

## Wisdom Prairie Early Summer Wildflower Walk

Enjoy walking this trail, out and back 0.8 miles total, through a lush and vibrant restored prairie from Hilltop to Rocky Top. Use this simple guide to identify some of the summer's best showy native flowers. Take your time, let your mind relax and enjoy the sights, smells and sounds of nature.



## Mission

Caring for the earth is part of our mission, rooted in Benedictine values of stability and respect for all of creation. The sisters at Holy Wisdom Monastery have a long history of environmental stewardship and invite others to help with this work.

## Caring for the earth

In 1953, the Benedictine sisters set down roots on a hill overlooking Lake Mendota and the skyline of Madison, Wisconsin. The original 40 acres consisted of farmland cleared in the early 1900s. Today, Holy Wisdom Monastery includes 130 acres with a 10,000-year-old glacial lake, one of the 'greenest' LEED-certified buildings in the country, wooded nature trails, restored prairie, gardens, orchards and the beginning of an oak savanna.

The Friends of Wisdom Prairie started in 2014 to help maintain and restore the land at Holy Wisdom Monastery through donations, volunteer activities and environmental education. In July 2017, the sisters received the international Assisi Award from the Society for Conservation Biology for the environmental efforts spanning more than 60 years at Holy Wisdom Monastery.

*Created by Sylvia Marek and Peter Marshall  
Photos by Glenn Chambliss, Peter Marshall and  
John Hilty - 06/20*



*Holy Wisdom Monastery*

*Weaving prayer, hospitality, justice and  
care for the earth into a shared way of life*

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**Wisdom Prairie**  
**Early Summer**  
**Wildflower Walk**





Creamy Baptisia  
*Baptisia bracteata*

Blooms April - Early June



Golden Alexander  
*Zizia aurea*

Blooms April - Early July



Shooting Star  
*Dodecatheon media*

Blooms Early May - June



Lupine  
*Lupinus perennis*

Blooms Mid May - June



White Baptisia  
*Baptisia alba*

Blooms May - Early Aug



Spiderwort  
*Tradescantia ohiensis*

Blooms Late May - Early Aug



Flowering Spurge  
*Euphorbia corollata*

Blooms Late May - Mid Sept



Lead Plant  
*Amorpha canescens*

Blooms Late May- Sept



Prairie Cinqfoil  
*Potentilla arguta*

Blooms June - Aug



**Fires are  
necessary to  
maintain  
prairies.**



Anise Hyssop  
*Agastache foeniculum*

Blooms June - Sept



Ox-eye/False Sunflower  
*Heliopsis helianthoides*

Blooms June - Oct

**A prairie is a  
community of  
flowers, grasses  
and sedges, with  
few trees  
or shrubs.**



Large Beardtongue  
*Penstemon grandiflorus*

Blooms June - July



Common Milkweed  
*Asclepias syriaca*

Blooms June - Early July



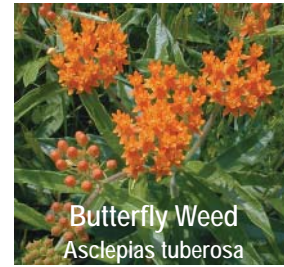
Penstemon  
*Penstemon digitalis*

Blooms Mid June - Mid July



Prairie Coreopsis  
*Coreopsis palmata*

Blooms Mid June - Early Aug



Butterfly Weed  
*Asclepias tuberosa*

Blooms Mid June - Aug



Yellow Coneflower  
*Ratibida pinnata*

Blooms June - Aug



Pale Purple Coneflower  
*Echinacea pallida*

Blooms Late June - Aug



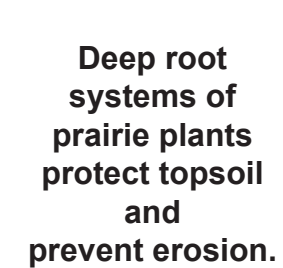
Bergamot (Monarda)  
*Monarda fistulosa*

Blooms Late June - Early Sept



Rosinweed  
*Silphium integrifolium*

Blooms Late June - Early Sept



**Deep root  
systems of  
prairie plants  
protect topsoil  
and  
prevent erosion.**



Wild Quinine  
*Parthenium integrifolium*

Blooms Late June - Early Sept



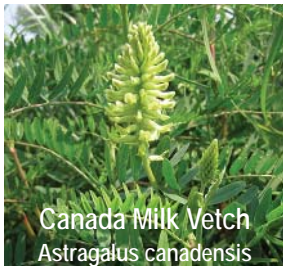
Culver's Root  
*Veronicastrum virginicum*

Blooms Late June - Aug



White Prairie Clover  
*Dalea candida*

Blooms Late June - Sept



Canada Milk Vetch  
*Astragalus canadensis*

Blooms Late June - Sept



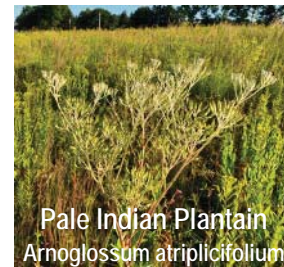
Hoary Vervain  
*Verbena stricta*

Blooms Early July - Oct



Rattlesnake Master  
*Eryngium yuccifolium*

Blooms Early July - Late Aug



Pale Indian Plantain  
*Arnoglossum atriplicifolium*

Blooms July - Sept