

SOME FLOODPLAIN FOREST NATIVE PLANTS IN CENTRAL INDIANA

Floodplain forests, occurring adjacent to rivers, help protect water quality, help prevent soil erosion, and promote the accumulation of organic, carbon-containing matter (See Ruch 2012 below). The following list of some native plants found in the Central Indiana White River floodplain forests was compiled in 2018 by Friends of the White River, using the literature cited after the list.

Trees

Acer saccharinum – silver maple
Platanus occidentalis – American sycamore
Acer Negundo – box elder
Populus deltoides – eastern cottonwood
Celtis occidentalis – hackberry
Ulmus Americana – American elm
Fraxinum spp. – ash species
Juglans nigra – black walnut
Aesculus glabra – Ohio buckeye
Salix nigra – black willow
Cercis canadensis- redbud
Ulmus rubra – slippery elm
Crataegus spp. – hawthorn
Gleditsia triacanthus – honey locust
Quercus macrocarpa – bur-oak
Carya laciniosa – shellbark hickory

Shrubs and Woody Vines

Sambucus canadensis – elderberry
Asimina triloba – pawpaw
Euonymus atropurpureus – wahoo
Forestiera acumunata – swamp privet
Lindera benzoin – spicebush
Cornus drummondii – rough-leaved dogwood
Toxicodendron radicans – poison ivy
Vitis vulpina – frost grape

Herbaceous Wildflowers

Spring-Early Summer

Carex davisii – awned graceful sedge
Claytonia virginica – spring beauty
Cryptotaenia canadensis – honewort
Dicentra cucullaria – dutchman's breeches
Galium aparine - cleavers
Geum vernum – spring avens
Hydrophyllum appendiculatum – appendaged waterleaf
Mertensia virginica – Virginia bluebells
Parthenocissus quinquefolia – Virginia creeper
Ranunculus abortivus – small-flowered buttercup
Viola striata – cream violet

Summer-Fall

Eupatorium rugosum (*Argentina altissima*) – white snakeroot
Carex grayi – Gray's sedge
Cinna arundmacea – common wood reed
Galium triflorum – fragrant bedstraw
Impatiens capensis – spotted touch-me-not
Laportea canadensis – wood nettle

Phlox paniculata – garden Phlox
Pilea pumila – clearweed
Polygonum virginianum (Torara virginiana) – Virginia knotweed
Rudbeckia laciniata – cutleaf coneflower
Sanicula spp. - snakeroot
Solidago gigantean – late goldenrod
Stellaria pubera – great chickweed
Tradescantia subaspera – zigzag spiderwort
Verbesina alternifolia – wingstem

Literature Consulted:

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