

36th Annual Wildflower Foray
23–25 April 2021
Treasure Hunt Hike (THH)
Selma Steele Nature Preserve
Brown County, Indiana

by Kay Yatskievych
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About the trail: GPS 39.134028, 86.344953 —This Treasure Hunt Hike for plant species at Selma Steele Nature Preserve is for the trail that departs from the north entrance to T.C. Steele State Nature Preserve and goes to the east down a somewhat steep slope into Selma Steele N.P. Go down the hill and at the bottom where it meets a trail to both the left and right, go to the right and across the bridge to where the trail starts to go up a fairly steep hill. Turn around and go back across the bridge to where the trail came down, but instead of going back up that way, continue on the trail that would have been a left turn when you came down. This is a less steep hill and will come out on the road slightly to the north of where the trail started down from across the T.C. Steele driveway.

Please stay on the trail so you do not damage the plants, and do not pick any of the plants or any part of them.

About the text and formatting: This was designed to make the identification as visual and simple as possible. This THH includes only wildflowers. Species pages are organized into groups by the number of petals and petal-like parts or lobes on a fused base on an individual flower. Each group has the species with the largest flower listed first, with each following species page the next smaller flower. Wildflowers include all flowering plants except trees and shrubs. The size of the plant and flower are listed to help with identification. The date that the species flowers in Indiana is also included, so that if the user does the trail at a different time, he or she will know whether the plant is likely to be in flower. The primary size and flower color are sometimes followed by occasional ones in a parenthesis.

This text and formatting was done by Kay Yatskievych [Kay.Yatskievych@mobot.org], and is similar to what will be used in the Indiana Plant Identification PDFs [INplntID], a new project that Kay is working on. However, these will include more text and images.

More about the text and formatting:

Species names in **Bold** are ones native to Indiana.

Species names in *SMALL CAPS* are ones that are introduced into Indiana.

The scientific name is the one currently recognized in the Indiana Vascular Plants Catalogue [IVPC] (in process by Kay Yatskievych).

The number in parenthesis is the species number in the Field Guide to Indiana Wildflowers [FGIW], by Kay Yatskievych 2000.

Next is the vernacular name that is used in the 2021 Wildflower Foray Checklist.

Next is {} with the currently recognized family name in it, and after some of these a name that was used in FGIW or the Wildflower Foray Checklist that is now considered to be a synonym (syn.), or is an illegitimate name (nom. illeg.), invalid name (nom. inval.), or was misapplied (misapp.)

Wildflowers: grouped by visible petals, petal-like parts, or lobes on a fused base (not all are on this THH)

Wildfl-6+ = 6 or more

Wildfl-5Alike = 5 separate
and alike

Wildfl-5Dissim = 5 separate
and dissimilar

Wildfl-5Lobes = 5 lobes on a
fused base

Wildfl-4 = 4

Wildfl-3 = 3

Wildfl-2 = 2

Wildfl-2Lip = 2-lipped

Wildfl-1Lig = 1 ligule (in com-
pound head)

Wildfl-1Ray = 1 ray (in com-
pound head)

Wildfl-1Thist = thistle or thistle-
like (in compound head)

Wildfl-0Gras = no petals or
petal-like parts (grasses)

Wildfl-0Sedg = no petals or
petal-like parts (sedges)

Wildfl-0Zmisc = no petals or
petal-like parts or small
ones in compound heads
(miscellaneous families)

***Podophyllum peltatum* (60);
Common May Apple**

{Berberidaceae} —Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.2–0.5 m. Petals
6–9, 15–33 mm long, white.
Blooms Apr 15–June 20 in
Indiana.



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Thalictrum thalictroides
(38); Rue Anemone

{Ranunculaceae —syn.
Anemonella thalictroides}
—Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.1–0.2 m.
Petaloid sepals 6–9, 10–15 mm
long, white to pinkish white.
Blooms Mar 16–June 22 in
Indiana.



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Polygonatum biflorum
(1477) Smooth Solomon's-
seal {Asparagaceae}
—Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.5–1.5 m long.
Tepals 6, 14–23 mm long, fused
basally with short tips, greenish
white, yellowish green. Blooms
Apr 28–June 8 in Indiana.

