

<p style="text-align: center;">1 Bee Balm <i>Monarda didyma</i></p> <p>Bee balm grows 2-4 feet tall and has a square stem that supports a terminal flower head. The flower head is shaggy with numerous tubular, scarlet flowers on maroon bracts. The dark green oval leaves are 3 to 6 inches long, opposite, and have serrated margins. This wildflower is a member of the mint family and has a very distinctive aroma. Bee balm tends to form dense colonies in moist areas of rich woodlands.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2 Boneset <i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i></p> <p>Boneset grows up to 5 feet tall on a stout, hairy stem that branches at the top. The lance-shaped leaves are 4-8 inches long, opposite and united at the base so that the stem appears to come up through the center. The leaves are finely toothed, rough on top and have sticky undersides. Flowers occur in terminal clusters, with numerous small tubelike white flowers in each cluster. Boneset prefers the wet soils of lowland woods and open fields.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3 Fireweed <i>Epilobium angustifolium</i></p> <p>Fireweed is an erect perennial reaching 3-6 feet in height. It received its name by being one of the first plants to become established on areas burned by fires. The flowers are a showy dark pink to magenta color, one inch long, and have four round petals. They occur in long, dense, terminally spiked clusters. Fireweed can be found in upland areas of the state.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4 Lespedeza cuneata <i>Lespedeza cuneata</i></p> <p>The alternately arranged leaves that are divided into 3 smaller leaflets and erect stems with stiff hairs represent two good characteristics that help distinguish <i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>, a perennial that can reach up to 5 feet in height. The tiny individual white flowers with violet or purple markings arise from a position between the stem and leaves (axils) in the middle to upper portions of the plant.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">5 Biennial Gaura <i>Gaura biennis</i></p> <p>This plant is a biennial that can reach up to 6 feet in height, with branching over the upper half to produce long flowering stems that project upward and outward in different directions. The stems are covered with long, soft white hairs that spread away from the stem. The leaves are about 5 inches long and 1½ inches across. The numerous small flowers are usually light pink and have 4 petals loosely arranged toward the top.</p>	<p>As summer gives way to fall in West Virginia, one can hardly fail to notice the often brilliant displays of color to be found along roadsides, in old fields, and at the edges of forests. These displays of color (with oranges, reds, and yellows usually most apparent) are provided by a group of plants—usually referred to as fall wildflowers—that produce their flowers during this period of the year. Members of a single family of flowering plants (the Asteraceae) are especially prominent. Among these are such well known examples as the asters, goldenrods, and the joe pye weeds. Some of these are relatively large plants and thus not easily overlooked. Interestingly, what often appears to be a single large flower in the Asteraceae is actually a cluster of small flowers. This is the case, for example, in the common daisy, in which each “petal” (of “loves me or loves me not” fame) is actually an individual flower. The flowers of this photoguide may be seen at some point during August-October. A few of the flowers may actually appear during summer and continue into the fall season.</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">6 Turtlehead <i>Chelone glabra</i></p> <p>Turtlehead is an erect, slender herb with a 4-angled stem that reaches 1 to 4 feet in height and has short-stemmed, sharp-toothed 3 to 6 inch leaves. The flower clusters consist of showy, whitish or pinkish flowers about an inch in length, with the upper lip arching over the hairy lower lip. In general appearance they resemble the head of a turtle or snake. Look for the unique flowers of turtlehead in low moist soils and streambanks.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">7 Tall Goldenrod <i>Solidago altissima</i></p> <p>Tall goldenrod is a tall plant (up to 7 feet in height) topped with many small 1/8" yellow flower heads. The flower heads are formed on outward-arching branches, thus producing an impressive pyramidal cluster. The stem is grayish and downy in appearance. The leaves are 2-6 inches long, alternate, and lancet-shaped. Tall goldenrod is very common and can be seen in open sunny areas throughout West Virginia.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8 New York Ironweed <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i></p> <p>When ironweed is in bloom, this colorful plant, which can reach a height of up to 8 feet, is very evident in many fields and bottomlands. The clusters of deep violet flowers make ironweed readily recognizable. The flower clusters are 3-4 inches wide, with 30-60 individual flowers in each. The mottled leaves are 4-8 inches long, lancet-shaped, and have toothed edges.