

Functional Beauty:

A Seasonal Guide to Wildflowers in the Rockefeller State Park Preserve

The preserve is home to a highly diverse native plant communities ranging from hardwood forest to open meadows. These plants are part an intricate food web that supports over 202 species of birds and 100 species of native bees.

Spring Ephemerals



Photo: Peter Dziuk, Minnesota Flowers

Dutchman's Breeches rely on native bumblebee queens for pollination.



Photo: (c) Arthur Haines, New England Wild Flower Society

Trout Lily. A source of pollen for early spring pollinators, the "trout" colored mottled leaves fade away as soon as the trees leaf out.



Photo: (c) 2014 - 2016 Sharp-Eatman Nature Photography

Tiny **Spring Beauty** flowers are the food source to the Spring Beauty Mining bee, a specialist native bee which only emerges for the 50 days that the flowers are in bloom.

Summer Wildflowers



Photo: Steve Guttman

Our native **Wild Geranium** seed provides food for ground-dwelling birds and animals such as the mourning dove.



Photo: Gary Soper, Minnesota Wildflowers

The mashed leaves of **Jewelweed** were used by indigenous peoples as an antidote to poison ivy.



Photo: Sarah Mitchell (above) David Kinner (below)

American Pokeweed. An important food source for birds such as this bluebird fledgling, pokeweed berries are toxic to humans.



Photo: K. Chayka, Minnesota Wildflowers

Bee Balm, or Wild Bergamot is a great source of nectar for native pollinators.

Summer Wildflowers



Photo: Renzo Dionigi

The long, tubular structure of **Cardinal Flowers** are difficult for insects to navigate, and require hummingbirds for pollination.



Photo: Katrina Eckel, Toadshade Wildflower Farm

Woodland Sunflower not only produces pollen, nectar and seeds for pollinators and birds, it also serves as the larval food for the silvery checkerspot and bordered patch butterflies.

Fall Wildflowers



Photo: César Andrés Castillo

The nutritious seeds of **Goldenrod** are an important food source for Fall migratory birds like this Prairie Warbler.



Photo: Patricia Butter

White Snakeroot is no friend to farmers due to its ability to taint milk with its toxins, but butterflies such as this painted lady relish its nectar.



Photo: Patricia Butter

Blue Wood Aster is one of 15 native species of asters that fill our fields and woods with abundant food for birds and pollinators through the end of the growing season.

Help us protect and promote our wildflowers.

- Never remove blossoms or plant material from the park.
- Take lots of photos and tag us on Instagram.
- Help us as a Citizen Scientist and log your observations of our flora in the iNaturalist app, tagging the Rockefeller State Park Preserve project.
- At home, replace unnecessary lawn areas with a native wildflower garden.
- Avoid planting and spreading invasive plants that crowd out our native wildflowers.

Pamphlet Prepared by Patricia Butter

Photographer contact info:

Arthur Haines ahaines@newenglandwild.org

Research Botanist

New England Wild Flower Society

www.newenglandwild.org

(207) 837-4920

Email a pdf **DELETE THIS?**

Randi V. Wilfert Eckel, PhD
Toadshade Wildflower Farm
53 Everittstown Road
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

www.toadshade.com

Katy Chayka info@minnesotawildflowers.info
For Gary Soper

David Kinneer

David Kinneer <rockinear@aol.com>

26 Riggs Road

Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Flickr:

Renzodionigi

Steve Guttman NYC

Steve Guttman <steve.guttman@yahoo.com>

Steve Guttman

100 Park Terrace West APT 1M

New York, NY 10034-1340

César Andrés C

Cesar A. Castillo

Cesar Castillo >czar3233@yahoo.com<

90-59 56th Ave Apt 9H

Elmhurst NY, 11373