

A photograph of a calm lake with a dense forest in the background and aquatic plants in the foreground. The water is still, reflecting the sky and the surrounding trees. In the foreground, there are tall, thin reeds and some green shrubs. The background is a thick line of trees with varying shades of green and brown, suggesting a forest. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

Native Plants Belong at Your Shoreline!

Lower Hudson Lakes 6/5/26







Your lawn is an impervious surface.



What is non-point source pollution?

Rain that runs off impervious surfaces, flushing quickly downhill, picking up debris and pollutants.



Heavy rains
can cause
erosion,
flooding,
and
non-point source
pollution.



Native plants are the
best solution to
these problems.

They are naturally adapted
to periods
of spring inundation
as well as
typical periods of
summer drought.



Blue vervain
(*Verbena
hastata*) and
Cardinal flower
(*Lobelia
cardinalis*) turn
this lowly swale
into a flowering
bioswale.







We can cleanse water,
slow runoff
and provide habitat.



wood frog egg masses float

newt



wood frog tadpo





salamander egg mass





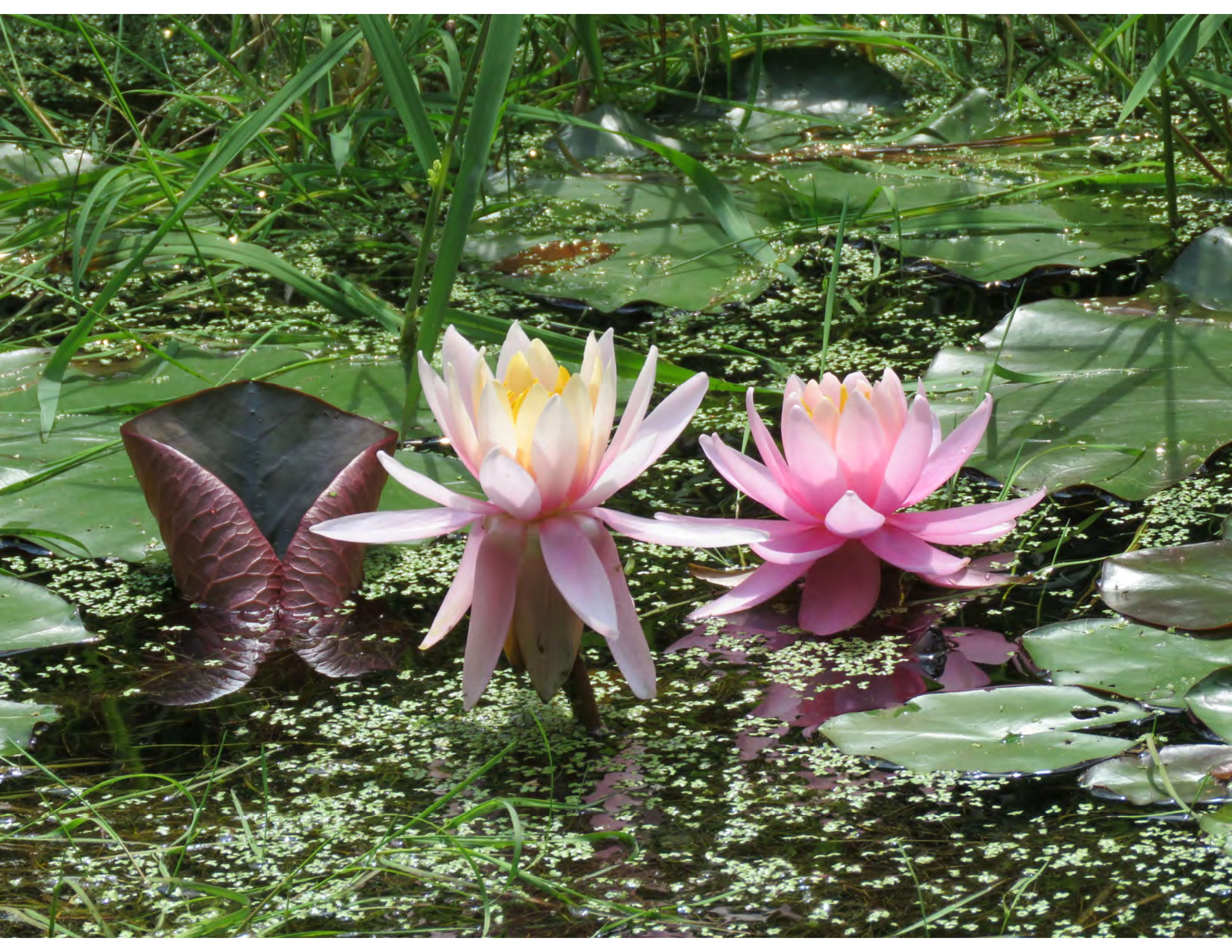
spotted
salamander



baby toads are terrestrial, but adults lay
eggs in or near water



spring peeper



A photograph of a pond scene. In the foreground, a large, vibrant green lily pad floats on the water. A brown frog with dark spots is perched on the edge of this lily pad, partially submerged. Another smaller lily pad is visible above it, and a dark, blurry object, possibly a branch or another lily pad, is in the background. The water is dark and reflects the surrounding greenery. The text "basking habitat" is written in a white, monospaced font in the upper right corner.

basking habitat

baby painted turtle



painted turtle basking on log -
important habitat



Baby turtles must find their way
from upland nests to safe haven in
ponds and lakes.





