

**Solomon's Seal**  
(*Polygonatum pubescens*)



Solomon's seal's delicate white or greenish flowers dangle from the arching leaf axils while the flowers of false Solomon's seal form a cluster at the end of the leaf stalk. Summer berry color is also a distinguishing factor with blue-black for Solomon's seal and red for false Solomon's seal. Flowers Apr-Jun Ht: 12-36"

**Skunk Cabbage**  
(*Symplocarpus foetidus*)



Named for its foul odor, skunk cabbage attracts pollinators with its smell. Found in wetlands, the plant exhibits thermogenesis enabling it to produce heat greater than the surrounding air temperature. This characteristic allows the flowers to surface very early in advance of the leaves. Flowers Feb-Apr, Ht: 16-22"

**Jack-in-the-Pulpit** (*Arisaema triphyllum*)

Unique both in appearance and growing habit, Jack-in-the-pulpit's stems, leaves and flowers develop underground, unfolding after emergence. Green berries turn a conspicuous bright red in the fall. It takes three or more years for a plant to produce flowers. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 8-24"



**White Trillium** (*Trillium grandiflorum*)



The jewel of Duff Park, white trillium, is found abundantly on steep slopes where it is protected from grazing white-tailed deer. The flowers, first white, turn pink with age. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 12-18"

**Wake Robin** (*Trillium erectum*)

This beauty's liver red flowers emit an unpleasant smell, a beneficial feature for the fly pollinated plant. As with all trilliums, the prefix tri refers to the plant's petals, sepals and leaves, all present in threes. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 7-16"



Directions to Duff Park:  
One quarter mile south from the intersection of Route 22 and School Road South in Murrysville, Pennsylvania.

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# Spring Wildflowers of Duff Park

All photographs taken at Duff Park by Cary Bohl, Pat Comas, Tom Morton, Kyle Selcer & Theo van de Venne

Please consider the environment and share this publication or return to a Murrysville Park mailbox.

Volunteer Today! 724.327.2100  
x560



Spring is a magical time in Duff Park when the wildflowers unfold their beauty creating a wondrous display of color and form transforming winter's bleak landscape to a dazzling brilliance.

Tread lightly as you pass through and please stay on the trail. Enjoy and preserve our parklands.

Never pick, collect or transplant wildflowers.

### Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*)



An early spring bloomer, spring beauty has five white petals with fine pink stripes varying from pale to bright pink. It is often found growing in masses in moist woodlands and clearings with a bloom period that extends an entire month. Flowers Mar-May  
Ht: 3-6"

With a flower that resembles breeches once worn by Dutchman, Dutchman's breeches are found in abundance on wooded slopes. An oily appendage on the seeds is a favored food of ants. Ants carry the seed to their nests, eat the appendage and the remaining seed germinates in the medium rich ant nest debris. Flowers Apr-May, Ht: 4-8"

### Dutchman's Breeches (*Dicentra cucullaria*)



With a life cycle of only six to eight weeks, the spring ephemerals awake, leaf-out, bloom, seed and then retreat to dormancy by early summer until the following spring when the cycle repeats. Spring ephemerals include trillium, spring beauty, Dutchman's breeches,

### Virginia Bluebell (*Mertensia virginica*)

Found in rich moist woodlands, Virginia bluebell's bell-shaped flowers turn from pink to violet-blue as they mature. Flowers Mar-May, Ht: 12-24"



### Trout Lily (*Erythronium americanum*)



Taking up to seven years for this plant to bloom, trout lily can form large colonies if left undisturbed over the course of many years. A mottled leaf pattern suggests the speckled side of a brook or brown trout. Flowers Mar-May, Ht: 4-10"

### Blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia verna*)

Blue and white bi-colored flowers make for an easy identification of this early bloomer. As an indicator species that tolerates very little disturbance, its presence denotes woodlands of high quality. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 6-24"



Virginia bluebell, trout lily and blue-eyed Mary. These woodland plants take advantage of the short period in early spring when the days lengthen, soil warms, air temperatures increase and sunlight streams to the forest floor unfiltered by the leafless canopy.

### Mayapple (*Podophyllum peltatum*)

Mayapple has palmately lobed leaves with two growth forms: a single umbrella-like leaf without flowers and two-leaved plants with a single flower. The plant colonizes by means of a rhizome root system. All parts of the plant are toxic except the ripe fruit. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 6-18"



### Wild Geranium (*Geranium maculatum*)



The showiest of native geraniums, wild geranium is a popular choice for the home wildflower garden. It is easy to grow with nursery stock readily available. Flowers Apr-Jun  
Ht: 12-24"

### Squawroot (*Conopholis americana*)



Squawroot grows parasitically on the roots of trees, typically oak. Lacking both leaves and chlorophyll, it is unable to produce energy on its own and depends on a host tree for survival. Flowers May-Jun, Ht: 3-8"

### Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

This is a destructive plant you can pick. Originally from Europe, garlic mustard is one of the invasive species displacing our native wildflowers. Volunteer efforts are on-going to eradicate garlic mustard from our parks. Flowers Apr-Jun, Ht: 12-36"



Invasive