



Wildflowers of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge

This list contains over 167 wildflower species found on Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. Ringed by tidal marshes and broken by long, narrow sloughs, this 59,000-acre refuge sprawls mostly across the Blackjack peninsula, where grasslands, live oaks, and redbay thickets cover deep, sandy soils. Storms and waters of the Gulf of Mexico constantly shape this vital refuge. Whooping cranes join throngs of other migratory birds that settle on tidal marshes stretching before them like huge banquet tables. Strong winds push the bay waters over low-lying shores, forming fertile, brackish tidal marshes among short, salt-tolerant plants. Mild winters, bay waters, and abundant food provide a winning combination for water-loving birds.

How to use this checklist

Abundance

- C Common: suitable habitat is widespread
- U Uncommon: present, but in moderate numbers
- O Occasional: may be present in small numbers
- R Rare: present, difficult to find

Habitat

- Bt Big Tree Trail
- Bw Boardwalk
- Dp Dagger Point Trail
- En Entrance (FM 2040)
- Hf Heron Flats Trail
- Hl Hog Lake
- Hq Headquarters
- Jl Jones Lake
- Ot Observation Tower
- Pa Picnic Area
- Rt Rail Trail
- Tl Tour Loop
- Tr Tower Road
- Yt Youth Environmental Training Area

Note

Please do not pick wildflowers. If you should find an unlisted or "rare" species, or a species not listed for a particular habitat, contact the refuge staff and provide a description. We welcome any additions visitors may provide to enhance the accuracy of this checklist.