Smooth Solomon's-seal is very
similar to Hairy Solomon's-seal
(next species page), but its
leaves are sessile and often
clasping and without hairs on the
veins on the back.

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Polygonatum pubescens
(1478); Hairy Solomon's-seal
{Asparagaceae} —Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.5–0.9 m. Tepals 6, 10–13 mm long, fused basally with short tips, light yellowish green. Blooms Apr 15 June 20 in Indiana.

Hairy Solomon's-seal is very similar to Smooth Solomon's-seal (previous species page), but has leaves narrowed to a short petiole with hairs on the veins on the back.



Martha Fox

***Caulophyllum*
thalictroides (59);
Common Blue Cohosh**
{Berberidaceae}

—Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.4–0.6 m tall.
Sepals 6(5), 3–5 mm long,
petals smaller, both yellow,
purple, or green. Blooms
Mar 21–May 25 in Indiana.
Blooms Mar 21–May 25
in Indiana.

Kay Yatskievych



Galearis spectabilis
(1559); Showy Orchis

{Orchidaceae —syn.

Orchis spectabilis}

—Wildfl-6+

Perennial herb 0.1–0.2 m tall. Flower composed of an upper hood of 6 petals and sepals 10–15 mm long, light pinkish purple, and a lower lip 10–13 mm long, white (pink). Blooms Apr 10–June 4 in Indiana.



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Claytonia virginica
var. *virginica* (129);
Virginia Spring-beauty
{Montiaceae; prev. in
Portulacaceae}
—Wildfl-5Alike

Perennial herb 0.05–0.2 m
long. Petals 5, 7–14 mm
long, white, pink, with light
or dark pink veins. Blooms
Feb 23–June 14 in Indiana.

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***Stellaria puber* (153);
Star Chickweed**

{Caryophyllaceae
—misspelled “*pubera*”
in original publication}
—Wildfl-5Alike

Perennial herb 0.15–0.4 m.
Petals 5, so deeply cleft as
to appear to be 10, 4–8 mm,
white. Blooms March 28–
June 12 in Indiana.



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Ranunculus abortivus
(23); Kidney-leaved
Buttercup {Ranunculaceae}
—Wildfl-5Alike

Biennial or perennial herb
0.2–0.5 m. Petals 5, 2–4 mm,
yellow. Blooms Mar 27–July 9
in Indiana.



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***Geum vernum* (454);**

Spring Avens

{Rosaceae}

—Wildfl-5Alike

Perennial herb 0.3–0.6 m.

Petals 5, 1–2 mm, yellow.

Blooms Apr 18–June 4 in
Indiana.

George Yatskievych



***Viola sororia* (277);**
Common Blue
Violet {Violaceae}
—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb,
stemless, flower stalk
0.1–0.3 mm. Petals 5,
dissimilar, 10–18 mm
long, the lowest petal
usually smaller with
a short spur in back,

light to dark bluish purple (white, purple with white stripes, white with purple stripes or splotches, pink). Blooms Mar 21–July 3, Sept 13–27 in Indiana.

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Viola palmata
var. *palmata* (273)
Three-lobed Violet
{Violaceae —syn.
Viola triloba}
—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb,
stemless, flower stalk
0.2–0.3 m. Petals 5,
dissimilar, 9–20(–26)
mm long, with a short
spur in back, bluish purple with a greenish white throat and usually
darker veins (white). Blooms Apr 18–May 24 in Indiana.

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***Viola pubescens* (286);**
Yellow Violet {Violaceae
—syns. *V. pubescens* var.
pubescens, var. *scabriuscula*}
—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb, stemmed,
0.1–0.5 m. Petals 5, dissimilar,
15–25 mm long, the lowest
with a short backward spur,
yellow, the bottom one with
dark purple stripes at the
base (others sometimes with
smaller dark purple stripes at
the base). Blooms Apr 8–
June 20 in Indiana.



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***Viola striata* (285);
Striped White Violet**

{Violaceae}

—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb, stemmed,
0.1–0.4 m. Petals 5,
dissimilar, 8–13 mm long,
white, the lowest with a short
backward spur, the top of
the petal white with purple
stripes at the base. Blooms
Apr 10–July 19, Oct 10 in
Indiana.

