



An Informal  
GUIDE TO the  
area's NATIVE  
WILDFLOWERS

LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
WILDFLOWER  
MAP

## Wild for NATIVE Wildflowers

### WHAT IS A NATIVE WILDFLOWER

A "Florida native wildflower" is considered any flowering herbaceous species, or woody species with ornamental flowers that grew wild in the 1560s as part of Florida's natural environment when the state's first botanical records were generated. This definition includes flowering plants and grasses that were introduced via travel and trade by Native Americans, prior to the 1560s, as well as wildflowers that were introduced without human involvement.

### CONSERVE, PRESERVE AND PROTECT

Looking for ways to help protect native wildflowers? Wildflower-friendly mowing practices are a great way to preserve Florida's wildflowers. Numerous counties throughout the state, including Lake County, have passed resolutions to increase awareness and protection of roadside wildflowers through reduced mowing programs.

Another way to help preserve Florida's native wildflower population is to eliminate the introduction of invasive plant species, which can inhibit the ability of native plants to flourish. It's also important to the delicate balance of native ecosystems to preserve pollinators and their habitats by limiting the use of pesticides and herbicides in gardens and landscapes.

For more information about Florida's native wildflowers, or ways to get involved, visit the Florida Wildflower Foundation's website at [www.FlaWildflowers.org](http://www.FlaWildflowers.org), or visit the Florida Native Plant Society's website at [www.fnps.org](http://www.fnps.org).



Lake County is proud to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Juan Ponce de León's arrival in Florida, where he gave the state its name, "La Florida", or land of flowers. In recognition of the statewide initiative, Viva Florida 500, Lake County is commemorating this historic anniversary during 2013 with exciting events and experiences, including the release of this Wildflower Map. These self-guided routes allow nature enthusiasts to enjoy one of Florida's best outdoor adventures, roadside wildflower viewing.

## A "BLOOMING" Good Vacation Destination

See nature in its rarest form, have a hearty helping of small-town charm, or take in some of the state's most beautiful eco-tourism spots. No matter what type of vacation experience is desired, Lake County is the ideal destination.

Lake County offers more than two dozen golf courses, 130 miles of designated Blueways trails and more than 14 miles of paved recreational trails for the outdoor enthusiast. The area boasts lively cultural events, nationally-recognized sports and training venues and a myriad of year-round family-friendly fairs and festivals.

For more information on planning your vacation to Lake County, call 352-742-3918 or visit [www.lakecountyfl.com](http://www.lakecountyfl.com).

## TIPS for Viewing Wildflowers

- When looking for the best places to see eye-catching wildflowers, rural expanses, recently burned natural lands and areas that are mowed sparingly often serve as ideal viewing-grounds.
- The best times of year to view wildflowers are typically spring and fall, but moist areas in the summer may also yield beautiful findings.
- The official state wildflower is the genus Coreopsis, which ranges in color from golden to pink, and can be viewed in Lake County on routes 1 and 2 during the summer.
- Use extra precaution when stopping on the side of the road to view or take pictures of wildflowers. Look for areas that allow vehicles to pull off the road completely so you can have a safe roadside experience while exploring nature.
- Refrain from picking wildflowers, as this inhibits the species' ability to sufficiently sustain itself in the wild. It is also against the law to pick the flowers of an endangered or threatened species. If a flower catches your eye, take a picture of it. This will help preserve the plant and the memory will last much longer.
- Watch for wildflower pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, as they play an important part in natural ecosystems.

## SENSITIVE BRIAR (*Mimosa quadrivalvis*)

## DRIVING Routes

### ROUTE 1

This route traverses through the Ocala National Forest from State Road 19 to Astor Landing. It's great for those looking to find "showy" natives such as swamp sunflower, cottonweed and purple lovegrass in the fall, or gayfeather and narrowleaf silkgrass in the summer.