I need safe passage to the sandy pit where
I lay my eggs.

Does your lake provide a home for



meadowhawks



bluets



Native plants evolved over millennia in the
same habitat in which they are currently found
and form the basis of the local food web.



Cornus canadensis. bunchberry



native leaves are solar collectors that
transform the sun's energy to food for insects
those insects provide the basic nutrients
that support life as we know it

6,000-9,000 caterpillars
needed
to fledge one family
of chickadees

house wren
with baby food





Native plants are
essential for the
continued survival of
native insects,
pollinators and the
birds and other wildlife
that depend on them.



emergent vegetation

A photograph of a pond surrounded by lush greenery. In the foreground, several large, round, green lily pads float on the water. A single white water lily flower is in bloom, its petals slightly open. The pond is bordered by tall grasses, reeds, and other aquatic plants. In the background, there are more trees and foliage, creating a dense, natural setting. The text "water lilies require a minimum of" is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

water lilies require a minimum of

yellow pond lily, *Nuphar variegata*





water arum, *Calla palustris*

broadleaf arrowhead, *Sagittaria latifolia*







lizard's tail, *Saururus cernuus*



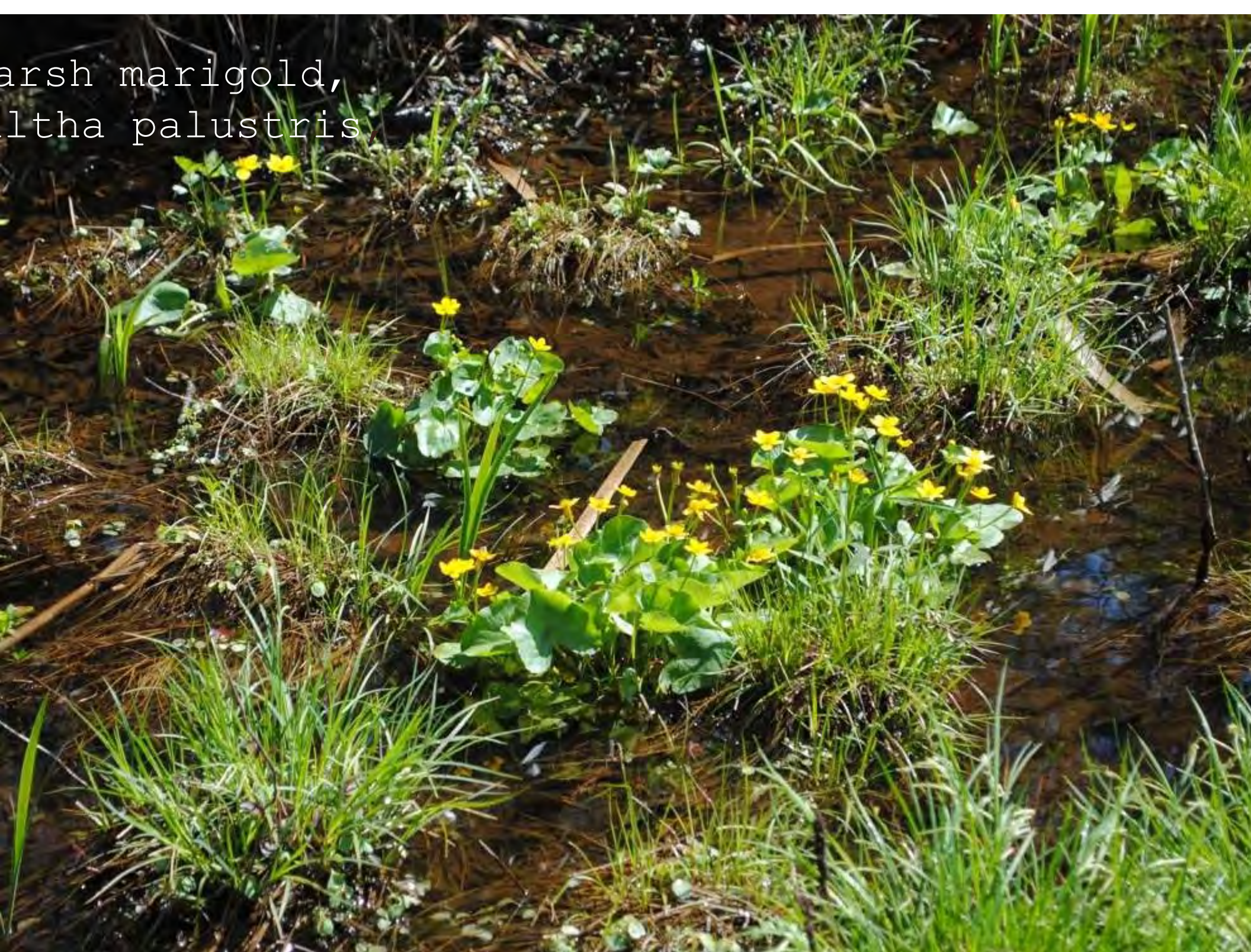
plus it's fragrant!