Anthony B. Wilson



***Viola rostrata* (287); Long-spurred Violet** {Violaceae}
—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb, stemmed, 0.5–0.12 m when flowering, later to 0.3 m. Petals 5, dissimilar, 8–13 mm, the lowest smaller and with a long spur, 10–15 mm, extending backwards and usually curved upward and visible from the front of the flower, light bluish purple to light reddish purple (white). Blooms Apr 11–June 2 in Indiana.

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***Viola canadensis* var.
canadensis (284);
Canadian White Violet**

{Violaceae —Canada
Violet} —Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb, stemmed,
0.2–0.4 m. Petals 5,
dissimilar, 5.5–20 mm,
white, the lower three with
yellow center with reddish
purple streaks (or all white),
back light to dark reddish
purple (or all white).

Blooms Apr 21–June 19
in Indiana.

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Cubelium concolor
(292) Eastern Green
Violet {Violaceae —syn.
Hybanthus concolor}
—Wildfl-5Dissim

Perennial herb, stemmed,
0.4–1 m. Petals 5, dissimilar,
4–5 mm long, the lowest with
a small pouch in back, light
yellowish green. Blooms Apr
10–June 9 in Indiana.

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VINCA MINOR (738);
GRAVEYARD MYRTLE
{Apocynaceae} —Wildfl-
5Lobes

Woody creeper to several m
long, flowering branches to
0.5 m tall. Petals 5, fused at
the base, 17–26 mm long,
light purple. Blooms
Mar 24–June 1 in Indiana.



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Phlox divaricata
(804); Wild Blue Phlox
{Polemoniaceae —syns.
P. divaricata subsp.
divaricata, subsp.
laphamii} —Wildfl-5Lobes

Perennial herb, flowering
stems 0.2–0.5 m. Petals 5,
fused at the base, 21–32
mm long, light purple, light
reddish purple (white).
Blooms Mar 28 –June 12
in Indiana.

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***Phlox bifida* (801); Cleft
Phlox** {Polemoniaceae
—syns. *P. bifida* subsp.
bifida, subsp. *stellaria*}
—Wildfl-5Lobes

Perennial herb or subshrub,
0.1–0.3 m. Petals 5, fused
at the base, 13–26 mm, light
purple, light reddish purple
(white). Blooms Apr 5–
June 6 in Indiana.

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***Oxalis violacea* (659);
Violet Wood Sorrel**
{Oxalidaceae} —Wildfl-
5Lobes

Perennial herb, stemless,
flowering stems 0.1–0.2 m,
longer than the leaf stalks.
Petals 5, fused at the base,
9–20 mm long, light purple
or pinkish purple (white).
Blooms Apr 3–Sept 13
in Indiana.

Kay Yatskievych



*Stylophorum
diphyllum* (66);
Wood Poppy
{Papaveraceae}
—Wildfl-4

Perennial herb
0.3–0.5 m. Petals
4, 20–30 mm long
and wide, broadly
obovate, rounded
at the tip, yellow.
Blooms Apr 2–
June 18, Oct 23
in Indiana.

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***Cardamine*
concatenata (358);
Cut-leaved Toothwort**
{Brassicaceae —syn.
Dentaria laciniata}
—Wildfl-4

Perennial herb
0.15–0.4(–0.55) m.
Petals 4, (8–)10–20
mm, white (light pink);
sepals 4, (4–)5–10
mm, green (pinkish-
tinged). Blooms Mar
3–May 27 in Indiana.

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Cardamine angustata
(359); Slender Toothwort

{Brassicaceae —syn.
Dentaria heterophylla}
—Wildfl-4

Perennial herb 0.1–0.3(0.4)
m, glabrous (sparsely hairy).
Petals 4, 9–18 × 2–5 mm,
white (light pink). Blooms
Apr 6–May 6 in Indiana.



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Cardamine douglassii
(362); Purple Spring Cress
{Brassicaceae} —Wildfl-4

Perennial herb (0.07–)0.1–0.3 m, with spreading hairs. Petals 4, 7–16 mm, purplish pink (pink, white); sepals 4, (2.5–)3.0–6.0 mm long, reddish purple. Blooms Feb 20–May 18 in Indiana.



