SIZE: 10-15 cm tall.
LEAVES: Narrow, lance-shaped, and 2-3 times longer than wide. Leaves that arise in the summer are sometimes wider than those in the spring. They have mostly smooth surfaces, teeth around the edges and grow from the base (basal).
STEM: Smooth, and slender.
FLOWERS: White with 5 petals and at the top of a flower stalk that emerges from the base of the plant. The bottom three petals typically have purple veins.
FRUITS: Green capsules containing brown seeds, 5-8 mm long.
NOTES: This plant spreads with root-like structures that grow over the surface of the ground (stolons).

Habitat: Sandy or rocky low-lying ground near the edges of lakes, ponds and bogs.
Interesting point: This species also produces small self-pollinating flowers that do not open and appear later in the season on short flower stalks.
Similar species: Lance-leaved Violet frequently hybridizes with Northern White Violet (Viola macloskeyi) to form Primrose-leaved Violet (Viola x primulifolia). It grows in similar lakeshore habitats but has leaves intermediate between lance shaped and the typical heart-shaped violet leaves of Northern White Violet.