marsh violets

marsh marigold,
altha palustris



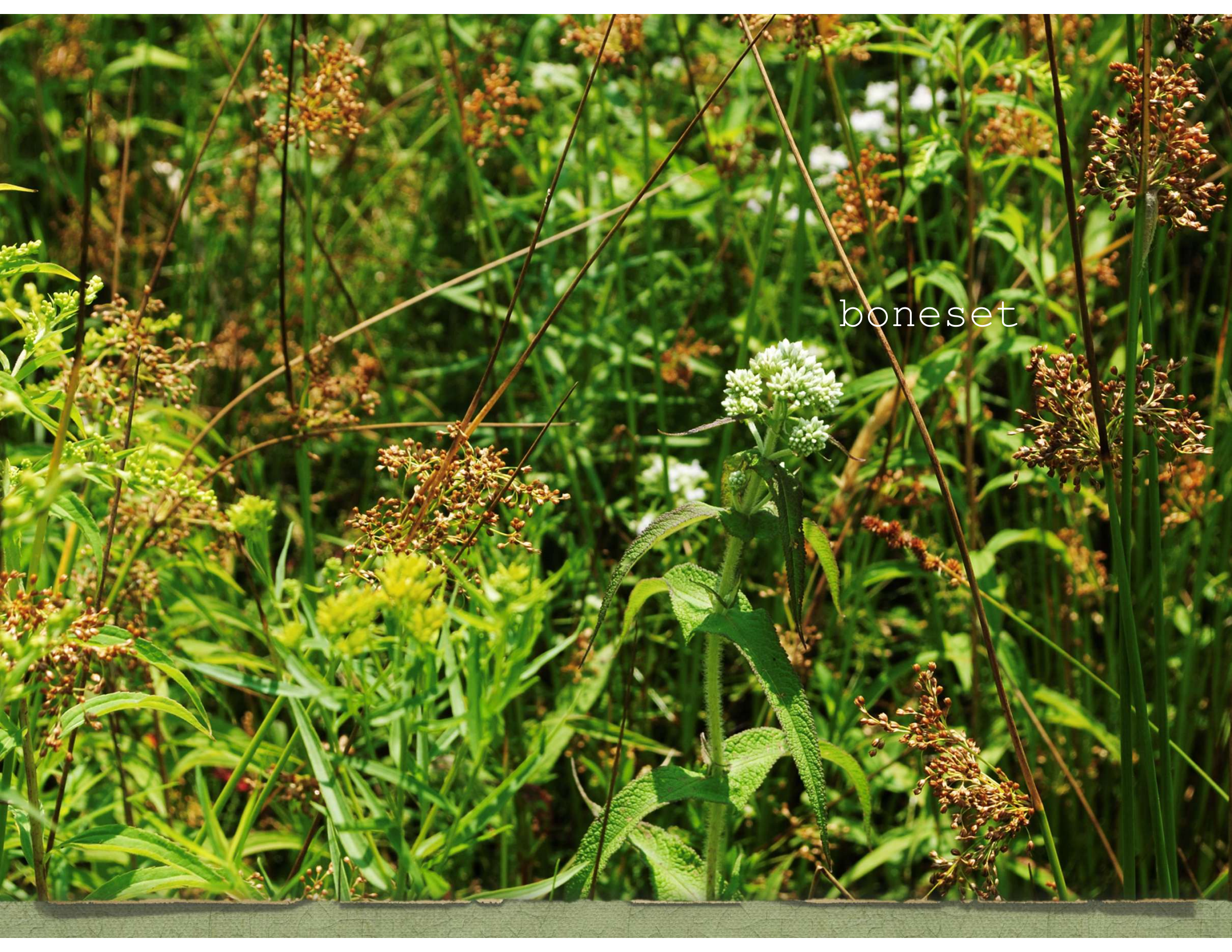


Juncus effusus,
soft rush







A photograph of a garden scene. In the center, a plant with serrated green leaves and a terminal cluster of small white flowers stands out. It is surrounded by other plants, including several with tall, thin stems and clusters of small, brownish-orange flowers. The background is a dense thicket of green foliage. The word "boneset" is written in white text on the right side of the image.