### ROUTE 2

Located east of the City of Umatilla in the northeast portion of Lake County, this route travels on County Road 42 to State Road 44, south to County Road 44A and north on County Road 439. Wildflower enthusiasts will be delighted to find natives like Partridge pea and Leavenworth's tickseed.

### ROUTE 3

Known to feature natives such as pricklypear in the fall and Florida greeneyes in the spring, this route is just east of the historic City of Mount Dora.

## LEATHER FLOWER (*Clematis crispa*)

### ROUTE 4

Situated in the center of Lake County, this route features a myriad of wildflowers, like starrush whitetop, giant ironweed and Florida betony. During the summer, this route also showcases the Scrub buckwheat, an endemic species that is on both the federally threatened and state endangered lists.

### ROUTE 5

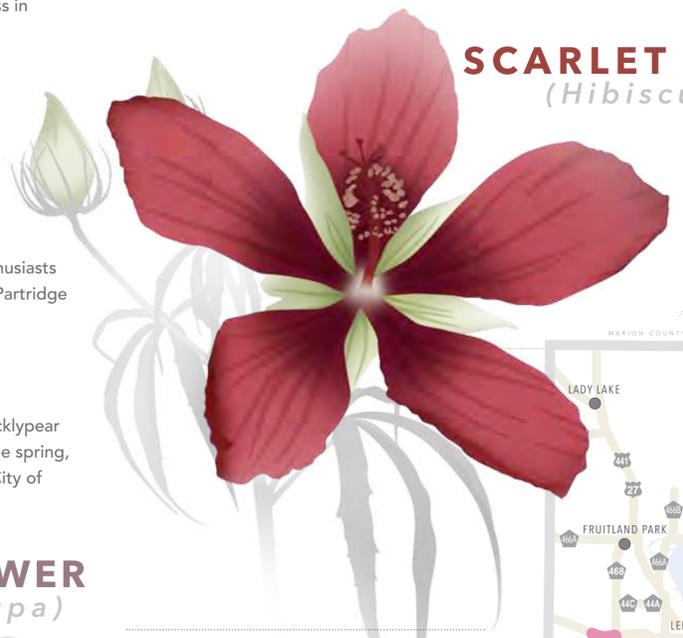
Located at the extreme southern end of the County on County Road 474 between State Road 33 and U.S. Highway 27, wildflower-viewers will be able to catch a glimpse of lizard's tail, elderberry or even tievine.

### ROUTE 6

This route sits to the northwest of Eustis and encloses Lake Yale. It is the ideal viewing location for those seeking the beautiful bluejacket and heartwing dock, or the "showy" oakleaf fleabane.

## The BEAUTY and CHARM of Lake County's WILDFLOWERS.

Experience the beauty and charm of Lake County's wildflowers. With thousands of acres of natural scenery, combined with six dedicated wildflower routes, Lake County is a wildflower-lover's paradise. No matter the season – summer, spring or fall – Lake County is one of Central Florida's must-see destination for colorful native wildflowers.



