



This field guide has been prepared by the Katawba Valley Land Trust to help park visitors

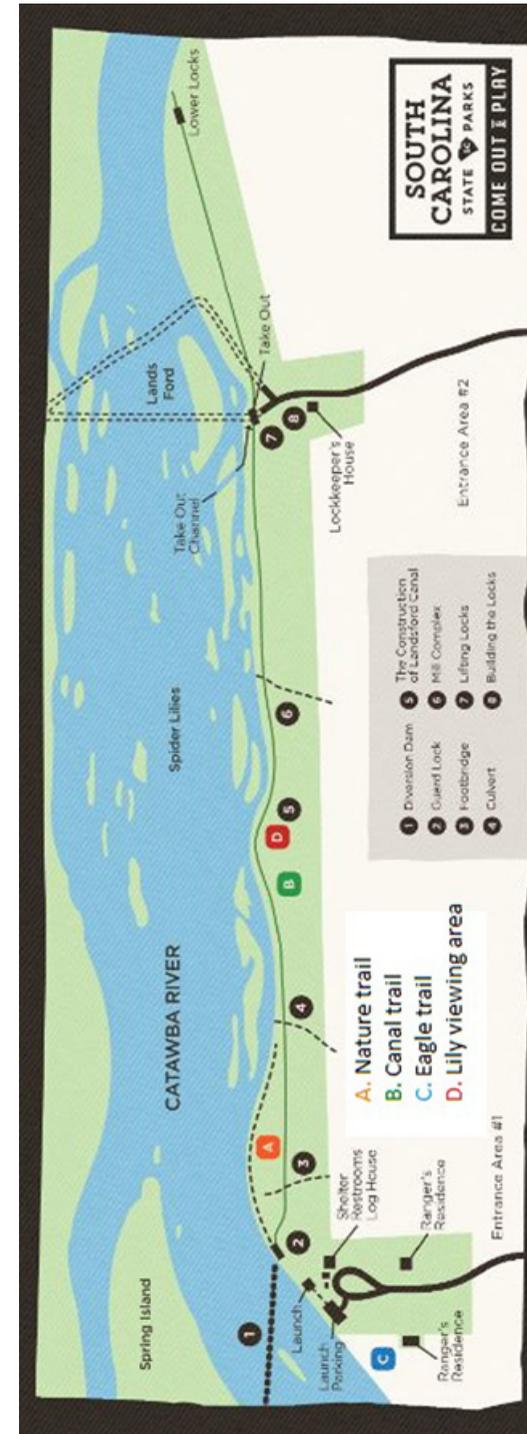
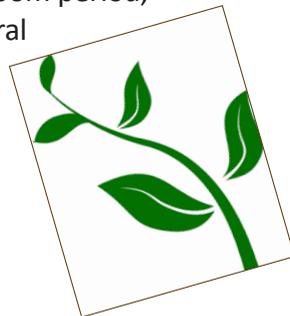
identify some of the more common plants found at Landsford Canal State Park. It is hoped the field guide will help park visitors gain a better understanding and appreciation for the diversity, beauty and ecological importance of all of the plants in the park. Landsford Canal State park covers nearly 450 acres on the east and west banks of the Catawba River in the piedmont of South Carolina. The primary habitat of the park is “bottom-land hardwoods” along the river, however other habitats include pine forests, river shoals, and some small areas that have been disturbed by man’s activities. The plants listed in this guide are ones that you are likely to find while on the trails of the park and which typically bloom in the spring and summer months.

**Thank you for visiting Landsford Canal State Park. Remember, while enjoying its natural beauty, please stay on marked trails and take only photographs.**

Information provided in this guide comes from work conducted by Mr. Andrew Lazenby, who identified 537 species of plants while working on his M.S. degree in Biology from Winthrop University. We are grateful to Andrew for providing much of the text and photographs found in this field guide. We are also grateful for the funding provided by Duke Energy which made this project possible.

*Please note: an electronic copy of this brochure can be accessed from the KVLV website by scanning the QR code on the back of the brochure. We hope to expand on the information provided in this brochure on our website.*

Information in this brochure includes the common name of the plant, followed by the species, the Family, the approximate bloom period, and a brief general description including some interesting facts!



# Common Flowering Plants at Landsford Canal State Park



**Rocky Shoals Spider Lily, Cahaba Lily**  
*Hymenocallis coronaria*  
 Amaryllidaceae  
 Mid May peak, sporadic through summer



With only approximately 50 populations of this amazing plant left, we are fortunate to be able to enjoy the largest at slightly over 20 acres. Thriving in shallow and swift water as it grows from the small cracks and crevices in the rocky substrate, each plant sends up blooms on nearly meter high stalks that last only one day. With the bloom opening just before dusk, the lilies are thought to be pollinated by the Plebian Sphinx Moth, however they are visited by all manner of insects during the day. The population at the park is also significant as it is a nesting site for the Red Winged Black Bird you will observe flying.



