



Bowman's Hill

Wildflower Preserve

1635 RIVER ROAD | NEW HOPE | PA 18938

Visit Explore Discover Grow



Year round, visitors to the Preserve encounter an outdoor natural museum of native plants that grow on its 134 acres. Explore the diverse habitats that include hardwood forests, meadows, steep hillsides, a creek, ponds and other wetlands and the fauna that depends on them. Discover how the Preserve connects visitors with the essential unity of nature and humanity.

Come walk the trails to see what's growing in this living museum then visit our Native Plant Nursery to bring a piece back to your garden.

Experience what's natural | Learn what's native

Hours:

April - June

Open daily 9am - 5pm

Last entry at 4pm

July - March

Wed. - Mon. 9am - 5pm (Closed Tues.)

Last entry at 4pm

Note: All exit gates lock at 4pm, no re-entry

Admission:

Members: Free

Non-members: Admission fee



Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve encompasses part of the Indigenous homelands of the Lenape peoples. We pay respect and honor to this lands' original inhabitants and acknowledge their displacement by European colonization.

We are dedicated to being respectful and sustainable stewards of the Preserve and to deepening the relationship with the Lenape peoples.

September Highlights



Sneezeweed, *Helenium autumnale*, is an erect perennial that grows 2-5 feet in average, well-drained soil. The winged stem supports yellow fan-shaped, sterile ray flowers that end in three rounded points. The fertile disk flowers are green when closed, turning yellow as they open to hungry pollinators such as bees, wasps, butterflies and flies. The common name 'sneezeweed' refers to the historic use of pulverized disk flowers and leaves taken up the nose as snuff. This would cause sneezing intended to rid the body of evil spirits. Look closely at sneezeweed flowers. You'll notice they open in a concentric circle from the outside, inward. No concern about it making you sneeze though. Sneezeweed pollen is only for insects!



Aromatic Aster *Symphyotrichum oblongifolium*. One of the last asters to bloom, aromatic aster can often be enjoyed through October. The oblong leaves on stiff branched stems grow in open habitat. Electric, blue-purple ray flowers surround bright yellow disk flowers that turn dark orange after pollination. Attractive to many late summer butterflies as well as bees, flies, beetles and others, this aster is an important native plant for our pollinators. Find aromatic aster in the Visitor Center garden, meadows and Founders' Pond.



Boneset *Eupatorium perfoliatum*. Small fluffy white disk flowers bloom in a terminal mound above leaves that are pierced by the stem. The bases of the opposite leaves surround the hairy stem which gives it its species name, *perfoliatum*, which means 'through the leaf'. Widely used as a folk medicine for treatment of flu, fever and colds, the genus name is in honor of Mithridates VI Eupator, 132-63 BC, King of Pontus who reportedly discovered the medicinal properties of many *Eupatorium* species. Find boneset in the Visitor Center garden, Founders' Pond and the meadows.



Bottle Gentian *Gentiana andrewsii*. This slow-growing, but long-lived perennial grows in moist shady areas of the Preserve. The bright blue tubular flowers remain closed, inviting only bumblebees to visit since they are the only insect strong enough to pry open the corolla. The leaves and the stems of gentian are bitter and therefore not attractive to herbivores, but deer may nip at the young tips before the plant flowers. This may cause the central stem to branch. Find closed bottle gentian at Founders' Pond and in the meadows.



White Wood Aster *Eurybia divaricata*. The white wood aster blooms in the shade offering bright white ray flowers surrounding yellow disk flowers. The disk flowers turn dark orange to rusty red after pollination as a signal to visiting bees to move on to fresher flowers. Notice the broad leaves of this woodland plant. Large leaves increase the chance of capturing what little light reaches the forest floor. You can find white wood aster throughout the wooded trails.



Wingstem, *Verbesina alternifolia*, is a tall full sun to partial shade perennial. Its namesake refers to the extra membranous tissue along many of the stems that hold a cluster of bright yellow flowers. The ray flowers droop down offering clear access to the fertile disk flowers in the center. Wingstem is visited by many long-tongued bees, butterflies and moths. It is also a host plant of the silvery checkerspot butterfly and several moth species. Find wingstem in the Visitor Center garden and along President's Drive.

Photos by Mary Anne Borge

Your Support Matters Become a Member

Members enjoy many benefits including **12 months of free admission**, program discounts, Members Only events, our Twinleaf newsletter, and discounts on native plants and shop merchandise.

As a non-profit organization, we depend upon and appreciate all of your support.

See bhwp.org/join for more information



Guided Naturalist Walks

Join our Naturalists for an informative tour featuring the season's beautiful highlights. Explore the trails and share the stories about our native plants.

Fri - Sat - Sun
11 am & 2 pm

Limited Reservations
at the Twinleaf Gift Shop
Fee required for Non-members



Nutty for Seeds, Nuts and Berries!

Saturday, September 26, 2026
10:00 to 2:00

Fondly crafted games, crafts, music
and more for children 2-10 yrs

Online tickets available now!



Twinleaf
BOOK & GIFT SHOP
Hours: 9 am - 5 pm