boneset



woolgrass,
Scirpus cyperinus

nal flower, *Lobelia cardinalis*

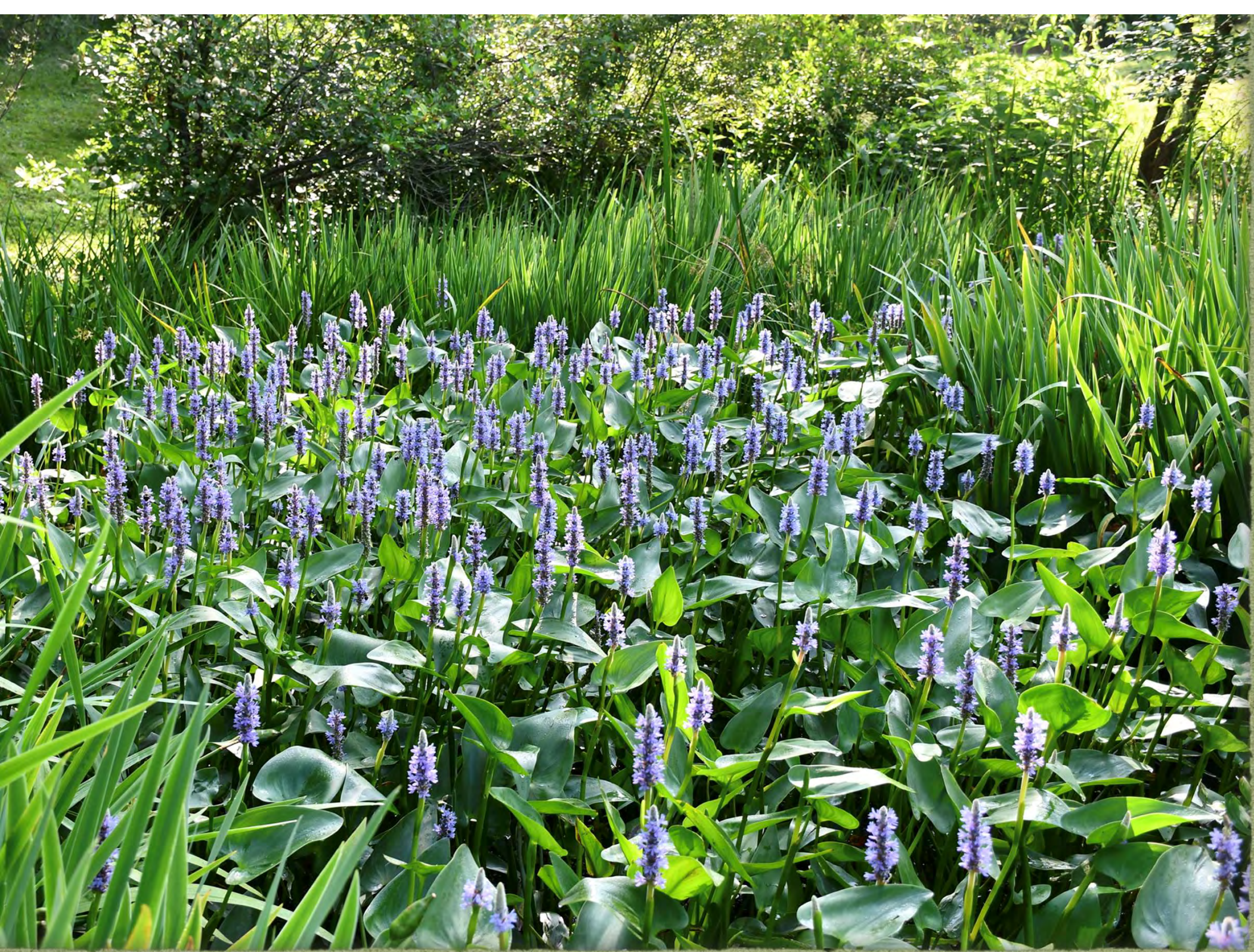




cardinal flower
brings hummingbirds

