

<p><b>1</b>                    <b>Fire Pink</b> <i>Silene virginica</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 6 – 24" <b>Flower size:</b> 1 – 2" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Rocky, open woods, roads, sandy hillsides The crimson flowers have 5 narrow petals with deeply notched ends. The sepals unite at the center to form a long sticky tube. Flowers bloom in loose clusters near the tops of long dark stems. The lance-shaped leaves are mostly located near the plant base.</p>	<p><b>2</b>                    <b>Bluets</b> <i>Houstonia caerulea</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 3 – 6" <b>Flower size:</b> ½" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Grassy slopes, fields, thickets Bluets tend to grow in dense colonies. The flowers are borne singly on slender, erect stems. The flowers are pale blue with 4 petals and golden-yellow centers. The tiny leaves are short, slender, and occur opposite one another along the stem. This plant has a preference for acidic soils.</p>	<p><b>3</b>                    <b>Jack-in-the-Pulpit</b> <i>Arisaema triphyllum</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 1 – 3' <b>Flower size:</b> 2 – 3" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Moist, rich woods, swamps A curving, ridged hood ("pulpit"), greenish or purplish-brown and often streaked or mottled, encloses an erect spadix ("jack"). This spadix bears tiny male and female flowers at its base. The flower sits beneath the 3-petaled, veined leaves.</p>	<p><b>4</b>                    <b>Spring Beauty</b> <i>Claytonia virginica</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 6 - 12" <b>Flower size:</b> ½ - ¾ " <b>Flower present:</b> March – May <b>Habitat:</b> Moist woods, thickets and clearings The flowers are white to rose with red veins. These flowers form a loose raceme (elongated cluster). Narrow fleshy leaves, usually only a single pair on each plant, are 1 – 6 inches long, opposite and located midway up the stem.</p>
<p><b>5</b>                    <b>Common Blue Violet</b> <i>Viola papilionacea</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 3 – 8" <b>Flower size:</b> ½ -1" <b>Flower present:</b> March – June <b>Habitat:</b>Moist woods, meadows, road sides This smooth, low plant has flowers and leaves on separate stalks. Flowers are blue to white with 5 petals. The lower one is longer, bearing a backward projecting spur while the two lateral ones are bearded. Leaves are up to 5 inches wide, heart-shaped with scalloped margins.</p>	<p>The seasonal occurrence of a group of plants usually referred to as "spring wildflowers" is one of the more distinctive features of the deciduous forests found throughout much of eastern North America. These plants produce their flowers in spring before the trees—most of which shed their leaves in autumn and thus are leafless during the winter months—have begun to leaf out. During this period, which extends from late March until about the middle of June in West Virginia, the spring wildflowers take advantage of the warm and sunny conditions that exist on the forest floor. Moist forests, especially those at lower and middle elevations in the more mountainous portions of the state, are often characterized by a dazzling display of flowers exhibiting a wide array of different forms and colors. Eighteen of the more conspicuous and/or colorful examples of the spring wildflowers characteristic of West Virginia's woodlands are illustrated and described on this photoguide.</p>		<p><b>6</b>                    <b>Sharp-lobed Hepatica</b> <i>Hepatica acutiloba</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 4 – 6" <b>Flower size:</b> 1 – 1 ½" <b>Flower present:</b> March – April <b>Habitat:</b> Rich woods Hepatica is one of the first wildflowers to bloom in the spring. Hairy stems bear solitary flowers ranging from purple to white in color. Each flower has 5-10 petal-like sepals. The thick, leathery leaves, which may be mottled, have 3 sharply pointed tips.</p>
<p><b>7</b>                    <b>Wild Ginger</b> <i>Aserum canadense</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 6 – 12" <b>Flower size:</b> ½" <b>Flower present:</b> April – May <b>Habitat:</b> Rich woods A solitary flower is borne close to the ground on a short stalk arising from the crotch of two leaf stalks. The flower is bell-shaped with 3 pointed lobes, dark reddish-brown to green-brown in color. The leaves usually occur in pairs and are large, hairy and heart shaped, overshadowing the flower. The flower is often hidden beneath the forest floor leaf litter.</p>	<p><b>8</b>                    <b>Foamflower</b> <i>Tiarella cordifolia</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 6 – 12" <b>Flower size:</b> ¼" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Rich woods This low woodland plant has maple-like leaves at its base. The rising erect stalk supports a white spiked flower cluster at the apex. The tiny flowers each have 10 tiny, fine stamens giving the flower mass the appearance of foam, accounting for its name. The plant usually forms colonies in moist woods.