

# What's In Bloom?

AT ADKINS ARBORETUM IN AUGUST



***Aralia spinosa***, (ah-RAY-lee-ah spin-OH-sa) devils walking stick—A shrub or small tree, with sharp spines encircling the stems. It has shiny, huge multiple-part leaves. Produces large clusters of white blossoms in August followed by purple black berries in Sept. which attract birds. Common along the edge of the South Meadow.



***Campsis radicans***, (KAMP-sis RAD-ih-kanz) trumpet vine—Found in the meadows and woods edges. While attractive, this plant is considered very aggressive in the southeastern U.S. The vine can reach a height of 40 feet with a spread of up to 10 feet. The beautiful red-orange flowers attract hummingbirds.



***Chimaphila maculata***, (kim-AH-fil-ah mak-yew-LAH-ta) striped wintergreen—Dark green leaves with a white stripe sit below a 4-10" flowering stalk topped with white or pink 5-petaled flowers. Flowers bloom from June to August. Found along the Tuckahoe Valley trail and Upland path in dry woods.



***Monotropa uniflora*** (moh-no-TROH-pah yew-nee-FLOR-ah) Indian pipe—An interesting flowering plant that has no chlorophyll. In order to supply itself with nutrients, this plant will parasitize both a tree and a fungus. In fact, you may mistake it for a fungus when you first see the white stems and flowers. Look for Indian pipes on the floor of the forest, often near beech trees.



***Epifagus virginiana*** (ep-ee-FAY-gus vir-gin-ee-AY-nah) beech drops—A parasite on the roots of beech trees. Beech drops branch from near the base of the plant. Tiny whitish-purple flowers bloom along the stiff brown stems. Common along the Blockston Branch Overlook path.



***Smilacina racemosa***, (smy-lah-SEEN-ah ra-she-MOW-sah) false Solomon's seal —Plumes of fluffy white flowers bloom in the spring followed by fruits turning from bronze to bright red by fall. Used medicinally in the past. Called false solomon's seal because the leaves closely resemble true Solomon's seal. Common along the Tuckahoe Creekside trail.

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***Asimina triloba***, (ass-ih-MEE-nah try-LOW-bah) paw paw tree—Blooms in early spring, but the light green fruits ripen now. The fruit has a creamy citrus taste when ripe, and is the largest fruit in the forest. The fruits are rapidly consumed by deer and other animals. Common along the Arboretum's slopes.



***Tipularia discolor***, (tip-yew-LAYR-ee-uh DIS-cuh-lor) Crane-fly orchid—A member of the Orchid family. Leafless maroon flower stalks appear in summer with tiny yellow-maroon flowers. Purple and green leaves develop in fall after the flowers have set seed. Found along the Upland and Tuckahoe Valley paths.



***Goodyera pubescens*** (good-YAIR-rah pyu-BES-sens) Downy rattlesnake plantain—An orchid with 1 to 2" long dark green leaves, veined with white. Leaves form a rosette that hugs the ground. Small whitish flowers grow in a dense cylindrical spike 6 to 20" high. Grows in the Arboretum's dry woods along the Upland and Tuckahoe Valley paths.



***Silene stellata*** (sy-LEE-nee steh-LAHT-ah) starry campion—The many-fringed, white petals of the flower are the origin of the starry common name. The plant can grow four feet but usually is only half that height. Whorls of four leaves make it distinctive from other Silene. Found along the Tuckahoe Creekside path.



***Clethra alnifolia*** (KLETH-rah all-nih-FOE-lee-ah) summersweet—Fragrant, white spikes of flowers adorn this medium sized shrub with an upright oval habit. Sometimes called pepperbush for the peppercorn shape of the seed pods. The plant attracts butterflies, hummingbirds and bees. Found commonly along the Blockston Branch path.



***Desmodium nudiflorum*** (dez-MOH-dee-um new-dih-FLOR-um) naked-flower tick trefoil—Naked because it has no leaves. In the pea family, it can be 3 feet tall and has small pink and white petaled flowers. Leaves are rounded ovals with a slight point. Seed pods are triangular and stick to clothing. Seen on the Upland and Tuckahoe Valley paths.