richard Wolshock, and Laura Yates.