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9 Downy Skullcap <i>Scutellaria incana</i></p> <p>Downy skullcap can be recognized by its square stems and softly hairy (hence the name) leaves. The plant reaches 1-3 feet in height, and the leaves are ovate, toothed, and white on the lower side, with minute curved hairs. The flowers, 1/2 to 1 inch in diameter, occur in slender clusters that originate from the upper leaf axils. The long, slender flower is softly hairy and pale blue to violet in color. It has a hooded upper lip that arches over a flaring lower lip.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10 Black Cohosh <i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i></p> <p>The conspicuous flowering spikes of black cohosh make it an obvious woodland plant. The tall rather slender plant sometimes grows to a height of 8 feet. The compound alternate leaves are divided into three sharply toothed leaflets, each about 2 inches long. The graceful flower spike is from 6 inches to 2 feet in length. The white, round flowers give the spike a feathery appearance. The flowers emit an offensive odor.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">11 Common Joe-Pye Weed <i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i></p> <p>Joe-Pye weed is an upright perennial, 3-10 feet tall, and has a hollow purple stem. The lance-shaped leaves are 8-12 inches long, and are arranged in whorls of 4-7 at each node on the stem, just like spokes from a wheel. The flower heads are pink or purple and densely packed in several large rounded clusters at the top of the stem. The showy flower clusters are often more than a foot across. The plant prefers moist roadsides, and meadows.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12 Yellow Giant Hyssop <i>Agastache nepetoides</i></p> <p>This plant is a fast-growing, woody-stemmed perennial that grows 4-6 feet tall and produces whorls of tiny, greenish-yellow flowers closely packed into 5 inch terminal spikes on stiff, square stems. The leaves are toothed, arrow-head-shaped and up to 5 inches long, but they lack the fragrance common to many members of the mint family. Yellow giant hyssop typically occurs in moist, rich, open woodland areas and thickets throughout West Virginia.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">13 Tall Sunflower <i>Helianthus giganteus</i></p> <p>Sometimes reaching a height of more than 9 feet, this perennial lives up to its common name. The stem is rough, reddish green, with branching near the top. The leaves are mostly alternate, lancet-shaped, finely toothed and 3-7 inches in length. Flower heads are 1½-3 inches in diameter with 10-20 rays and numerous small tubular flowers in their centers. Tall sunflower can be found in swampy soils or damp woodlands, thickets and meadows.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">14 Small-flowered Partridge Pea <i>Cassia nictitans</i></p> <p>This erect, spreading annual is 6-18 inches in height and has lightly pubescent (hairy) stems. The leaves are compound, consisting of 10-20 pairs of leaflets reaching up to ¾" in total length. The yellow flowers are less than ½ inch wide, and each is made up of four petals equal in size, with a lower petal nearly twice as long. They typically occur in clusters of 2 or 3. Dry acidic soils are where you will find this plant.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">15 Closed Gentian <i>Gentiana clausa</i></p> <p>Dark blue, bottle-shaped flowers make the closed gentian easy to recognize. The flowers, 1-2 inches long and nearly closed at their tips, grow in tight clusters at the top of the plant and in the upper leaf axils. The 4 inch long leaves occur in whorls below the upper flowers but are opposite of each other on the stem. Closed gentian reaches a height of up to 2 feet and grows in the rich soil of moist woods and thickets at higher elevations in West Virginia.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">16 Bearfoot <i>Polymnia uvedalia</i></p> <p>Bearfoot is a tall, upright perennial reaching 3-6 feet in height. The leaves are opposite, exceptionally large and palm-like, divided into 3-5 lobes, 6-12 inches long and often nearly as wide and shaped like a bear's foot. The bright yellow flowers are clustered at the tip of a flowering stem; each head is about 1-1/2 inch in diameter, with only a few yellow ray flowers. Bearfoot can be found growing in rich soil in ravines and woodland edges.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">17 Mistflower <i>Eupatorium coelestinum</i></p> <p>Mistflower is a perennial plant averaging 1-2½ feet tall usually with a single erect stem but branching occasionally. The leaves are up to 3 inches long and 2 inches across, broadly lancet-shaped, and serrated. The flower heads occur in flat clusters at the top of the primary stems. Each cluster of flower heads is about 2-4 inches in diameter and is made up of about 50 tubular individual flowers that are pink to blue-violet in color.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">18 Blue Waxweed <i>Cuphea petiolata</i></p> <p>This plant has an erect, reddish-purple stem covered with sticky (viscid) hairs and reaching up to 2 feet in height. The leaves are opposite, lancet-shaped, reddish-purple, 1-2 inches in length and also covered with sticky hairs. The flowers are red-violet to deep violet in color, irregular in shape and up to ½" wide. There are 6 petals, with the upper two being the largest. The petals are small in relation to the long tube (calyx) to which they are attached.</p>