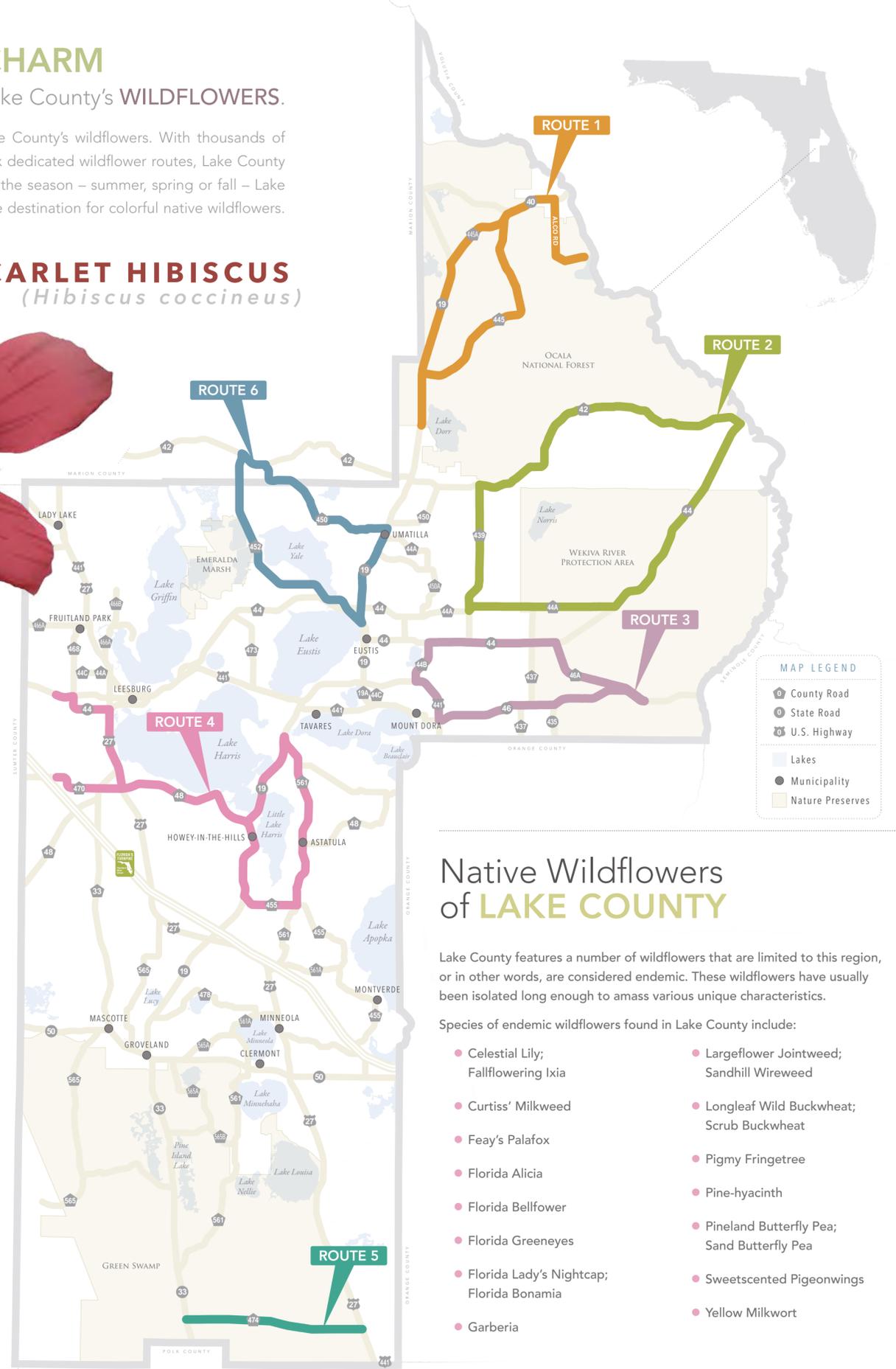
## SCARLET HIBISCUS (*Hibiscus coccineus*)

## PROTECTING Native Wildflowers

Lake County boasts numerous wildflowers that are considered federally endangered or threatened. Endangered wildflowers are species native to a particular state that are in danger of going extinct. Threatened species are native to the state, and are in rapid decline; although the number has not decreased enough to cause them to be considered endangered.

Below is a list of federally threatened or endangered species of wildflowers found in Lake County.

- Britton's Beargrass (E)
- Florida Bonamia (T)
- Lewton's Polygala (E)
- Papery Whitlow-wort (T)
- Pigeon Wings (T)
- Pygmy Fringetree (E)
- Scrub plum (E)
- Scrub Wild Buckwheat (T)
- Wide-leaf Warea (E)



## Native Wildflowers of LAKE COUNTY

Lake County features a number of wildflowers that are limited to this region, or in other words, are considered endemic. These wildflowers have usually been isolated long enough to amass various unique characteristics.

