

Spring Ephemerals Nature's Secret Garden





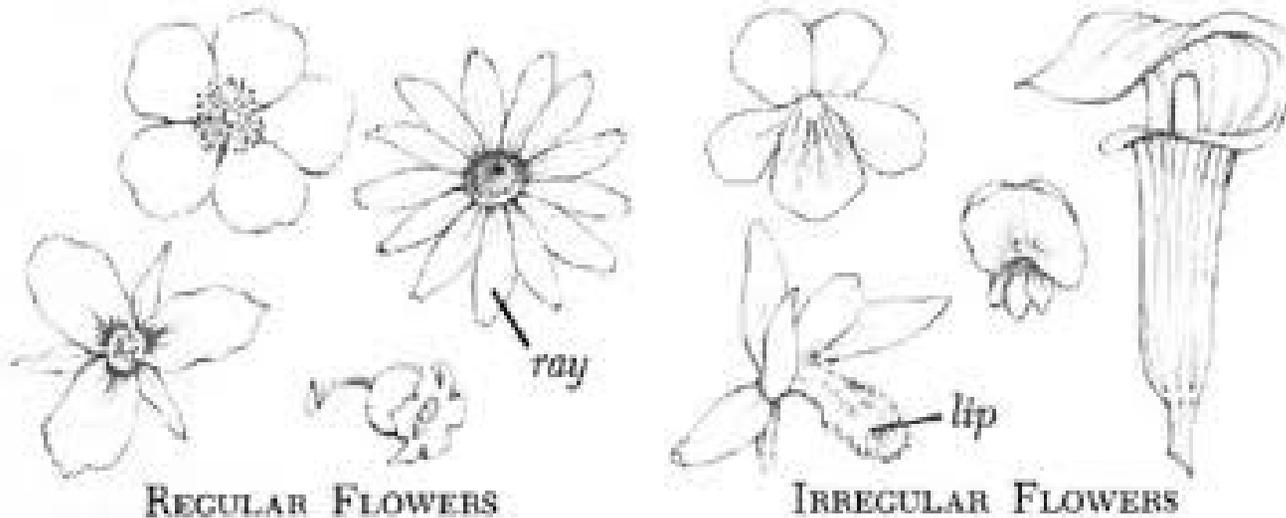
Local Trails

- NWB Trail
- Rachel Carson Greenway Trail
- Paint Branch Trail
- Fairland Regional Park
 - Viper, Crow's Foot & Holly Trails
- Great Falls – Maryland
 - Carderock – Billy Goat Trail Section C
- Woodend Sanctuary – Chevy Chase
 - Blair Native Garden