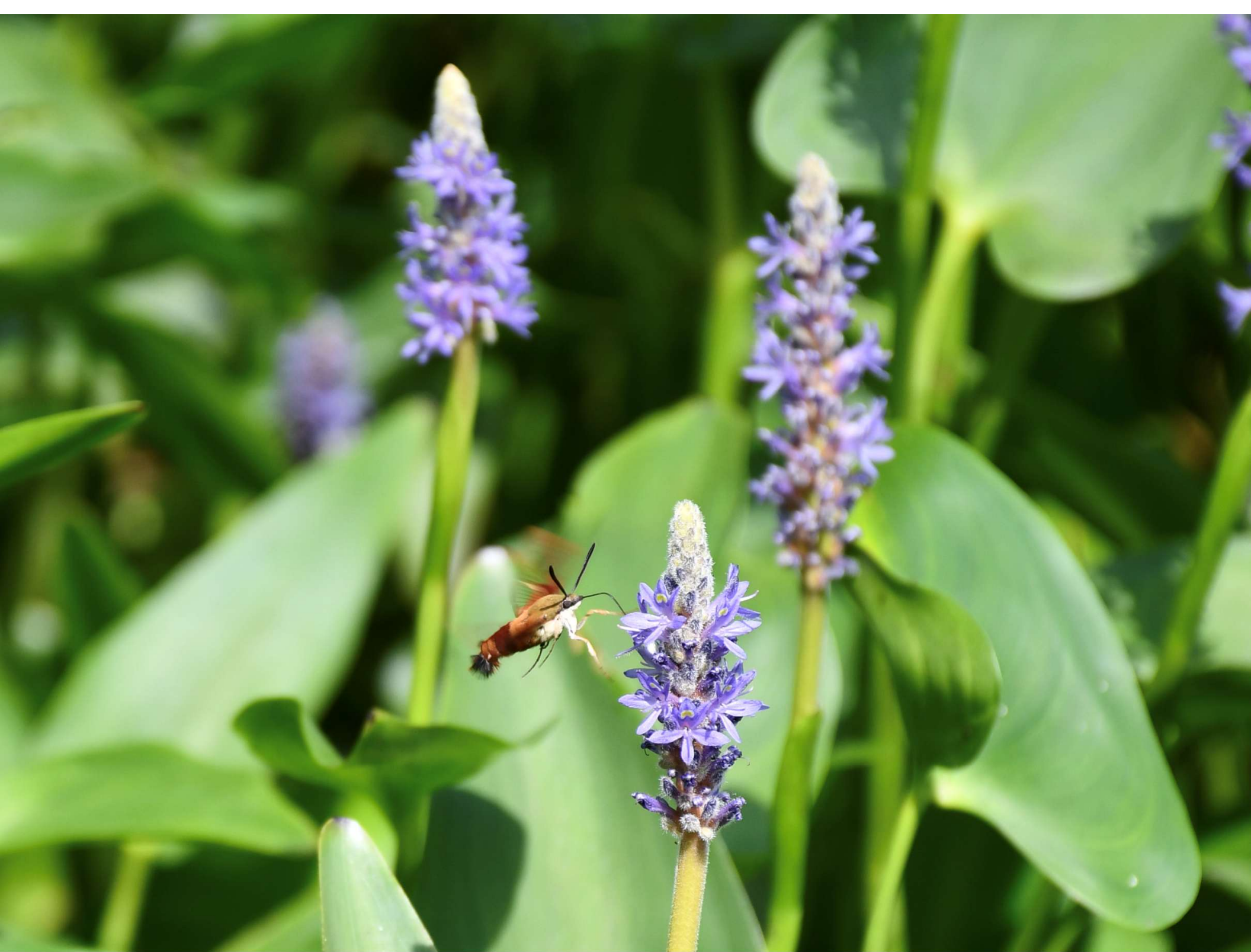
pickerelweed, *Pontederia cordata*







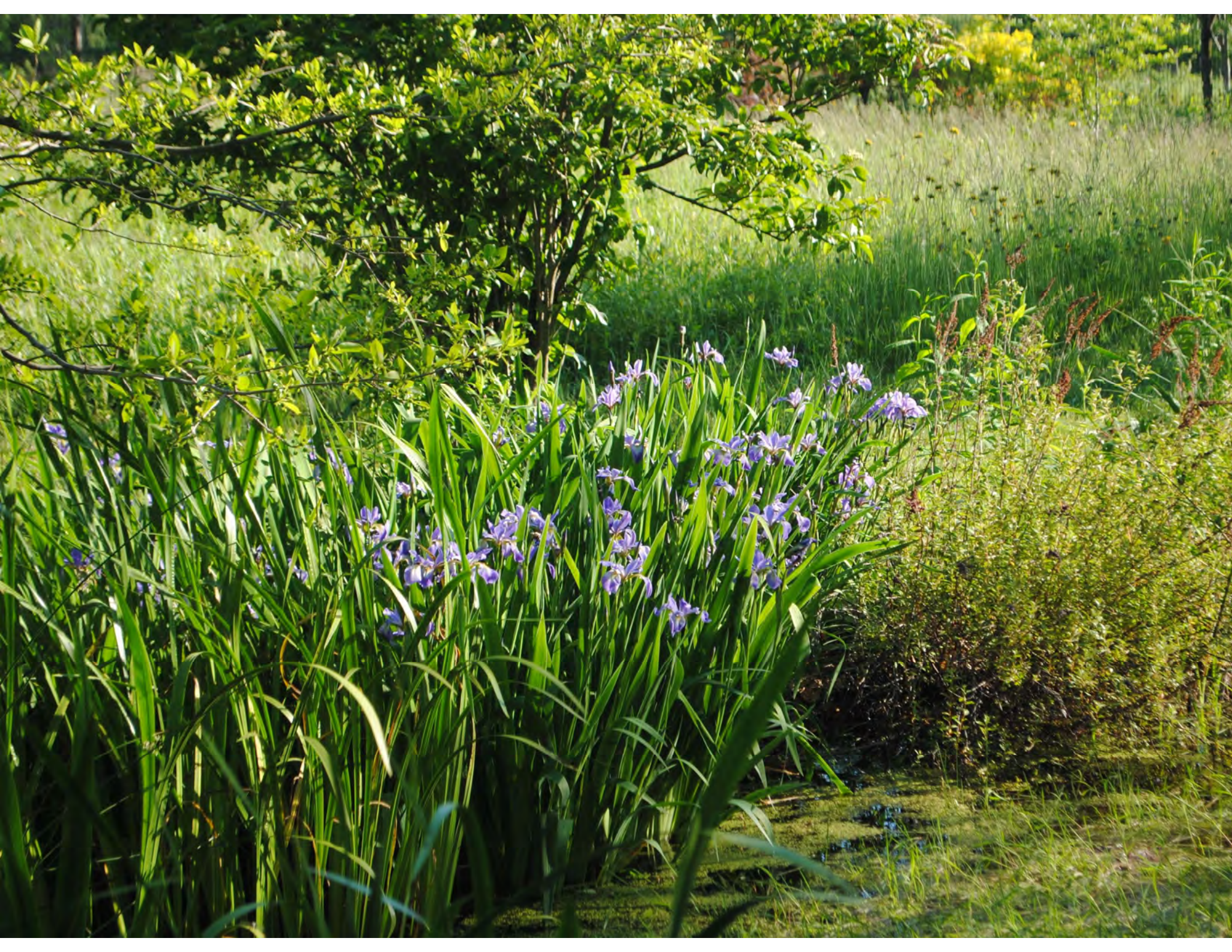






Iris versicolor, blue flag iris