Species of endemic wildflowers found in Lake County include:

- Celestial Lily; Fallflowering Ixia
- Curtiss' Milkweed
- Feay's Palafox
- Florida Alicia
- Florida Bellflower
- Florida Greeneyes
- Florida Lady's Nightcap; Florida Bonamia
- Garberia
- Largeflower Jointweed; Sandhill Wireweed
- Longleaf Wild Buckwheat; Scrub Buckwheat
- Pigmy Fringetree
- Pine-hyacinth
- Pineland Butterfly Pea; Sand Butterfly Pea
- Sweetscented Pigeonwings
- Yellow Milkwort

# Featured WILDFLOWERS by Color

## PINK to RED blooms



- Rumex hastatulus**  
**Heartwing Dock**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**2 3 4 6**
- Polygonella robusta**  
**Largeflower Jointweed;**  
**Sandhill Jointweed**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**1**
- Palafoxia feayi**  
**Feay's Palafox**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar  
**1**
- Eragrostis spectabilis**  
**Purple Lovegrass**  
**HABITAT:** dry sites  
**1 5**
- Pluchea baccharis**  
**Rosy Camphorweed**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**1**
- Mimosa quadrivalvis**  
**Sensitive Briar**  
**HABITAT:** flatwoods, pinelands, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar  
**1**
- Sabatia brevifolia**  
**Short-Leaf Rosegentian**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**1**

# WILDFLOWERS by Season

## SPRING

### CAROLINA WILD PETUNIAS

(*Ruellia caroliniensis*)

- American elder; Elderberry
- Annual phlox
- Bay lobelia
- Bighead rush
- Bluejacket; Ohio spiderwort
- Bluestem poppy
- Broomsedge bluestem
- Bushy bluestem
- Butterweed
- Carolina desertchicory
- Carolina Wild Petunia
- Chalky Bluestem
- Common Buttonbush
- Common Ragweed
- Florida Bellflower
- Florida Greeneyes
- Florida Hedge-nettle; Florida Betony
- Florida Scrub Skullcap
- Fourleaf Vetch
- Gopher Apple
- Heartwing Dock
- Lanceleaf Fogfruit
- Lizard's Tail
- Lyreleaf Sage
- Mexican Pricklypoppy
- Mock Bishopsweed
- Narrowleaf Blue-Eyed Grass
- Oakleaf Fleabane
- Prairie Fleabane
- Pricklypear
- Purple Passionflower
- Skyblue Lupine
- Small's Bogbutton
- Southern Beeblossom
- Spanish Needles
- Carolina Redroot
- Carolina Wild Petunia
- Celestial Lily
- Chapman's Goldenrod
- Coastalplain Honeycombhead
- Common Buttonbush
- Common Wireweed; Fanpetals
- Cottonweed
- Early Whiteop Fleabane
- Feay's Prairieclover
- Flatsedge
- Florida Alicia

## WHITE blooms



- Sambucus canadensis**  
**American Elder;**  
**Elderberry**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites, wetlands  
**USES:** nectar, used by Indians and settlers medicinally, as a food and dye  
**4 5**
- Cephalanthus occidentalis**  
**Common Buttonbush**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**USES:** nectar, native Americans used many parts medicinally  
**4**
- Froelichia floridana**  
**Cottonweed**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites, sandhills  
**1 3 4 5 6**
- Licania michauxii**  
**Gopher Apple**  
**HABITAT:** scrubs, sandhills, flatwoods  
**USES:** nectar, fruit for wildlife  
**2**
- Saururus cernuus**  
**Lizard's Tail**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**1 2 4 5**
- Ptilimnium capillaceum**  
**Mock Bishopsweed**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**USES:** butterfly larval host plant  
**1 2 3 4**
- Erigeron quercifolius**  
**Oakleaf Fleabane**  
**HABITAT:** throughout  
**USES:** nectar  
**1 2 3 6**
- Eriogonum longifolium**  
*var. gnaphalifolium*  
**Scrub Wild Buckwheat**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills  
**4**
- Bidens alba**  
**Spanish Needles**  
**HABITAT:** ruderal  
**USES:** nectar, butterfly host plant  
**1 4 5**
- Rhynchospora colorata**  
**Starrush Whitetop**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**1 2 4 5**

Below is a listing of native wildflowers found in Lake County's roadsides.