Identification

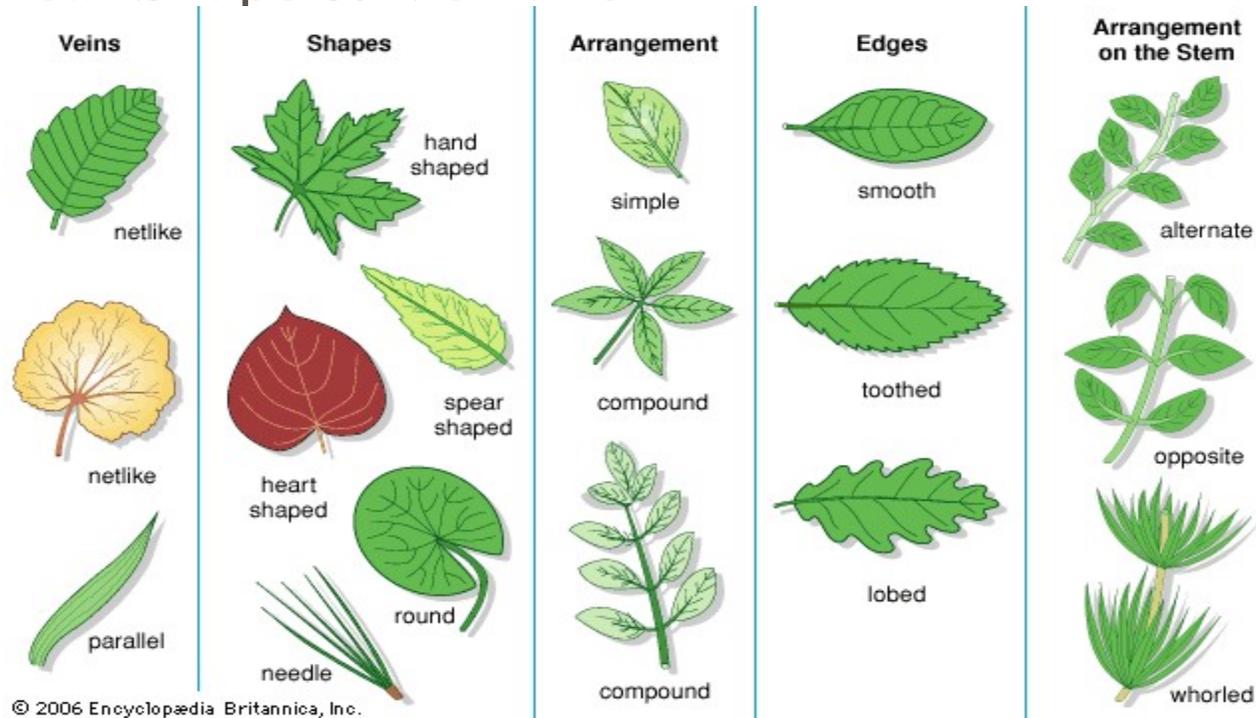
What to look for in Flower

- Flower Type – Regular or Irregular
- Flower Petal Number & Color

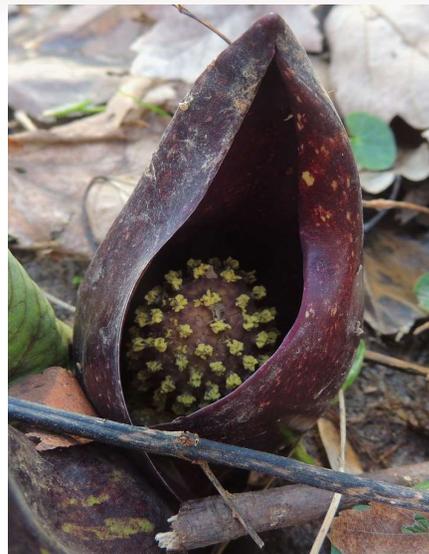


What to look for in Leaves

- Leaf Location – Basal or on Stem
- Leaf Type – Alternate, Opposite, Whorled
- Leaf Margin – Smooth, Toothed, Lobes, Divided
- Leaf Shape & Veination



First Sign of Spring Skunk Cabbage



Snowdrops – Non-Native

White drooping flowers – 3 petal-like sepals surrounding 3 inner petals; grass-like bluish-green leaves