**Dogwood**  
*Cornus florida*  
 Cornaceae  
 April-May

This is one of the most beautiful trees you will find in the eastern forest. Striking white 'bloom's are very showy in the spring forest and often bloom alongside the Eastern Redbud tree. The fruit of the Dogwood is a red berry that is inedible to humans, however many birds such as the Towhee and Vireo rely on it as a food source.



**Fire Pink**  
*Silene virginica*  
 Caryophyllaceae  
 April – August

Fire pink features brilliantly scarlet red flowers emerging from a sticky tubular calyx. A member of the "CatchFly" family, the Firepink prefers to grow in full sun in well drained soil. The Ruby Throated Hummingbird is a primary pollinator being attracted to the bright red flower and sweet nectar.

**Jack In The Pulpit**  
*Arisaema triphyllum* (L.) Schott  
 Araceae  
 March – June



Blooming early in the season, the Jack In the Pulpit is pollinated by a fungal gnat. This plant has the ability to change gender of its flowers. Primarily found as male, in favorable conditions the plant will produce a female flower that will ripen into a cluster of bright red fruits.



**Green Dragon**  
*Arisaema dracontium*  
 Araceae  
 Late April – June

As with other members of this genus, the Green dragon is pollinated by flies. This subtle yet unique flower is often hard to spot among the foliage where it is growing, however its worth the effort as it is like no other in the region.

Landsford Canal State Park is known for its well preserved 19<sup>th</sup> century canal and lock system for by-passing the rapids. The lock system was constructed between 1820-1835, when boats used the canals to bypass the shoals while carrying goods to and from the coast. In addition to its rich cultural history, the Park is the home of one of the largest populations of rocky shoals spider lilies in the world!



Scan this code to download this plant guide from the Katawba Valley Land Trust Website



The Katawba Valley Land Trust is a private, non-profit conservation organization dedicated to the protection of the following: natural resources, open lands, waters, historic and cultural resources, and vistas of aesthetic value in the Catawba River Valley of South Carolina and surrounding areas. The main focus area is Chester, Fairfield, Kershaw and Lancaster counties, although the trust may also work in other areas. In addition to protecting land, the trust also works to educate the public in the value of protecting and conserving natural, cultural and historic resources. The trust is certified as a tax exempt non-profit under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code, providing donors with the ability to deduct all donations.



A special thanks to Duke Energy for providing grant funding for this brochure as part of their commitment to promoting environmental stewardship.



**Button Bush**  
*Cephalanthus occidentalis*  
Rubiaceae  
June – September

Found growing along the rivers edge, the Button bush is often seen being visited by various species of butterflies. The clusters of white spherical flowers are highly fragrant.



**Spiderwort**  
*Tradescantia sp.*  
Commelinaceae  
April - June

A clump-forming herbaceous perennial with violet-blue to purple flowers and yellow stamens. Found on open wooded slopes and moist shaded bluffs.



**Carolina Silverbell**  
*Halesia carolina,*  
Styracaceae  
Early April

(Photo by Al James)

Delicate clusters of bell shaped white flowers are a sure harbinger that spring is on the way. Blooming early in the season, the Carolina Silverbell attracts many types of pollinators and is a host plant for multiple species of native butterfly. (Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Mourning Cloak, Eastern Comma, and Viceroy)



**Trumpet Vine**  
*Campsis radicans*  
Bignoniaceae  
June – September

The Trumpet vine is another one of our important food sources for the Ruby Throated Hummingbird. A fast-growing plant, Trumpet vine will quickly establish and fill in a disturbed area in the woodland environment. Caution should be taken around this plant as it can cause contact dermatitis in some individuals.

**American Water Willow**  
*Justicia americana*  
Acanthaceae  
April – October

(Photo by Bill Stokes)

Water Willow is a dense clumping aquatic plant that can often be seen growing around clumps of the Rocky Shoal Spider Lily. The small purple blooms are attractive to many native insects.



**Sweet Shrub, Sweet Bubby Bush**  
*Calycanthus floridus,* Calycanthaceae  
April-May

The Sweet Shrub is pollinated by the sap beetles which are attracted to the sweet-smelling flowers. The flower also has a traditional use of being worn as a sachet thus its less commonly used “common name” of the “Sweet Bubby Bush”.



**May Apple**  
*Podophyllum peltatum*  
Berberidaceae  
Mid April - Early May

Growing in dense colonies the May Apple is a one of our ‘spring ephemerals’ as it is an early bloomer and typically is one of the first plants to appear each spring. Pollination is by bumble bees and honey bees.