## SUMMER

### STANDING CYPRESS

(*Ipomopsis rubra*)

- American Bluehearts
- Bandanna-Of-The-Everglades
- Black-Eyed Susan
- Blue Mistflower
- Bluejacket; Ohio Spiderwort
- Broomsedge Bluestem
- Bulltongue Arrowhead
- Camphorweed
- Carolina Redroot
- Carolina Wild Petunia
- Celestial Lily
- Chapman's Goldenrod
- Lemon Bacopa
- Coastalplain Honeycombhead
- Common Buttonbush
- Common Wireweed; Fanpetals
- Cottonweed
- Early Whiteop Fleabane
- Feay's Prairieclover
- Flatsedge
- Florida Alicia
- Florida Greeneyes
- Florida Hedge-nettle; Florida Betony
- Florida Betony
- Fourleaf Vetch
- Gopher Apple
- Heartwing Dock
- Lanceleaf Fogfruit
- Leavenworth's Tickseed
- Longleaf Wild Buckwheat
- Maryland Meadowbeauty
- Mexican Primrosewillow
- Mohr's Thoroughwort
- Narrowleaf Silkgrass
- Needlepod Rush
- Oakleaf Fleabane
- Paper Nailwort
- Partridge Pea
- Peppervine
- Pickernelweed
- Pine Barren Frostweed
- Prairie Fleabane
- Pricklypear
- Purple Passionflower
- Rosy Camphorweed
- Rough Hedgehyssop
- Roundpod St. John's-Wort
- Rust Weed
- Sandpaper Vervain
- Sensitive Briar
- Skyblue Lupine
- Slenderleaf Clammyweed
- Southern Beeblossom
- Southern Cattail
- Spanish Needles
- Spotted Beebalm; Dotted Horsemint
- Standing Cypress; Spanish Larkspur
- Starrush Whitetop
- Sweet Everlasting
- Tall Elephantsfoot
- Tall Jointweed
- Tall Yelloweyed Grass
- Tenagle Pipewort
- Texas Vervain
- Thymeleaf Pinweed
- Tread-Softly
- Winged Loosestrife
- Winged Sumac
- Yellow Hatpins
- Yellow Milkwort

### MARYLAND MEADOWBEAUTY

(*Rhexia mariana*)

- American Elder; Elderberry
- Black-Eyed Susan
- Bluejacket; Ohio Spiderwort
- Broomsedge
- Bushy Bluestem
- Camphorweed
- Carolina Elephantsfoot
- Catesby's Sily; Pine Lily
- Chalky Bluestem
- Chapman's Goldenrod
- Cinnamon Fern
- Clustered Bushmint; Musky Mint
- Coastalplain Honeycombhead
- Common Wireweed; Fanpetals
- Cottonweed
- Feay's Palafox
- Florida Greeneyes
- Florida Hedge-nettle; Florida Betony
- Florida Scrub Skullcap
- Florida Sunflower
- Glade Lobelia
- Goldenrod
- Groundsel Tree; Sea Myrtle
- Hairyrod Cowpea
- Largeflower Jointweed; Sandhill Jointweed
- Leavenworth's Tickseed
- Maryland Meadowbeauty
- Mexican Primrosewillow
- Narrowleaf Silkgrass
- Narrowleaf Sunflower; Swamp Sunflower
- Partridge Pea
- Pinebarren Goldenrod
- Pricklypear
- Purple Lovegrass
- Roundpod St. John's-Wort
- Sandpaper Vervain
- Short-Leaf Gayfeather
- Short-Leaf Rosegentian
- Skyblue Lupine
- Slender Gayfeather
- Slender Scratch Daisy
- Smallfruit Beggarticks
- Snow Squartern
- Southern Beeblossom
- Spanish Needles
- Spotted Beebalm; Dotted Horsemint
- Starrush Whitetop
- Sugarcane Plumegrass
- Tall Jointweed
- Tenagle Pipewort
- Tievine
- Twistedleaf Goldenrod
- West Indian Meadowbeauty
- Yellow Milkwort