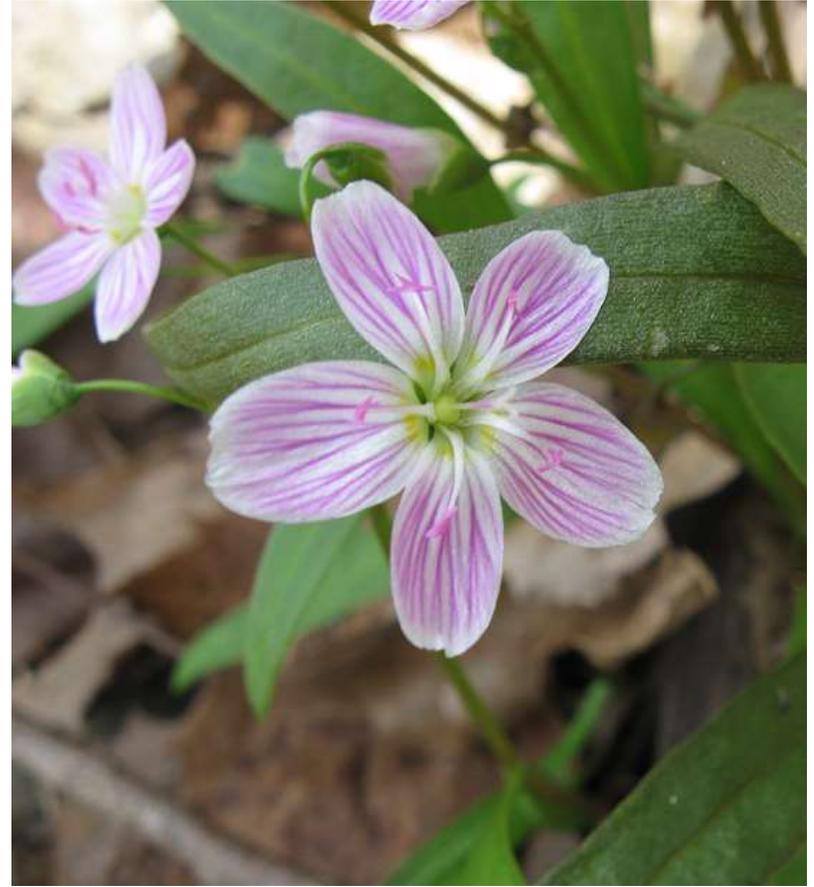
Lesser Celandine – Invasive

Forms dense mat; heart-shaped leaves with wavy margin;
yellow 8-12 petaled flower



Spring Beauties

Star-shaped flowers with 5 petals white-light pink with dark pink stripes; 2 grass-like dark green leaves

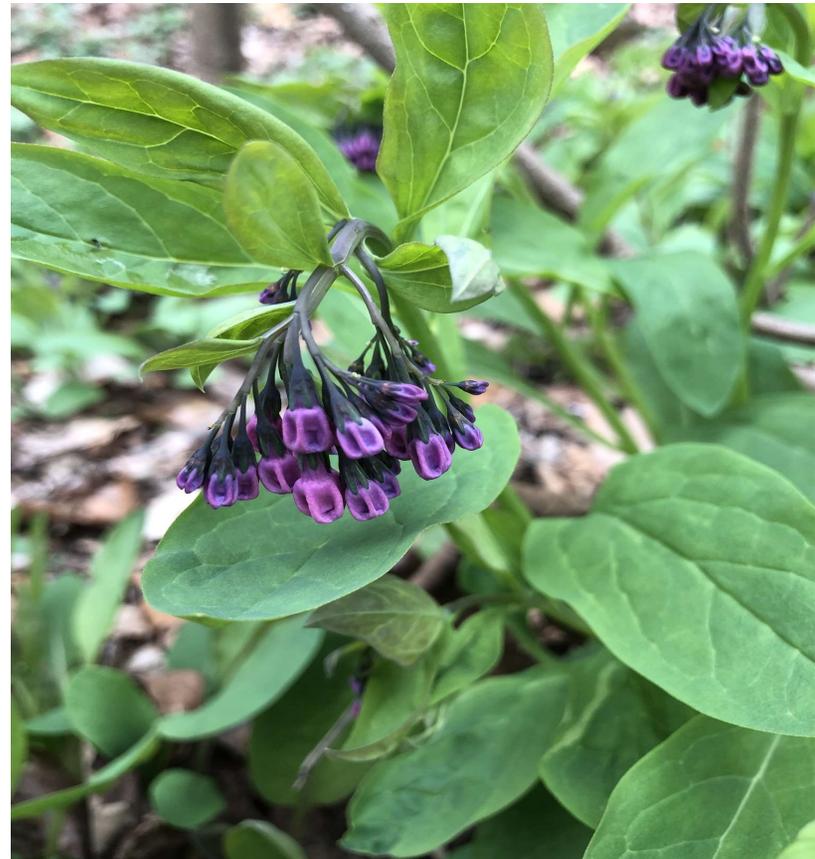


Red Maple



Virginia Bluebells

Bell-shaped blue flowers hang from arched clusters at tips of stems; leaves broad, oval, smooth margin