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt	Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Blue Flowers						Vetch	U				Hf Hq
Baby blue eyes	U				Hf Hq	<i>Vicia leavenworthii</i>					Hf Hq
<i>Nemophila phacelioides</i>						Violet ruellia		U	O		Tr
Blue curls	U				Hf	<i>Ruellia nudiflora</i>		C	U	O	Tl
<i>Phacelia congesta</i>						Wild petunia					
Carolina larkspur	O				Pa	<i>Ruellia yucatanana</i>					
<i>Delphinium carolinianum</i>						Wine cup		U			Hq
Dayflower	C	C	C	O	Tr	<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>					
<i>Commelina erecta</i>						Lavender Flowers					
Dotted blue-eyed grass	U				Hf Tl Tr	Annual sundew		O			Tl Tr
<i>Sisyrinchium langosii</i>						<i>Drosera annua</i>					
Downy lobelia	O	O			Hf Hq Tr	Coast mistflower		C	C	U	Hf Tr
<i>Lobelia puberula</i>						<i>Conoclinium coelestinum</i>					
Sandyland bluebonnet	R				Hf Tr	Drummond phlox		C	U		Hf Tr
<i>Lupinus subcarnosus</i>						<i>Phlox drummondii</i>					
Texas bluebonnet	R				Hf	Drummond skullcap		C			Hf Rt Tr
<i>Lupinus texensis</i>						<i>Scutellaria drummondii</i>					
Purple Flowers						Eggleaf skullcap		U			Hf
Basket flower	U	U			Tr	<i>Scutellaria ovata</i>					
<i>Centaurea americana</i>						Fragrant boneset		O	O	O	Ot
Bluebell	O	O			Hf	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>		C	C	C	Tl Tr
<i>Eustoma russellianum</i>						Texas vervain					
Meadow aster	U	U			Tr	<i>Verbena halei</i>					
<i>Symphotrichum pratensis</i>						Toadflax		U			Hf Pa
Bull thistle	U	U			Pa Tr	<i>Nuttallanthus texanus</i>					
<i>Cirsium horridulum</i>						Sandbell		U	U	O	Hf
Butterfly pea	C	C	U		Hf Tr	<i>Nama hispidum</i>					
<i>Centrosema virginianum</i>						Sea lavender		U	U	U	Bw Hf
California loosestrife	O	C	U		Tl	<i>Limonium carolinianum</i>					
<i>Lythrum californicum</i>						White Flowers					
Florida bluehearts	O	O	O		Tl	Arrowleaf		O	O		Tr
<i>Buchnera americana</i>						<i>Sagittaria longiloba</i>					
Hairy-flowered spiderwort	U	O			Hq Tr	Buckwheat			C	O	Tr
<i>Tradescantia hirsutiflora</i>						<i>Eriogonum multiflorum</i>					
Herbertia	U				Hf	Bullnettle		U	U		En Pa Tl
<i>Herbertia lahue</i>						<i>Cnidioscolus texanus</i>					
Lance-leaf loosestrife	U	U			Tr	Burhead			U	U	Hl Jl Tl
<i>Lythrum alatum</i>						<i>Echinodorus beteroi</i>					
Narrowleaf dyschoriste		R	R		Hf	Buttonbush		U	U		Hl Jl Tr
<i>Dyschoriste linearis</i>						<i>Cephalanthus occidentalis</i>					
Passionflower	O	O			Hf Hl	Catchfly		R			Hf
<i>Passiflora incarnata</i>						<i>Silene antirrhina</i>					
Prairie bluet	C	C	U		Hf	Chickweed		U			Hf
<i>Hedyotis nigricans</i>						<i>Stellaria media</i>					
Prairie spiderwort	U	O			Hq Tr	Climbing hempweed			O	O	Tr
<i>Tradescantia occidentalis</i>						<i>Mikania scandens</i>					
Purple phacelia	U				Hf Hq	Coast germander		U	U	U	Hf
<i>Phacelia patuliflora</i>						<i>Teucrium cubense</i>					
Purple pleatleaf	O	O			Tl Tr	Delta arrowleaf		U	U	U	Jl
<i>Alophia drummondii</i>						<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>					
Saltmarsh morning glory	O	O			Tr	Southern dewberry		C			Hf
<i>Ipomoea sagittata</i>						<i>Rubus trivialis</i>					
Shaggy portulaca	O	O			Hq	Dodder			U	U	Hf
<i>Portulaca pilosa</i>						<i>Cuscuta indecora</i>					
Sharp gayfeather			U		Dp Tr	Drummond rain lily		U	O		Tr
<i>Liatris acidota</i>						<i>Cooperia drummondii</i>					
Silver-leaf nightshade		O			Hq	False-garlic		C	U	U	Hf Tr Tl Hq
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>						<i>Nothoscordum bivalve</i>					
Snapdragon vine	U	U	U		Hf	Fleabane daisy		C	U		Hf Tr
<i>Maurandya antirrhiniflora</i>						<i>Erigeron procumbens</i>					
Stemless spiderwort	U				Hf Hq Tr	Frostweed			U		Hf Hq Tr
<i>Tradescantia subcaulis</i>						<i>Verbesina virginica</i>					
Texas thistle	U	U			Tr	Green milkweed		O	C	U	Hq Pa Tl Tr
<i>Cirsium texanum</i>						<i>Asclepias viridis</i>					
Tie vine	U	U			Hf	Green lily		U	U		Hf
<i>Ipomea cordatotriloba</i>						<i>Schoenocaulon drummondii</i>					
Venus' looking-glass	U				Hf	Heart-leaf euphorbia		C	C	U	Hf Yt
<i>Triodanis perfoliata</i>						<i>Euphorbia cordifolia</i>					

Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt	Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt	Species	Sp	S	F	W	Hbt
Heath aster				C	Tr	Pink Flowers						Mexican hat	U	C	U		Hf Tr
<i>Symphiotrichum ericoides</i>						American germander	U	U	U		Tr Hq	<i>Ratibida columnifera</i>					Hf Tl
Hedge bindweed			O		Hf	<i>Teucrium canadense</i>						Partridge pea		C	U	U	Hf Tl
<i>Calystegia sepium</i>						Curltop smartweed	O	O	O		Hf	<i>Chamaecrista fasciculata</i>					Hf
Hoary pea	U	U			Tr Tl	<i>Polygonum lapathifolium</i>						Plains coreopsis	C	U			Hf
<i>Tephrosia onobrychoides</i>						Drummond wild onion	U				Hf Tr	<i>Coreopsis tinctoria</i>					
Late-flowering boneset	U	U			Hf	<i>Allium drummondii</i>						Prairie goldenrod			U		Tl Tr
<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>						Grass pink	U				Hf	<i>Euthamia gymmospermoides</i>					
Lazy daisy	C	C			Hf Hq Tr	<i>Centaureum calycosum</i>						Prickly sowthistle	U	U	U	U	Hf
<i>Aphanostephus skirrhobasis</i>						Marsh fleabane	O	U	U	U	Hf Jl	<i>Sonchus asper</i>					Pa
Old man's beard	O	O			Hf	<i>Pluchea purpurascens</i>						Puccoon	O				Pa
<i>Clematis drummondii</i>						Meadow pink	U				Hf	<i>Lithospermum incisum</i>					Tl
Peppergrass	U				Hf Hq	<i>Sabatia campestris</i>						Queen's delight	O				Tl
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i>						Pink evening primrose	U				Hf Tr	<i>Stillingia sylvatica</i>					
Philadelphia daisy	U				Tr	<i>Oenothera speciosa</i>						Rattlebush	O	U			Hl Jl Tr
<i>Erigeron philadelphicus</i>						Pink mint	O				Hf	<i>Sesbania drummondii</i>					Tr
Pokeweed	R				Hq	<i>Stachys drummondii</i>						Rosinwood	O	U			Tr
<i>Phytolacca americana</i>						Powderpuff	U	U			Hf Tr	<i>Silphium gracile</i>					
Rattlesnake master	U				Tl	<i>Mimosa strigillosa</i>						Savannah milkweed	U	U	O		Tr
<i>Eryngium yuccifolium</i>						Rose palfoxia			U	O	Tr	<i>Asclepias oenotheroides</i>					Hf Tl Tr
Rattlesnake weed	U				Hf Jl Tl	<i>Palafoxia rosea</i>			U	U	Hf	Scratch daisy			U		Hf Tl Tr
<i>Daucus pusillus</i>						Rougeberry	U	U	U		Hf	<i>Croptilon divaricatum</i>					
Saltmarsh aster		U	U		Tr Tl	<i>Rivina humilis</i>						Sea ox-eye	U	U	U	U	Bw Hf Ot
<i>Symphiotrichum subulatum</i>						Salt-marsh mallow	O	O			Hf Tr	<i>Borrchia frutescens</i>					Hf Tl
Seaside heliotrope	U	U	U		Bw	<i>Kosteletzkya virginica</i>						Seacoast goldenrod			U		Hf Tl
<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>						Spiderflower	O	O			Hq	<i>Solidago sempervirens</i>					Tr
Snake-cotton	O	O			Hf Tr	<i>Cleome gymandra</i>						Silkgrass	O	U			Tr
<i>Froelichia floridana</i>						Yellow Flowers						<i>Pityopsis graminifolia</i>					
Snow-on-the-prairie	U	U			Tr	Balsam gourd	O	O			Hf	Silver-leaf sunflower		C			En
<i>Euphorbia bicolor</i>						<i>Ibervillea lindheimeri</i>						<i>Helianthus agrophyllus</i>					
Spider lily	O				Pa Tl	Bitterweed	O	O			Tr	Soft camphorweed			U	U	Tr Tl
<i>Hymenocallis liriosme</i>						<i>Helenium amarum</i>						<i>Chrysopsis pilosa</i>					
Spiny aster	O	O			Hf Tr Tl Bw	Blackeye evening primrose	U	U			Hf Tr	Sour clover	O	U			Hq Pa
<i>Chloracantha spinosa</i>						<i>Calylophus berlandieri</i>						<i>Melilotus indicus</i>					Tr
Spring lady's tresses	O		O		Tl Hl	Bladderwort	O				Tr	Spotted horsemint	U	C	U		Tr
<i>Spiranthes vernalis</i>						<i>Utricularia gibba</i>						<i>Monarda punctata</i>					Hf Tr
Texas bindweed	O	O			Tr Hf	Black-eyed Susan	U	C			Tr	Stiffstem flax		U	U		Hf Tr
