

Plant Descriptions



Agastache nepetoides, Giant Yellow Hyssop: Herbaceous plant with yellow flower spikes, not showy. Blooms: July-September. Height: 4-6 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: medium. Deer resistant. Attracts bees. Collect seeds 3–4 weeks after flowering when the seeds begin to darken (late summer to early fall).

Aquilegia canadensis, Eastern Columbine: An erect, branching perennial with showy red and yellow flowers. Blooms: April-May. Height: 1-3 feet. Light: sun to part shade. Moisture: dry to moist. Deer resistant. Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies, and bees. Seeds consumed by finches and buntings. Collecting seed: using gloves, harvest seeds by combing them from the dried heads (late summer to early fall).

Asclepias syriaca, Common Milkweed: Herbaceous plant with slender leaves and pink-purple flower umbels. Blooms: June-August. Height: 4-5 feet. Light: Full sun. Attracts butterflies. Collecting seeds: seed ripens in late summer. Pods are ripe when they open at the seam with a gentle squeeze. Use your fingers to pull the seeds and the silk out.

Baptisia australis var. australis, Blue False Indigo: Tall, bushy perennial with lupine-like, purple flowers. Blooms: May-June. Height: 3-5 feet. Light: full sun to partial shade. Moisture: dry. Collecting seed: about six weeks past flowering, the pods should be black and beginning to open. Collect at this time by combing the seeds from the pod. Mature, viable seeds will be brownish, hard and rounded.

Echinacea purpurea, Eastern Purple Coneflower: A popular perennial with smooth stems and long-lasting lavender flowers. Blooms: July-September. Height: 2-4 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: medium. Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies, bees and birds. Collecting seeds: using gloves, harvest seeds by combing them from the dried heads (late summer to early fall).

Eupatorium dubium, Coastal Joe-Pye Weed/Little Joe: A compact selection of Joe-Pye with large umbrella-like heads of rosy-purple flowers. Blooms: July-September. Height: 2-4 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: moist to wet. Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies. Collecting seed: seed ripens about a month after flowering and should be collected when the heads split and dry and the fluffy seed begins to float away

Eutrochium fistulosum, Hollow Joe-Pye Weed: Tall, sturdy perennial with dark green leaves and clusters of tiny, fragrant, pinkish-rose-colored flowers. Blooms: July-September. Height: 2-4 feet. Light: full sun to partial shade. Moisture: average to wet. Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies. Collecting seed: see Eupatorium dubium instructions.

Hibiscus Moscheutos, Crimson-eyed Rose-Mallow: A shrub-like perennial with large, heart-shaped leaves and showy, red, pink, or white flowers. Blooms: July-September. Height: 3-8 feet. Light: full sun to partial shade. Moisture: wet to moist. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Collecting seed: when the leaves begin to die back and become brown and brittle, shake the bloom over a paper bag so that the seeds fall into it.

Lobelia cardinalis, Cardinal Flower: Large, red flowers on erect, terminal racemes. Blooms: July-September. Height: 2-4 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: medium to wet. Rabbit and deer resistant. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Collecting seed: collect in early fall. Seeds are contained in inflated pods that ripen and split 3–4 weeks after blooming.

- Lobelia siphilitica, Blue Lobelia:** Purple-blue, tubular flowers. Blooms: July-October. Height: 2-5 feet. Light: part shade. Moisture: moist to wet. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Collecting seeds: when the flowers begin to fade and turn brown, shake the seeds off the bloom and into a paper bag.
- Monarda fistulosa, Wild Bergamot:** Lavender, tubular flowers on dense, terminal, 2" globular clusters. Blooms: July-September. Height: 2-4 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: medium. Rabbit and deer resistant. Attracts butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. Collecting seed: When the seed appears blackish-brown, place the flower heads in a paper bag and shake vigorously. Separate the chaff from the seed.
- Penstemon digitalis, Foxglove Beardtongue:** Clusters of tubular, white flowers on long stalks. Blooms: April-June. Height: 3-5 feet. Light: full sun to part shade. Moisture: moist. Deer resistant. Attracts butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees. Collecting seed: Seed ripens in the fall.
- Rudbeckia hirta, Black Eyed Susan:** Daisy-like flowers with bright yellow-orange rays and brown center disks. Blooms: June-September. Height: 1-2 feet. Light: sun to part shade. Moisture: moist to dry. Attracts butterflies and birds. Collecting seed: once the center cone is brown and becomes dry, the seeds are ripe (late summer to early fall).
- Symphotrichum novae-angliae, New England Aster:** Showy, bright, rose-purple flowers with orange-yellow centers. Blooms: August-September. Height: 2-6 feet. Light: partial shade to full sun. Moisture: moist. Attracts bees and other pollinators, butterflies, and birds. Collecting seed: when the flowers die back, tufts of fluffy down will form on the seeds. When the down dries out and turns off-white, cut the seed heads. Separate the chaff from the seed.
- Verbesina alternifolia, Wingstem:** Member of the sunflower family with vibrant yellow, daisy-like blooms. Blooms: July-October. Height: 4-8 feet. Light: full sun. Moisture: dry to moist. Deer and rabbit resistant. Attracts bees, butterflies, and birds.
- Vernonia glauca, Upland Ironweed:** Large terminal clusters fluffy flowers. Blooms: July-September. Height: 3-5 feet. Light: full sun to partial shade. Moisture: moist to dry. Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies. Seed Collection: When the papas dries and the heads fluff out, the seeds are ripe (fall). Either bag seedheads to capture ripening seed or allow seedheads to dry on plants before removing and collecting seeds
- Vernonia noveboracensis, New York Ironweed:** Purple flowers bloom on tall stalks. Blooms: August-September. Height: 4-6 feet. Light: full sun. Moisture: dry to moist. Collecting seed: When the papas dries and the heads fluff out, the seeds are ripe (fall).

References:

- "Eupatorium Dubium 'Little Joe'." *Plant Profile for Eupatorium Dubium 'Little Joe' - Dwarf Joe-Pye Weed*, <http://www.perennials.com/plants/eupatorium-dubium-little-joe.html>.
- Cullina, W., (2000) *The New England Wild Flower Society Guide to Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the United States and Canada*. The New England Wild Flower Society.
- "Jersey-Friendly Plant Database." *Jersey-Friendly Yards*, Barnegat Bay Partnership, NJ DEP, <https://www.jerseyyards.org/plant/>.
- Pinelands Nursery & Supply, <https://www.pinelandsnursery.com/>.
- Szkodny, Valerie, and Michele Bakacs. "Native Plant Seed Propagation." *FS1329: Native Plant Seed Propagation (Rutgers NJAES)*, Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension, <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/fs1329/>.
- Toadshade Wildflower Farm, <https://www.toadshade.com/>.

The Native Seed Library was made possible by a grant from New Jersey American Water. All seeds were purchased from Toadshade Wildflower Farm or donated by Pinelands Direct and are marked with a green dot. Seed packets marked with a yellow dot were collected by community members.