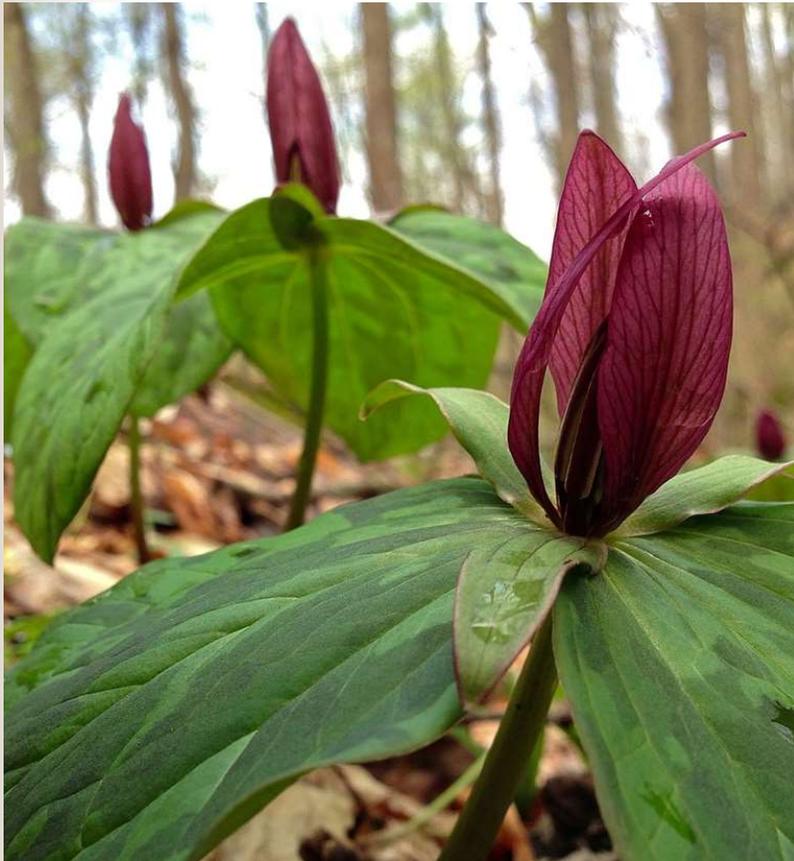
Spicebush

Deciduous shrub; clusters of tiny yellow flowers



Toad-Shade Trillium

Maroon 3-petaled flowers borne in center of whorl of 3 mottled leaves



Bloodroot

Single white flower with golden center, 8-10 petals; blue-gray-green scalloped leaf below bloom



Mayapple

Distinctive umbrella-shape leaves; stem bearing 2 leaves will flower; 6-9 white petaled flower, cup-shaped with yellow center



Common Blue Violets

Irregular flower with 5 purple or white petals; leaves heart-shaped & toothed, at base of plant



Rue Anemone

Cluster of 2-3 white flowers (5-10 petal-like sepals), yellow centers; surrounded by whorl of 3-lobed leaves, stem reddish-brown



Hepatica

3-lobed liver-shaped leathery leaves; blue, lavender, pink or white flowers with 6-12 petal-like sepals on a hairy stem



Bluets/Quaker Ladies

4-petaled, pale blue flowers with yellow centers; oval leaves clustered at base, scattered in pairs along stem



Wild Blue Phlox

Fragrant tubular lavender/pink 5 petaled flowers in clusters;
opposite elliptic-shaped leaves



Star Chickweed

Star-like white flowers with 5 split petals (looks like 10);
stem & oblong leaves hairy



Dutchman's Breeches

White flowers with 2 spurred petals like baggy trouser legs; highly divided, fern-like leaves with 3 leaflets



Cutleaf Toothwort

Clusters of 4-petaled white to pink flowers, “nod” downward; whorls of 3 deeply divided leaves with 5 lobes



Early Saxifrage

Clusters of white 5-petaled flowers atop a hairy stem;
leathery, hairy basal leaves with scalloped margin



Wild Ginger

Hairy, heart shaped leaves; red-brown, maroon cup-shaped flowers, 3 unusual petal-like sepals under leaves



Wild Geranium

5-petaled purple-pink flowers clustered above paired leaves; leaves deeply divided, 5 lobes & toothed; hairy stem



Violet Wood Sorrel

5 petaled lavender to pinkish bell-shaped flowers; clover-like leaves with 3 heart-shaped leaflets