Mint Fresh





John Wood



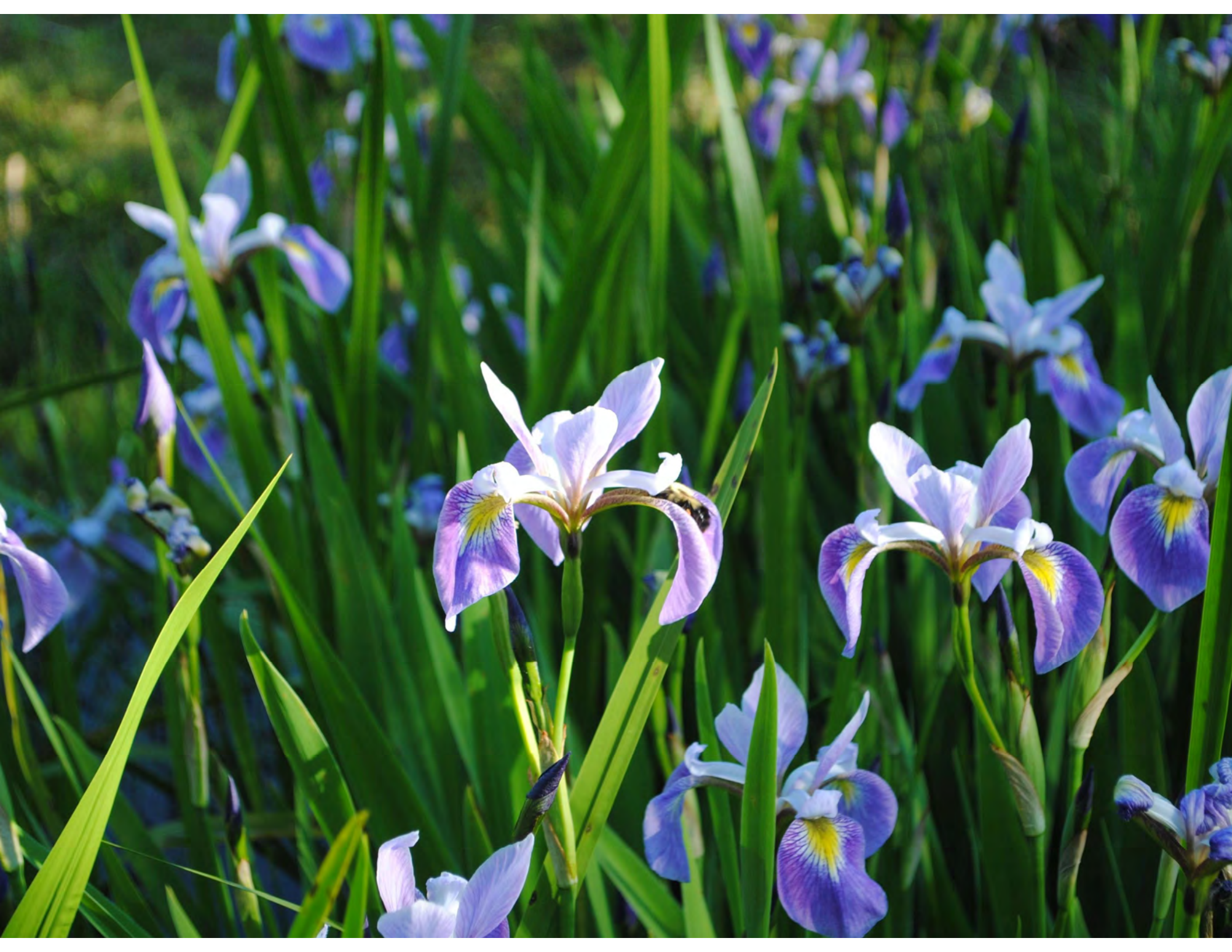
Light Verse

Between the Lines





Party Line





Iris prismatica 'Exeter'