## LAVENDER, PURPLE or BLUE blooms



- Conoclinium coelestinum**  
**Blue Mistflower**  
**HABITAT:** meadows, woodlands  
**USES:** nectar  
**1**
- Tradescantia ohiensis**  
**Bluejacket;**  
**Ohio Spiderwort**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**1 2 3 4 6**
- Dalea feayi**  
**Feay's Prairieclover**  
**HABITAT:** scrubs  
**USES:** nectar and butterfly host plant, seeds for birds  
**1 4**
- Stachys floridana**  
**Florida Hedge-nettle;**  
**Florida Betony**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**USES:** tuberous roots are edible  
**1 2 4**
- Scutellaria arenicola**  
**Florida Scrub Skullcap**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar  
**1 4**
- Liatris sp.**  
**Gayfeather**  
**HABITAT:** scrubs, sandhills, flatwoods  
**USES:** nectar  
**5**
- Vernonia gigantea**  
**Giant Ironweed**  
**HABITAT:** wet pinelands, woodland edges  
**USES:** nectar  
**4**
- Pontederia cordata**  
**Pickernelweed**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**USES:** nectar, seeds for ducks and mammals  
**1**
- Passiflora incarnata**  
**Purple Passionflower**  
**HABITAT:** throughout  
**USES:** nectar, fruit for wildlife, butterfly host plant, used medicinally and as food  
**3**
- Monarda punctata**  
**Spotted Beebalm;**  
**Dotted Horsemint**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**USES:** nectar  
**4 5**
- Elephantopus elatus**  
**Tall Elephantsfoot**  
**HABITAT:** throughout  
**USES:** nectar  
**5**
- Ipomoea cordatotriloba**  
**Tievine**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**4**

## YELLOW blooms



- Rudbeckia hirta**  
**Black-eyed Susan**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites  
**USES:** nectar, Native Americans used many parts medicinally  
**1 2 5**
- Canna flaccida**  
**Bandanna-of-the-Everglades**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**USES:** butterfly host plant  
**2 4**
- Balduina angustifolia**  
**Coastalplain Honeycombhead**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar  
**1**
- Chapmannia floridana**  
**Florida Alicia**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar, Native Americans used many parts medicinally  
**4**
- Berlandiera subacaulis**  
**Florida Greeneyes**  
**HABITAT:** scrubs, sandhills, ruderal  
**USES:** nectar  
**2 3 4**
- Solidago sp.**  
**Goldenrod**  
**HABITAT:** throughout  
**1 2 3 4 5 6**
- Coreopsis leavenworthii**  
**Leavenworth's Tickseed**  
**HABITAT:** meadows  
**USES:** nectar  
**1 2**
- Pityopsis graminifolia**  
**Narrowleaf Silkgrass**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar  
**1 2 3 4**
- Helianthus angustifolius**  
**Narrowleaf Sunflower;**  
**Swamp Sunflower**  
**HABITAT:** disturbed sites, marshes, wet flatwoods  
**1 2**
- Chamaecrista fasciculata**  
**Partridge Pea**  
**HABITAT:** scrubs, sandhills, disturbed sites  
**USES:** nectar, butterfly host plant  
**2 3 4 5**
- Helianthemum corymbosum**  
**Pine Barren Frostweed**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**1**
- Opuntia humifusa**  
**Pricklypear**  
**HABITAT:** sandhills, scrubs  
**USES:** nectar, fruit for wildlife, edible and used by Native Americans medicinally  
**1 3 4**
- Bidens mitis**  
**Smallfruit Beggarticks**  
**HABITAT:** wetlands  
**USES:** nectar  
**1 2**

## GUIDE to featured wildflowers