Trout Lily

Yellow flowers – 6 upswept petals, nodding on a leafless stalk, brown stamens in center; 2 oblong leathery, brown-green mottled leaves arise from base



Dwarf Ginseng

White tiny flowers in a globe-like cluster, each has 5 petals; sits atop a reddish-brown stem rising from a whorl of 3 compound leaves with 3-5 oblong, toothed leaflets



Garlic Mustard – Invasive

Grows 2-3' tall; 4-petaled white flowers are small & clustered at top of the stem; lower leaves are kidney-shaped & upper are more triangular, both have scalloped edges



Golden Ragwort

Yellow, daisy-like flowers atop erect stem arising from rosette of basal leaves; stem leaves, alternate, oblong & finely lobed; basal leaves heart-shaped, toothed & dark green above, purplish below



Wood Anemone

Single flower, white/pink 4-9 petal-like sepals rise above 3 compound leaves (3 deeply divided, coarsely toothed leaflets per leaf); stem & leaves are hairy



Slender Toothwort

Terminal cluster of 4-petaled pink flowers; 2 opposite compound leaves with 3 narrow, divided leaflets (toothed or smooth); egg-shaped toothed basal leaves



Common Cinquefoil

Single yellow, 5 heart-shaped petaled flower. 3-5 compound leaves (3-5 leaflets) alternately attached to stem; stem & stamens turn red with age; leaf below & stem hairy



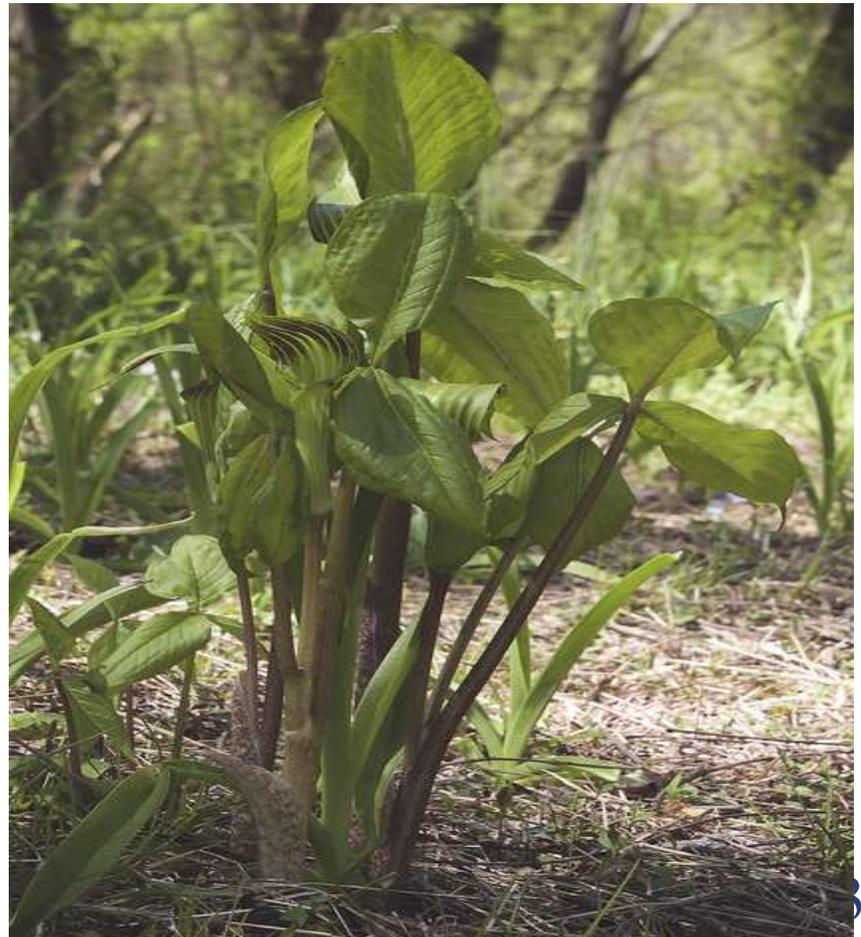
Sweet Cicely

Clusters of tiny white 5 petaled flowers with anise-like aroma – hairy bracts spread downward. Compound leaves lobed & toothed with 3 leaflets – lower leaves quite large – leaves & stems are hairy



