## Ivanhoe Preserve Dune and Swale - Gary, Indiana, USA Native Plants of the Ivanhoe/Brunswick Community

Blooming in Late Summer

Jacob Krouse & Iza Redlinski

Photos: Iza Redlinski, Dr. John Hilty (john@illinoiswildflowers.info), and Shirley Heinze Land Trust Produced: Jacob Krouse, Iza Redlinski, and Alicia Diaz © Keller Science Action Center Field Museum

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Thousands of years ago, the mile-high glacier that covered Gary's Brunswick community began to melt. As the meltwaters slowly receded, a series of low sandy ridges were left behind. The ridges and the long swales between them look almost like a striped shirt from the sky. The real beauty of this unique "dune and swale

habitat" comes when you look closer. Organizations like Shirley Heinze Land Trust and The Nature Conservancy have protected pieces of this rare habitat. A summer's walk in the Ivanhoe preserves or even in your own backyard will reveal the blooms of these and other plants.



Asclepias tuberosa 1 **Butterfly Milkweed** 2-2.5' tall; toothless leaves with long, oblong shape; stems end in dome shaped cluster of flowers; flowers have 5 orange petals, and 5 hoods with horns; thick, deep taproot.



2 Agrimonia gryposepala **Tall Agrimony** 2-4' tall; elliptic leaves; hairs on stem; 5 yellow petals; can pollinate with small, sticky fruit that attaches to fabric.



3 Rudbeckia hirta **Black-eyed Susan** 1-2.5' tall; stems have long white hairs; leaves oblong and grayish green; 8-20 bright petals surrounding a flattened cone of disk florets; central taproot; excellent choice for prairie restoration; blooms after first year.



4 Coreopsis tripteris **Tall Coreopsis** 3-8' tall; leaves solitary and ascending; 8 florets (petals); distinguish from other plants of its nature by its long, thin leaves.

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5 Solidago speciosa Showy Goldenrod 4' tall; smooth green/red central stem; flowering stems hold up compound flower; each flower has 4-10 petals surrounding disk florets; spacing of petals is very irregular.



6 Solidago caesia Blue-Stemmed Goldenrod 1.5-3' tall; stem curves to one side; large elliptical leaves up stem; small clusters of yellow flowerheads develop at leaf/ stem intersection; look for this plant in the shade.



7 Aureolaria grandiflora Large-flowered False Fox Glove 2.5-4.5' tall; triangular lobes on leaves; flowers have 5 large petals, and 4 thin stamens; attracts Ruby-

throated Hummingbird.



8 Tradescantia ohiensis Ohio Spiderwort 2-4' tall; leaves long and linear, wrap around stem; flowers have 3 rounded petals, 6 bright yellow antlers, appear in small clusters at the top of plant; leaves and stems recorded to be edible.



9 *Echinacea purpurea* Purple Coneflower 3.5' tall; leaves have tiny hairs and widely spaced teeth; flower heads have 10-20 purple ray florets surrounding dense cone of disk florets; can also grow white petals but almost only in cultivation.



**10** *Eutrochium purpureum* **Sweet Joe-Pye Weed** 3-7' tall; unbranched; leaves occur in whorls of 3-4; dome shaped compound of flowers with 5-8 pale pink disk florets; roots shallow; foliage may be vanilla scented.



**11** Asclepias syriaca Common Milkweed 2-6' tall; leaves broad and oblong with wholly hairs on bottom; flower clusters containing small purple flowers with 5 petals and 5 raised hoods; plays an important role as monarch host plant, providing food and shelter for the butterfly.



12 Prenanthes alba White Lettuce 2-5' tall; central stem green/

2-5 tail; central stem green/ purple; stem and leaves contain a milky white latex; flowerheads droop downward; flowers contain 8-14 purple and white petals that fan out at the bottom; also called lion's foot and rattlesnake root.

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**13** Apios americana Ground Nut Up to 10' long; 3-5 toothless leaflets; milky sap inside foliage; 5 petalled maroon flower; traditionally used by indigenous communities.



14 Spiraea tomentosa Steeple Bush
2-4' tall; usually unbranched, elliptical leaves abundant along stem; covered in woolly hairs; ends in a bunch of pink flowers which each contain 5 spreading petals, and a cluster of pistils and stamens; its stems are incredibly tough.



15 Desmodium marilandicum Showy Tick Trefoil 3' tall; stem covered in fine white hairs; leaves consist of 3 round tipped leaflets; two petalled, pink flowers that bunch up at the end of the stems; called showy because of how attractive it is in large colonies.



 16 Cephalanthus occidentalis Buttonbush
 3-8' tall; shrub; leaves curl upward; 1-3 spherical flowerheads covered in small white flowers.



17 Eupatorium serotinum Late Boneset 3-4' tall; stems covered in white

hairs; leaves long and dark green with small teeth; flowers develop small tufts of white hair dispersed by wind; no floral scent.



18 Lespedezacapitata Round Headed Bush Clover

2-5' tall; unbranched; stem slightly ridged and hairy; leaves contain prominent central vein; flowerheads contain cluster of small white flowers with 5 petals; some of which are hidden; after blooming, the flower browns.



**19** *Eryngium yuccifolium* **Rattlesnake Master** 2-5' tall; stiff, strap-like leaves; produces white flowers in a prickly ball shape; has a sickly-honey scent in bright sunlight; leaves resemble those of the yucca plant.



20 Teucrium canadense American Germander 2-3' tall; stem contains 4 prominent ridges; flowers white or lavender, with a large bottom lip for insects to land on; each flower produces 4 round, hairy seeds.