Plants in Winter

Long after their flowers are gone, many plants can still be recognized in the winter.

**Brown-eyed susan**
*Rudbeckia triloba*

Flowers summer into fall.
Height: 2-5 feet

1 to 1 1/2 inch wide flowers have yellow petals with a dark brown center.

**White snakeroot**
*Ageratina altissima*

Flowers late summer into fall.
Height: 1-4 feet

Branching clusters of ‘hairy’ white flowers.

**Joe-pye weed**
*Eutrochium maculatum*

Flowers late summer into fall.
Height: 3-5 feet

Tall plant topped with clusters of ‘hairy’ pink or purple flowers.

**Aster**
*Symphotrichum sp., etc.*

Flowers fall.
Height: 1-2/5 feet

Flowers may be white, purple, pink and vary in size.

**Witchhazel**
*Hamamelis virginiana*

Flowers fall.
Height: 15-20 feet

Flowering tree. Produces flowers with long, slender yellow petals after leaves fall.

**Milkweed**
*Asclepias sp.*

Height: 1-5 feet

Large, horn-shaped seed pods split open, spreading seeds with numerous fluffy filaments.

**Bee balm**
*Monarda sp.*

Height: 1-4 feet

Clusters of round seed heads with pointed tops remain through winter.

**Beardstongue**
*Penstemon sp.*

Height: 1-4 feet

Clusters of round seed heads with pointed tops remain through winter.

**Switchgrass**
*Panicum virgatum*

Height: 3-6 feet

Tall grass with seed heads that resemble clouds or fireworks.

*Contact Us*

Phone: 607-387-7041
Web: [https://parks.ny.gov/regions/finger-lakes/default.aspx](https://parks.ny.gov/regions/finger-lakes/default.aspx)

For the Taughannock Falls State Park Overlook and the surrounding Finger Lakes Region.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Name</th>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>Flowers</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Additional Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common blue violet</td>
<td>Viola sororia</td>
<td>Early spring.</td>
<td>1/2 foot or less</td>
<td>Flowers are 3/4 inch wide and may be light to dark purple.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada anemone</td>
<td>Anemone canadensis</td>
<td>Spring into early summer.</td>
<td>1-2 feet</td>
<td>Flowers are about 1 1/2 inches wide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butterfly weed</td>
<td>Asclepias tuberosa</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>1-3 feet</td>
<td>Clusters of upward-facing bright orange flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bee balm</td>
<td>Monarda sp.</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>1-4 feet</td>
<td>Common species may be pink or red. Topped with clusters of pronged flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp milkweed</td>
<td>Asclepias incarnata</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>3-5 feet</td>
<td>Clusters of upward-facing bright pink flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio spiderwort</td>
<td>Tradescantia ohiensis</td>
<td>Early summer.</td>
<td>1-3 feet</td>
<td>Flat-topped clusters of tiny yellow flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden alexander</td>
<td>Zizea sp.</td>
<td>Early summer.</td>
<td>1-3 feet</td>
<td>1 inch wide purple flowers top clumps of narrow leaves.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain mint</td>
<td>Pycnanthemum sp.</td>
<td>Summer into fall.</td>
<td>2-3 feet</td>
<td>Light green leaves may be broad or narrow. Topped with tiny white flowers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrubby St. John’s wort</td>
<td>Hypericum prolificum</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>1-4 feet</td>
<td>1 inch wide yellow flowers have numerous hairy filaments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beardstongue</td>
<td>Penstemon sp.</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>1-4 feet</td>
<td>1 inch long tubular flowers on an upright stalk may be white or purple.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oxeye sunflower</td>
<td>Heliopsis helianthoides</td>
<td>Summer into fall.</td>
<td>3-6 feet</td>
<td>Flower petals and flower centers are yellow. Flowers are 2 or 3 inches across.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleabane</td>
<td>Erigeron sp.</td>
<td>Summer into fall.</td>
<td>1-3 feet</td>
<td>Numerous white or pale purple petals surround yellow centers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swamp rose mallow</td>
<td>Hibiscus moscheutos</td>
<td>Summer.</td>
<td>3-7 feet</td>
<td>Largest flower native to New York. Flowers may be 4-6 inches across.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flowering spurge</td>
<td>Euphorbia corollata</td>
<td>Spring into early fall.</td>
<td>1/2-3 feet</td>
<td>Numerous small white flowers may have a round green seed pod attached.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>