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ALLIARIA PETIOLATA
(356); GARLIC MUSTARD
{Brassicaceae} —Wildfl-4

Biennial herb 0.3–1.2 m.
Petals 4, 4–7(–9) mm long,
white. Blooms Apr 19–July 24
in Indiana.

On Indiana's list of Invasive
Species, 2020-11-15



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BARBAREA VULGARIS
(328); BITTER WINTER
CRESS {Brassicaceae}
—Wildfl-4

Biennial (annual or
perennial) herb (0.2–
0.3–0.8(–1) m. Petals 4,
5–9 mm, yellow. Blooms
Apr 17–Jul 15 in Indiana.



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VERONICA SERPYLLIFOLIA
SUBSP. *SERPYLLIFOLIA*
(937); THYME-
LEAVED SPEEDWELL
{Plantaginaceae}
—Wildfl-4

Perennial herb 0.1–0.3 m.
Petals 4, 2–3 mm, the upper
larger than the 2 side ones,
and the lower much smaller,
white with purple veins (light
purple with dark purple
veins, white). Blooms Apr
27–Aug 17 in Indiana.

Kay Yatskiewych



Trillium flexipes
(1486); Drooping
Trillium

{Melanthiaceae, prev.
in Liliaceae} —Wildfl-3

Perennial herb 0.2–0.4
m. Petals 3, 20–50 ×
10–40 m, white (reddish
purple); sepals 3,
smaller than petals and
on the same level with
them; flowers usually
declined below the
leaves. Blooms Apr 15
June 6 in Indiana.

Kay Yatskievych



Trillium recurvatum
(1483); Prairie Trillium
{Melanthiaceae, prev.
in Liliaceae} —Wildfl-3

Perennial herb 0.15–0.4
m. Petals 3, 20–35 mm,
deep reddish purple (dull
greenish yellow); sepals
3, smaller than petals,
green, pointing downward
between the leaves.
Blooms Apr 3–June 20
in Indiana.



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Dicentra cucullaria
(71); Dutchman's-
breeches

{Papaveraceae}

—Wildfl-2

Perennial herb, stemless,
flower stalk 0.1–0.3 m.

Petals with two large
fused outer ones, the
top white and the bottom
yellow, 10–16(–20) mm),
plus 2 hidden inner ones;
sepals 4, 2 minute, 2
slightly larger, all white.

Blooms Mar 27–May 15, Oct 30 in Indiana.

Anthony B. Wilson



***Conopholis
americana***
**(1001); American
Squawroot**
{Orobanchaceae}
—Wildfl-2Lip

Perennial herb,
05–0.2 m, parasitic.
Petals fused into
an upper and lower
lip, 8–14 mm, pale
yellowish. Blooms
Apr 27–June 17
in Indiana.

George Yatskiyech



TRIFOLIUM REPENS
(505); WHITE CLOVER
{Fabaceae} —Wildfl-
2Lip

Perennial herb, stems
creeping to 0.1–0.4 m.
Petals 5, fused into an
upper and lower lip each
with small lobes, 7–12
mm, white (white with
pink). Blooms Apr 29–
Nov 24 in Indiana.

Kay Yatskievych



***Krigia biflora* (1314);
Two-flowered Cynthia**
{Asteraceae} —Wildfl-1Lig

Perennial herb, nearly stemless, inflorescence stems 0.1–0.6 m. Ligule 12–25 mm, 25–60 per head, yellow (orange). Blooms Apr 30–Sept 26 in Indiana.

Kay Yatskievych



Hydrastis canadensis
(44); Goldenseal
{Ranunculaceae}
—Wildfl-0Zmisc

Perennial herb to 0.25 m.
Petals none; sepals soon
deciduous; stamens 5–8
mm, numerous and showy,
white. Blooms Apr 22–May
14 in Indiana.

On Indiana's ET/X List;
status: Watch List, 2020-
03-09



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Arisaema triphyllum
subsp. *triphyllum*
(1401); Common Jack-
in-the-pulpit {Araceae}
—Wildfl-0Zmisc

Perennial herb, stemless, inflorescences and/or leaves with their stalks, 0.1–0.9 m. Petals and sepals none, flowers male, female, or both, in a compact elongate head (spadix) under a hood that is green or green with darker green stripes. Blooms Apr 15–July 15 in Indiana.



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