Jack-in-the-Pulpit

Large hooded flower; pulpit green outside, purple striped inside; numerous tiny flowers on erect green-purple spike (Jack); 1-2 large compound leaves with 3 leaflets



Christmas Fern

Evergreen; silvery fiddleheads; leathery fronds composed of stocking-shaped leaflets



New York Fern

Deciduous fern that tapers at both ends



Pinxter Bloom/Wild Azalea

Deciduous shrub with pink/white 5-petaled flowers & long protruding stamens; oblong leaves with smooth finely hairy margin



Mountain Laurel – NWB's Best Feature

Evergreen shrub; leathery, glossy oval leaves; flowers in clusters, bell-shaped with 5 sides, white to pink with deep rose spots inside



Vernal Pools

Small, shallow, seasonal wetlands that don't have a permanent inlet or outlet of water flow – important amphibian breeding sites



Wood Frogs

Sounds like quacking ducks



Spring Peepers

High pitched peep (sleigh bells)



American Toad

Melodic trill



American Bullfrog

Rum rum jug-o-rum



Northern Green Frog

Loose banjo string



Southern Leopard Frog

Clucks/chuckles – rubbing inflated balloon



Northern/Eastern Cricket Frog

Clicking cricket sound



© John White

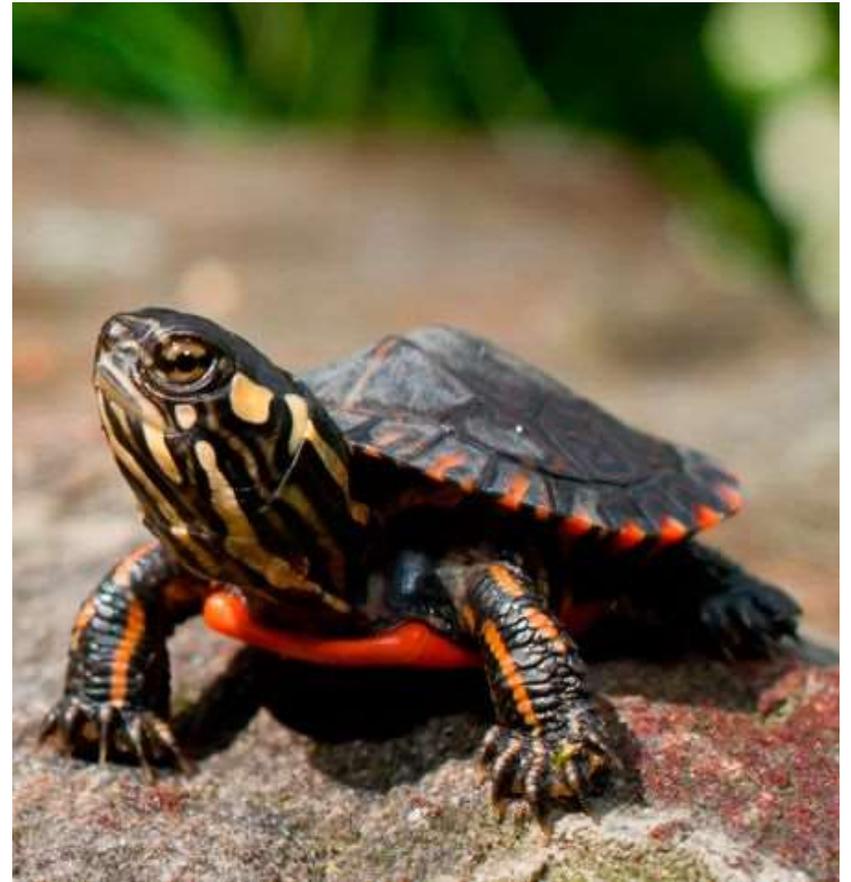


Cope's Gray Tree Frog

Resonating high pitch trill



Eastern Painted Turtle



Red-Eared Slider

