



*You belong among the wildflowers,
You belong somewhere close to me.
Far away from your trouble and worries
You belong somewhere you feel free.*

- Tom Petty, Wildflowers

Through spring and summer we enjoy an amazing variety of wildflowers in fields, forests, lakeshores, salt marshes, bogs, barrens, beaches and other habitats. Only a small number of Nova Scotians are aware that we have wildflowers and other plants in the province that grow nowhere else in Canada! Unfortunately, a good number of these plants and their habitats are at risk.

Collectively called “Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora” these plants include such “beauties” as Plymouth Gentian, Thread-leaved Sundew and Tubercled Spikerush. This excellent field guide makes it relatively easy for anybody interested in Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora to identify them. The guide is very attractive, rich in information and put together by people who are dedicated to the conservation of these species and that care very much about nature and the quality of life in southwest Nova Scotia. In particular, we hope private landowners use the guide in their efforts to get to know their property and to be good stewards of the species and habitats found on their lands.

With environmental problems like climate change, water pollution and overharvesting so widespread and threatening, it can be easy to lose sight of what we can accomplish as individuals, or local communities. When we “take care” of ACPF and other native plants we take care of the habitats that support many other animals and plants and processes that improve the quality of life for people. Healthy lakes, bogs and other wetland systems, occupied by healthy native plant communities contribute to the provision of clean water and air, flood regulation, persistence of beneficial native pollinating insects and many other benefits.

I hope you enjoy this identification guide and find it useful in your efforts to be a better environmental steward. Together we can play a significant role in the recovery and conservation of Atlantic Coastal Plain Flora and in sustaining the beneficial ecosystems we share with them.

Take care.



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TUBERCLED SPIKERUSH

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