**Heart Leaf Ginger**  
*Hexastylis arifolia*  
Aristolochiaceae  
April - May

This small evergreen woodland plant is aromatic when a leaf if crushed. The small inconspicuous, yet unique, flowers bloom under the leaves and are pollinated by small insects such as beetles and flies.



**Atamasco Lily**  
*Zephyranthes atamasca* (L.) Herb., Liliaceae  
March – June

This showy white flower (rarely pink) has a loose clumping habit of growth and prefers rich soil. This flower of this plant is hermaphroditic and is pollinated by wind and insects. Is also often referred to as the Easter Lily as its bloom period coincides with the Easter holiday.



**Wild Geranium, Spotted Geranium**  
*Geranium maculatum*  
Geraniaceae  
March – July

Great for shade gardens, the spotted geranium thrives in shady woodlands. The flowers have been observed attracting many species of native bees for pollination. Thought to have many traditionally medicinal properties, the plants seeds are an attractant to birds such as the Bobwhite Quail and the Mourning dove.

**Blood Root**

*Sanquinaria canadensis* L.  
Papaveraceae  
March - April



One of our most showy spring ephemerals, the flower of the Blood Root are a brilliant white which bloom before the single leaf of the plant unfolds. The name of the plant is derived from the red sap of the plant. Pollinated by small flies and bees, the seeds are often transported by ants into their colony as each seed has a sweet and fleshy elaisome and are thus inadvertently planted.

**Paw Paw**

*Asimina triloba*  
Annonaceae  
April-May



The Paw Paw grows in loose colonies and with its deep green foliage and unique flowers, seems as if it should be more at home in the tropics. After being pollinated by flies, the Paw Paw produces a delicious fruit referred to as the "custard apple".



**Fringe Tree,  
Old Man's Beard**

*Chionanthus virginicus* L.  
Oleaceae  
April - May

The softly fragrant flowers of the fringe tree are pollinated by bees and the fruits are eaten by songbirds and small woodland mammals.

**Bear Corn,  
Squawroot**

*Conopholis americana*  
Orobanchaceae  
May - June



This is a unique plant that produces no chlorophyll of its own and spends most of its life underground parasitizing the roots of trees in the oak family. After three to four years a flowering stalk with rows of tubular white flowers emerges which are pollinated by solitary bees and flies.



**Eastern  
Red Columbine**  
*Aquilegia canadensis* L.  
Ranunculaceae  
February - July

One of our showiest woodland flowers found in Landsford Canal State Park, the columbine has drooping bell like flowers which are attractive to insects with long tongues and hummingbirds. If time is taken to quietly observe a plant, you will often be rewarded observing a visitor.

**Spring Beauty**

*Claytonia virginica*  
Portulacaceae  
April - May



This small clumping wildflower has a delicate scent that is worth getting close to experience. Pollinated by many types of insects, the Spring Beauty reseeds itself, however ants will also transport seeds back to their colony as a food source.



**Coral Honeysuckle**  
*Lonicera sempervirens*  
Caprifoliaceae  
March - June

The brilliant tubular red flowers on Coral honeysuckle are a popular food source for the Ruby Throated Hummingbird. This woody vining plant is most often found climbing other plants as it reaches for a sunny patch of forest to bloom. In the fall, the berries of the Coral Honeysuckle are attractive to many species of birds including Thrushes, Quail, and American Robins. This is the host plant for the Spring azure butterfly.

**Yellow Jessamine,  
Carolina Jessamine**

*Gelsemium sempervirens*  
Loganiaceae



This showy vining plant with deep green leaves and highly scented yellow tubular flowers is the State flower of South Carolina. Peak bloom is in early spring and the flowers are attractive to native bees, hummingbirds, and the spicebush swallowtail. \*\*all parts of this plant are highly toxic\*\*



**Crossvine**  
*Bignonia capreolata* L.  
Bignoniaceae  
March - May

One of the first food sources for the Ruby Throated Hummingbird as they move back into our area each spring. The Crossvine relies on trees for climbing so the blooms are often restricted to the top of the canopy. The common name is derived from the cross shaped pith.

**Eastern Redbud**

*Cercis canadensis* L.  
Fabaceae  
March-April



Flowering before its leaves emerge, the Eastern Redbud is a bright indicator that spring is on its way. Pollination is accomplished by Carpenter and Blueberry bees. The fruits, a cluster of beans developing in the late summer, are a food source for many bird species.



**Tulip Tree**  
*Liriodendron tulipifera* L.  
Magnoliaceae  
April - June

This tree is easily recognized by its large four lobed leaves. The large pale yellowish green showy flowers, reminiscent of magnolia flowers of this species family, bloom in the mature canopy.