<i>Convolvulus equitans</i>						<i>Rudbeckia hirta</i>						<i>Linum berlandieri</i>					Tr
Bullnettle	U	U			En Pa Tl	Butterweed	U				Tl	Tall goldenrod			O		Tr
<i>Cnidoscolus texanus</i>						<i>Senecio tampicanus</i>						<i>Solidago canadensis</i>					Hf
Tomatillo	U	U	U		Hf	Camphor daisy	U	U	U	U	Bw	Texas prickly pear		U			Hf
<i>Solanum triquetrum</i>						<i>Machaeranthera phyllocephala</i>						<i>Opuntia engelmannii</i>					
Tooth frogfruit	U	C	C		Tl Tr	Camphorweed	U	U			Tr	Wild indigo		U			Tl
<i>Phyla nodiflora</i>						<i>Heterotheca subaxillaris</i>						<i>Baptisia bracteata</i>					Dp
Tropical mexican clover	U	U	U		Dp Jl	Coast sunflower			C		En	Yellow clammyweed	O	O			Dp
<i>Richardia brasiliensis</i>						<i>Helianthus debilis</i>						<i>Polanisia erosa</i>					Hf Hq
White gaura	U	U			Hf	Coffee senna	O	O			Hq	Yellow woodsorrel	U	U	U		Hf Hq
<i>Gaura lindheimeri</i>						<i>Senna occidentalis</i>						<i>Oxalis dillenii</i>					
White prickly poppy	U	C	U		Hq Tl	Common broomweed			C	U	Tr						
<i>Argemone albiflora</i>						<i>Amphiachyris dracunculoides</i>											
Wild onion	U				Hf	Fluttermill	U				Hf Tr						
<i>Allium canadense</i>						<i>Oenothera grandis</i>											
Wild tobacco	O	O			Tl	Common lantern	O	O			Hf Hq Tr						
<i>Nicotiana repanda</i>						<i>Lantana urticoides</i>											
Windflower	U				Hf Tr	Common sunflower					U U	Pa					
<i>Anemone berlandieri</i>						<i>Helianthus annuus</i>											
Red Flowers						Cowpen daisy	U	U	U	U	Hq						
Bracted sida	U	U	U		Hf Tr	<i>Verbesina encelioides</i>											
<i>Sida ciliaris</i>						Cut-leaf evening primrose	U	U			Hf Hq						
Cardinal feather	U	U	U	O	Hf Tr Pa	<i>Oenothera laciniata</i>						Hq Tl					
<i>Acalypha radians</i>						False dandelion	U										
Coral bean	O				Hf Tr	<i>Pyrrhopappus carolinianus</i>											
<i>Erythrina herbacea</i>						Fragrant goldenrod					U	Tl					
Indian blanket	U	C	C	U	Hq Hf Tr	<i>Solidago odora</i>											
<i>Gaillardia pulchella</i>						Goldenmane coreopsis	C	U			Hq Tl						
Indian paintbrush	U				Tr Hq	<i>Coreopsis basalis</i>											
<i>Castilleja indivisa</i>						Greenthread	U	U	U	U	Hf						
Roundleaf scurfpea	O				Hq	<i>Thelesperma filifolium</i>											
<i>Pediomelum rhombifolium</i>						Groundsel	O				Hf Bw						
Scarlet pea	O	U	U		Hf Pa Tr	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>											
<i>Indigofera miniata</i>						Hairy carpetweed	O				Hq						
Scarlet pimpernel	U				Hf Tr	<i>Kallstroemia hirsutissima</i>											
<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>						Least snout bean			C		Hf						
Trumpet-creeper	R				Hf	<i>Rhynchosia minima</i>											
<i>Campsis radicans</i>						Lemon paintbrush	R				Tr						
Turk's cap	O	U	U		Hf Tr Hq	<i>Castilleja purpurea</i>											
<i>Malva viscosa drummondii</i>						Medic	O				Hq						
Woolly globemallow	O	O			Hq	<i>Corydalis micrantha</i>											
<i>Sphaeralcea lindheimeri</i>																	

Source Information

Most of the information supplied in this checklist is from *An Annotated List of the Plants of the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge* by Dr. Wayne H. McAlister and *Vascular Plants of Texas* by Stanley D. Jones, Joseph K. Wipff and Paul M. Montgomery.

Suggested reference books

Wildflowers of Texas by Geyata Ajilvsgi, and, *Plants of the Texas Coastal Bend* by Roy L. Lehman, Ruth O'Brien and Tammy White.

For Additional Information

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