copper iris, *Iris fulva*

Bidens cernua, beggar's tick





swamp rose mallow, *Hibiscus moscheutos*



Hibiscus moscheutos,
marsh mallow







wild rhododendrons





Rhododendron maximum

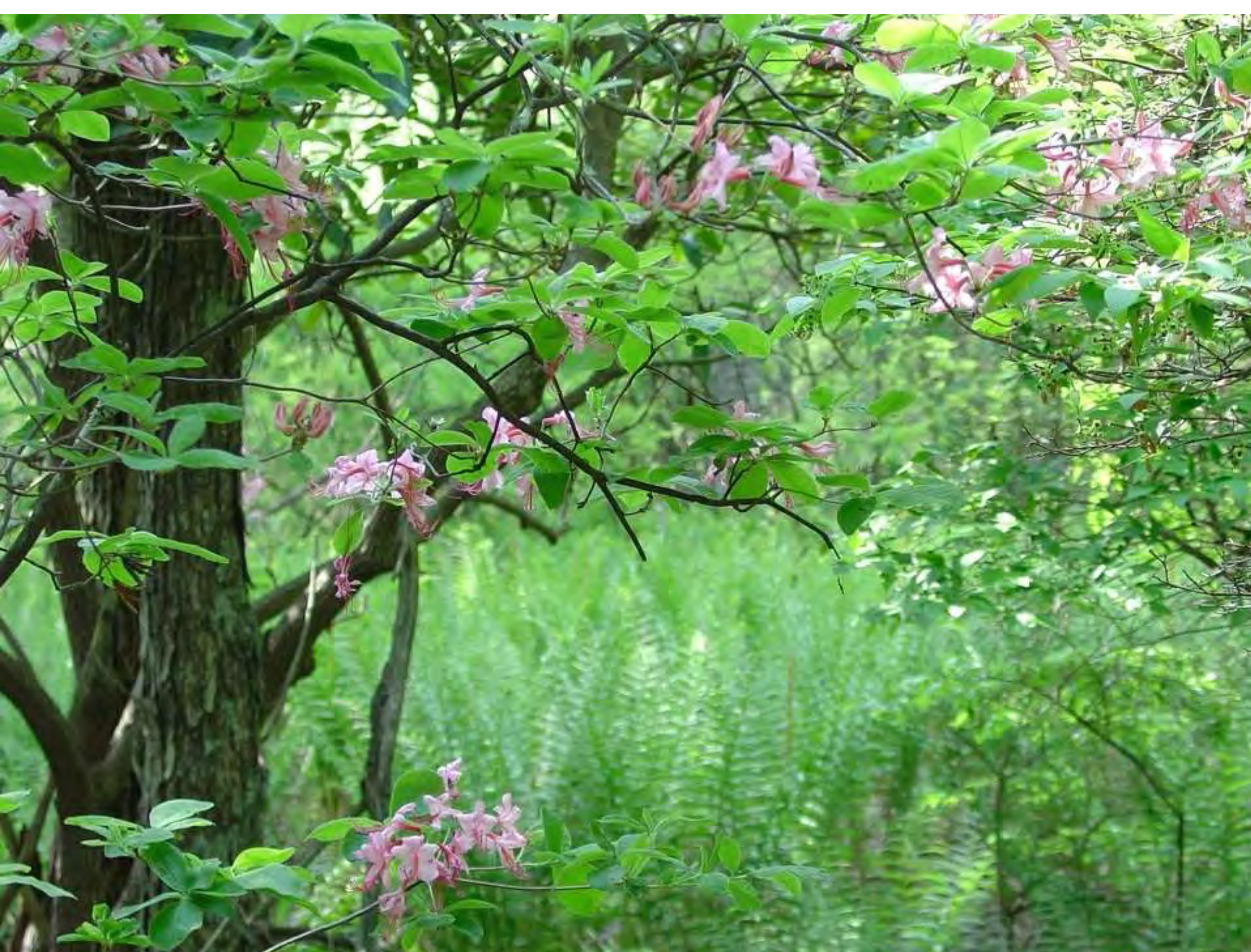


pickerelweed, *Pontederia cordata*
with swamp azalea





A Wild One:
early azalea,
Rhododendron
prinophyllum



swamp honeysuckle,
Rhododendron viscosum





swamp azaleas

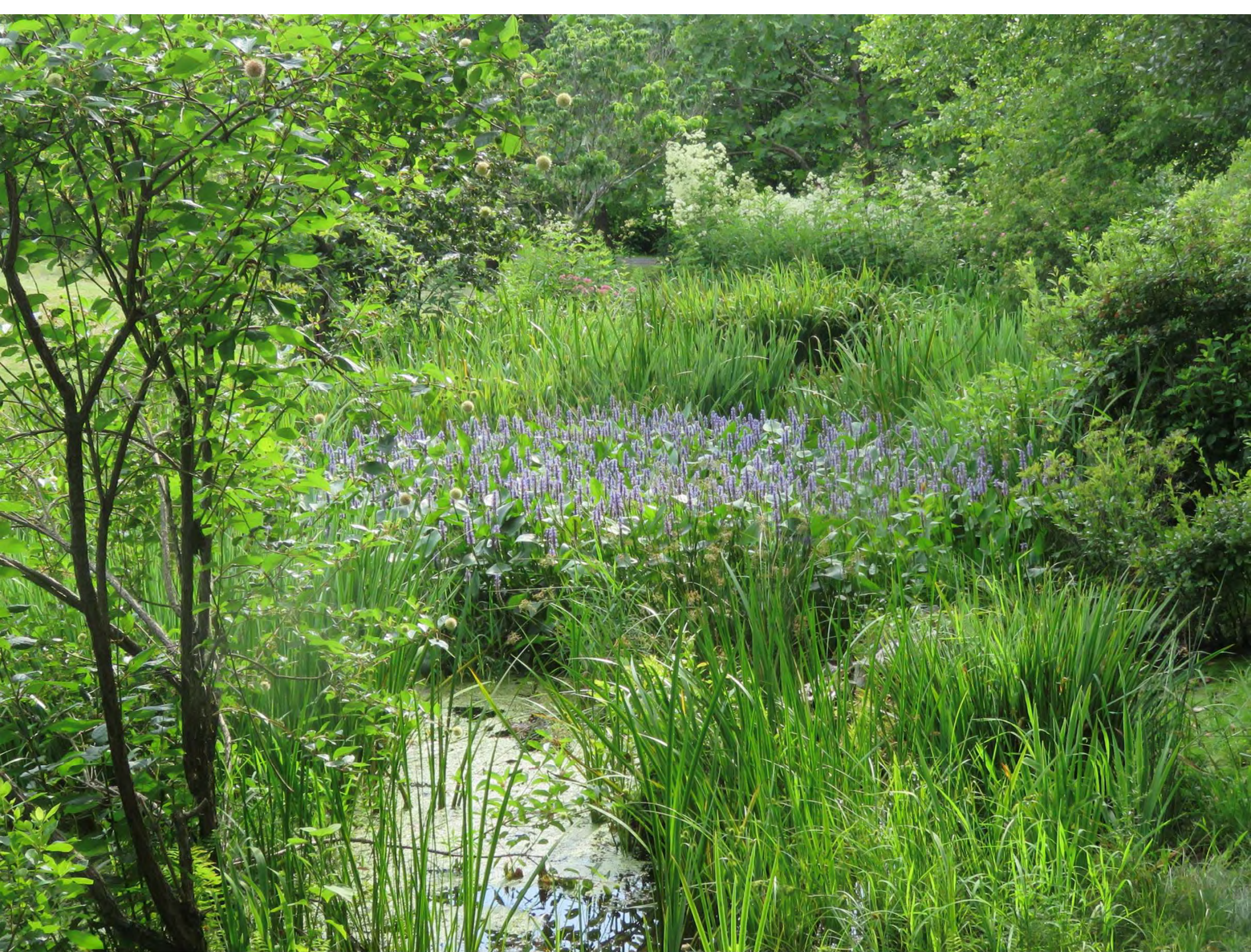




Betty Cummins

rhodora, Rhododendron canadense odendron







swamp rose and wild raisin



Rosa palustris, swamp rose



Clethra
alnifolia, sweet
pepperbush





sweet pepperbush (pink)





steeplebush, *Spiraea tomentosa*



steeples with
swamp milkweed

Eupatorium spp.,
Joe-Pye



NY ironweed, *Vernonia noveboracensis*





purple angelica
Angelica purpurascens

A photograph of a forest clearing. In the foreground, there are several tall plants. On the left, a purple angelica plant with large, flat-topped clusters of small purple flowers. To its right, an ironweed plant with a dense, elongated cluster of small purple flowers. Further right, there are yellow wildflowers, possibly black-eyed susans, with bright yellow centers and petals. The background is filled with lush green foliage and trees, creating a dense forest setting. The ground is covered with tall grass and other low-lying plants.

ironweed

purple angelica



swamp milkweed,
Asclepias
incarnata
with tall
meadow rue,
Thalictrum dioicum





tall meadow rue,
Thalictrum pubescens



Canadian owlet

















Ilex verticillata
winterberry



buttonbush,
Cephalanthus
occidentalis

fall color







mist flower, Joe pye and grasses





obedient plant



obedient pla

hummingbird on turtlehead



blue vervain, *Verbena hastata*





Penstemon digitalis



Packera aurea, golden groundsel





Canada lily, *Lilium canadense*





Lilium superbum, Turk's cap lily



cinnamon ferns, *Osmunda cinnamomea*



Quercus bicolor



swamp white oak

exfoliating bark



Salix (willows) support
species of Lepidoptera

Peachleaf willow,
Salix amygdaloides





black willows have
typical willow-shaped



A tall, slender river birch tree stands prominently in the center of a lush green field. The tree's bark is light-colored and peeling, and its branches are covered in vibrant green leaves. In the background, a dense forest of various trees is visible under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. To the right, some bare tree branches reach into the frame. In the distance, a small wooden structure with an arched roof is nestled among the trees.

river birch
Betula nigra

native birches support 410 species



Tilia americana,
basswood,
supports 160
species of
Lepidoptera

butterflies also love basswood

red-spotted purple





2 years later



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