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 KVLT 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!
Landsford Canal State Park is known for its well preserved 19th 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!

Rocky Shoals Spider Lily, Cahaba Lily
Hymenanthis 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 strakes 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.

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.

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.

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Dogwood
Cornus florida
Cornaceae
April-May

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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)

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.

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

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.

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

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

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.
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.”

**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 elaiosome and are thus inadvertently planted.

**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.

**Bear Corn, Squawroot**
_Conopholis americana_ L.
Orchobanaceae
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.

**Spring Beauty**
_Claytonia virginica_ L.
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 reseds 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. **all parts of this plant are highly toxic**

**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**

**Fringe Tree, Old Man’s Beard**
_Chiastonthus 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.

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**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.

**Blood Root**
_Sanquinaria canadensis_ L.
Papaveraceae
March - April

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