

# Drought-Tolerant Native Plants that Support Bees and Butterflies in Summer and Fall

Much of the information in this presentation comes from the CT Botanical Society, including photos from their site taken by Sam (Eleanor) Saulys and Janet Novak:

<https://www.ct-botanical-society.org/>



## An (incomplete) list of drought tolerant native plants:

### SHRUBS:

sumacs

Carolina rose and Virginia rose

### PERENNIALS:

*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*- mountain mint

*Asclepias tuberosa*- butterfly weed

*Liatris s. var. novae-angliae*- New England blazing-star

*Artemisia campestris*- tall wormwood

*Achillea millefolium*- yarrow

*Rudbeckia hirta*- black-eyed Susan

*Oenothera*- evening primrose

*Solidago*- goldenrod species

*Heliopsis helianthoides*- ox-eye or false-sunflower

*Spiraea tomentosa*- steeplebush

*Eupatorium hyssipifolium*- hyssop-leaved boneset

*Erigeron annuus*- daisy fleabane

*Monarda fistulosa*- wild bergamot

*Monarda punctata*- spotted bee-balm

*Verbena hastata*- blue vervain

*Eurybia (Aster) divaricata*- white wood aster

*Symphotrichum (Aster) laeve*- smooth aster



butterfly weed (a milkweed)

**SHRUBS**

## Winged, smooth and staghorn sumacs



**Winged sumac  
blooms June-August**



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**Staghorn sumac  
blooms May-June**



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**smooth sumac  
blooms June-July**





## **Carolina Rose**

**blooms June-July**  
**dry, rocky or sandy soil**

## **Rosa virginiana**

**blooms May-July**  
**thickets and meadows**



**PERENNIALS**



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## Narrowleaf Mountain Mint

*Pycnanthemum tenuifolium*

blooms July-October

full or partial sun

many types of soil

## Short-Toothed Mountain Mint

*Pycnanthemum muticum*





# Butterfly weed (a milkweed)

*Asclepias tuberosa*

blooms June-September  
full sun, dry fields (loam or sand)





# Blazing star

*Liatrix scariosa* var. *novae angliae*

**blooms August to September**

**open sites with dry, sandy soil;  
fields, thickets, and sand dunes**



# Tall wormwood

*Artemisia campestris*

blooms July to September  
open sites in sandy soil





# Yarrow

*Achillea millefolium*

**blooms June to September  
fields and roadsides**





# Black-eyed Susan

not a native, but naturalized

**Rudbeckia hirta**

**blooms June to October**  
**fields, open woods and roadsides**





# Bird's-foot trefoil

not a native, but naturalized

*Lotus corniculatus*

blooms June to October  
fields, roadsides, waste areas





# Evening primrose

*Oenothera biennis*

blooms June to September

roadsides, fields



# Early Goldenrod

*Solidago juncea*

blooms July-September

dry open woods, rocky banks, roadsides



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# Silverrod

*Solidago bicolor*

**blooms July-October**

**dry open woods**



# Flat-top goldenrod

*Euthamia (Solidago syn.) graminifolia*

blooms August-October

dry sandy soil



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# Tall goldenrod

*Solidago altissima*

blooms July-September  
meadows, roadsides, thickets





# Ox-eye or false sunflower

*Heliopsis helianthoides*

blooms July-September

meadows, roadsides, thickets



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# Steeplebush

*Spiraea tomentosa*

**blooms July-September**

**fields and pastures**





# Hyssop-leaved boneset

*Eupatorium hyssopifolium*

blooms late summer

dry open woods, gravelly fields



# Daisy fleabane

*Erigeron annuus*

fields, roadsides

blooms June- October



# Wild bergamot

*Monarda fistulosa*

**blooms July-August  
fields, lime-rich soil**





# Blue vervain

*Verbena hastata*

**blooms July-September**

**likes damp thickets  
yet is drought tolerant**



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## White wood aster

*Aster divaricatus*  
*Eurybia divaricata* (synonym)

**blooms August-October**  
**dry woods**

## Smooth aster

*Aster laevis*  
*Symphotrichum laevis* (synonym)

**blooms August-October**  
**dry fields**



<https://nativeplants.citizensforconservation.org/>