</p>	<p><b>9</b>                    <b>Dwarf Cinquefoil</b> <i>Potentilla canadensis</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 2 – 6" <b>Flower size:</b> ½ - ¾" <b>Flower present:</b> March – June <b>Habitat:</b> Dry open soils of fields, lawns and woods This low, spreading plant has a single yellow 5-petaled flower containing many stamens, rising from a downy stalk. The stalk arises from palmate 5-part leaves. Each leaflet is up to 1 ½" long and toothed from the middle to the outer edge.</p>	<p><b>10</b>                  <b>Wild Geranium</b> <i>Geranium maculatum</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 1 – 2' <b>Flower size:</b> 1 – 1 ½" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Rich, moist woods, thickets, meadows, roadsides Rose-purple to violet-purple flowers are borne in loose clusters at the end of branches. Flowers have 5 petals and are radically symmetrical. Large, deeply palmate, 5-lobed leaves are toothed around their edges. Settlers used the tannin-rich roots as a coagulant to help stop bleeding.</p>
<p><b>11</b>                  <b>Stonewort</b> <i>Sedum ternatum</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 2 – 8" <b>Flower size:</b> 1" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Moist or dry rocks, logs, and stream banks Flowers are borne on short, branched stalks. Each flower consists of 4-5 sharply pointed white petals with dark brown anthers. The lower leaves are thick, fleshy, smooth, and occur in whorls of three. The plants spread by creeping along the ground, forming colonies of dense mats.</p>	<p><b>12</b>                  <b>Common Wood Sorrel</b> <i>Oxalis montana</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 3 – 6" <b>Flower size:</b> ¾" <b>Flower present:</b> May – July <b>Habitat:</b> Rich, moist woods especially hemlock forests Bright green foliage composed of 3 heart-shaped leaflets joined at the tips makes this delicate plant easy to recognize. Several white to pink flowers are borne on individual stalks. The flower consists of 5 notched, delicate petals with deep pink veins.</p>	<p><b>13</b>                  <b>Large Yellow Lady's Slipper</b> <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 4 – 28" <b>Flower size:</b> 2" long lip <b>Flower present:</b> April – August <b>Habitat:</b> Bogs, swamps and rich woods A fragrant, inflated, yellow, pouch-shaped petal is located terminally on the flower stalk. There are two spirally, twisted greenish-yellow lance shaped sepals, one above and one below the pouch-shaped lip. The leaves are up to 8 inches long, oval to elliptic with distinct parallel veins.</p>	<p><b>14</b>                  <b>Wild Columbine</b> <i>Aquilegia canadensis</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 1 – 2' <b>Flower size:</b> 1 – 2" <b>Flower present:</b> April – July <b>Habitat:</b> Open rocky or wooded slopes, roadsides Nodding scarlet flower with 5 long upward spurred petals and numerous yellow stamens hanging below the petals. Hummingbirds and long-tongued insects are attracted to the nectar-containing spurs. Bees may pierce the spur to gain access to the nectar they are unable to reach.</p>
<p><b>15</b>                  <b>Gray Beardtongue</b> <i>Penstemon canescens</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 1 – 3' <b>Flower size:</b> 1-1 ½ " long <b>Flower present:</b> May – July <b>Habitat:</b> Rocky slopes, woodlands, thickets, roadsides A loose cluster of tubular flowers sits atop a thick downy stem. Flowers vary in color from violet-purple to pinkish with projecting lips (2 above and 3 below). The plant gets its name from the tufts of yellow hairs (sterile stamen) that extend from inside the bottom lip.</p>	<p><b>16</b>                  <b>Mayapple</b> <i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 12 – 18" <b>Flower size:</b> ¾ - 2" <b>Flower present:</b> March – June <b>Habitat:</b> Rich woods and moist, shady clearings A single, nodding, white flower is borne in the crotch between a pair of large, umbrella-like leaves. The leaves are divided into 5 to 9 segments arising from a central point. This plant is often found in large colonies.</p>	<p><b>17</b>                  <b>Large-flowered Trillium</b> <i>Trillium grandiflorum</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 8 – 18" <b>Flower size:</b> 2 – 4" <b>Flower present:</b> April – May <b>Habitat:</b> Rich woods, thickets and slopes A large, single, wavy-edged, white 3-petal flower (turning pink with age) is located atop an erect stalk above a whorl of 3 broadly ovate to diamond-shaped leaves that are 3 - 6" long. Large colonies of plants are common.</p>	<p><b>18</b>                  <b>False Solomon's Seal</b> <i>Smilacina racemosa</i> <b>Plant height:</b> 1 – 3' <b>Flower size:</b> 1/8" <b>Flower present:</b> April – June <b>Habitat:</b> Moist, rich woods and clearings A pyramidal-shaped, terminal cluster of numerous, small, creamy-white flowers with enlarged stamens decorates the end of a 1 – 3' stiffly arched stem. The broad, elliptical leaves that alternate along the stem have prominent parallel veins and hairy undersides.</p>