

Bouncing Bet or
Soapwort
(*Saponaria officinalis*)

This plant's flowers come in pink, pinkish-white, and white. They also have a pretty smell. They were brought to America from Europe.

When the leaves are crushed they make a soapy lather that you can use to wash your hands! Look closely. Does the flower look like a woman named Bet, or Betty, using an old-fashioned washing board? Some people think so!

Evening Primrose
(*Oenothera biennis*)

Have you ever tasted the roots of a plant? (What about carrots, beets, and sweet potatoes?) You Can eat the roots of this plant too! They taste like parsnip. Do you think you would like it? This plant is tall (2-5 feet.) and has a hairy stem. Its yellow flowers open late in the afternoon and Only last for one day!



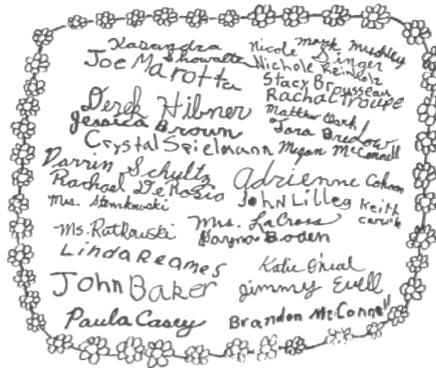
New England
Aster (*Aster novae-
Angliae*)

There are about 150 different kinds of aster flowers growing in the United States! The New England Aster is one of the prettiest asters. Its flowers have a bright yellow center and soft, dark, and purple petals (called rays). They can grow to be 3-7 feet tall. The Native Americans used the fresh young leaves as a seasoning, and also ate them as a vegetable.



October 1999

This brochure was created by the following Lincoln Elementary School students and teachers:



City of Alpena
Wildlife Sanctuary Board
208 N. First Avenue
Alpena, MI 49707



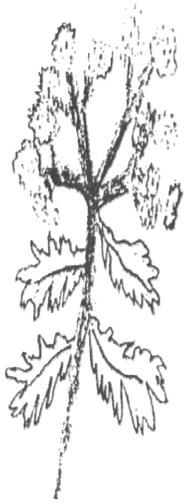
Written and Illustrated by
Lincoln School Students

Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*)

Have you ever seen a black-eyed Susan (a flower, not person)? This flower has a brownish black, cone-shaped center with 10-20 golden-orange rays (they look like petals) connected to it. Be sure to feel the fuzzy stem and leaves of this lovely plant. It can grow to be 3 feet tall, so it's hard to miss as you walk along the bi-path!



City of Alpena
www.alpena.mi.us



Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)

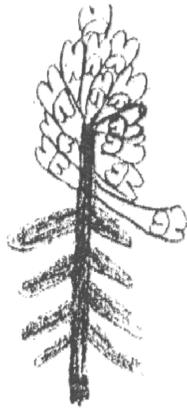
Tansies look like a bunch of yellow eyes because they don't have any petals. They also feel fuzzy like a teddy bear. The flat-topped flowers grow in bunches of 15 - 25, and the leaves smell like pepper-

mint. Long, long ago, when people died, they would rub tansy on the dead body to make sure that it would have an afterlife. Be sure to keep your eyes open for these "eye-catching" wildflowers!

Butter-and-Eggs

(*Linaria vulgaris*)

Breakfast! When you see this wildflower you'll think of breakfast because its flowers look like a golden egg yolk with butter around it. It is easy to spot near the Ninth Street Dam and on Mill Island. It has lots of underground runners (or stems) that help it to spread all over in open fields and meadows.



Goldenrod (*Solidago sp.*)

Many people don't like this very common wildflower because they think it makes them sneeze. Another flower, called ragweed, blooms around the same time as goldenrod and it causes

more allergy problems than goldenrod! Over 60 kinds of goldenrod are found in Michigan, and they're hard to identify. The yellow feathery flowers of the Canada Goldenrod make it easy to find.

Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

This plant has four different names: nosebleed, bloodwort, soldier's woundwort, and yarrow. It has been used as a medicine to help people in many ways. The ancient Greeks discovered that it could be used to stop bleeding. It also stops dizziness and headaches. The flowers look like little white butterflies with yellow dots in the middle of their bodies. The green leaves



Spotted Touch-Me-Not

(*Impatiens biflora*)
When you gently rub the ripened green seedpod of these really cool wildflowers they EXPLODE in your fingers! The flowers are orange with red and yellow

spots, and look like tiny trumpets hanging from the stems. This wildflower is also called jewelweed. Native Americans used the watery juice of this plant to treat athlete's foot and poison ivy.

Queen Anne's Lace (*Daucus carota*)

This flower is named after Queen Anne because its fragile white flowers look like her lace headdress. It grows in grassy areas and is related to wild carrots. Its flower is round and flat on top. When the flower dries up, it curls to make a little brown nest and that's why it's also called Bird's Nest.

