



Photo credits: Laura Beukeboom-Rodger (left) and Kevin Kavanagh (right)

## Virgin's Bower (*Clematis virginiana*)

This native clematis is a vigorous vine that grows rapidly and can be used to cover chain link fences and other supports in just one season. It grows masses of beautiful white flowers in mid-summer followed by attractive wispy ornamental seedheads that last well into winter. It blooms on new wood, so excessive growth can be pruned back in winter, and it is deer resistant. Similar in appearance to the invasive Sweet Autumn Clematis (*Clematis terniflora*), this is a great native alternative. Native throughout much of eastern North America.



### Plant Type:

A vigorous, woody vine.



### Light Conditions:

Full sun is ideal, tolerates part shade



### Soil and Moisture:

Wet to dry; highly adaptable to a range of soil conditions.



### Size/Height:

This vine can grow quickly once established and climb more than 7m (20 ft) tall if permitted. Can be pruned to maintain size which is best done in spring.



### Flowers/Fruit:

White flowers in mid-summer followed by fluffy, ornamental seedheads.



### Wildlife Benefits

: Larval host for many moths. Nectar attracts bees, butterflies, wasps and flies.



### Cautions:

Vigorous spreader, may need annual pruning to control size.