

✓	COMMON NAME
	Barren Strawberry
	Birdsfoot Trefoil
	Black-eyed Susan
	Coltsfoot
	Common Mullein
	Common Perennial Sow Thistle
	Common St. Johnswort
	Common Tansy
	Evening Primrose
	Fall Dandelion
	Mouse-ear Hawkweed
	Pearly Everlasting
	Sulphur Cinquefoil
	Yellow Hawkweed
	Yellow Goatsbeard

Native vs. Alien:

Many wildflowers that occur along roadsides, vacant lots, railroad sidings, or other disturbed areas were introduced to North America by the European settlers. Note how many of these yellow wildflowers are alien.

More Information:

Look for other brochures prepared by Ontario Wildflower or check the web site:
www.ontariowildflower.com

Coltsfoot

Tussilago farfara - Alien

Coltsfoot got its name because the leaf resembles a colt's foot.

This is one of the very few plants that produces flowers before its leaves appear. The flower opens in sunny weather and closes on overcast days and at night. (April - June).



Yellow Goatsbeard

Tragopogon dubius - Alien

Yellow Goatsbeard, a member of the Sunflower Family, opens in morning, but usually closes by noon or on a cloudy day. The flower head follows the Sun. When the seeds have formed, the floral head becomes a large "blowball", formed of silky "sails" that carry the seeds away. (June - August).



Mouse-ear Hawkweed

Hieracium pilosella - Alien

The Mouse-ear Hawkweed tolerates nutrient-poor soil and is drought tolerant. Once established, the plant excludes other plants by forming a



dense mat. Mouse-ear Hawkweed may also release a chemical that discourages other plants from growing nearby. (June - September).

Yellow Hawkweed

Hieracium pratense - Alien

Some thought the Yellow Hawkweed improved eyesight of hawks. People visited hawkweed to drink its juice to strengthen their eyesight.



Because the plant is hard to remove once established, farmers called it Devil's Paintbrush or Devil's Weed. (June - July)

Common Mullein

Verbascum thapsus - Alien

Mullein is distinctive because it occurs as tall stalks, up to 2 metres tall. The Roman soldiers dipped the tall dried stems into fat, set them aflame, and use them as torches. American Indians and early settlers lined their shoes with Mullein leaves to insulate against cold. (Mid-summer - fall).



Common Roadside Yellow Wildflowers

Killarney and Sudbury Area



Yellow Hawkweed

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Pearly Everlasting

Anaphalis margaritacea - Native

Pearly Everlasting is distinctive with its central, yellow disk flowers surrounded by dry, showy, white, woolly, petal-like bracts that resemble



florets. The flower has an ornamental because it dries well and retains its fresh-looking form. Some American cultures stuffed pillows and mattresses with the flowers. (July - September).

Evening Primrose

Oenothera biennis - Native

Evening Primrose is a plant that likes the night life. The flowers

open in the evening (hence the name) and close by the following noon. It is pollinated by moths that are



active only at night. It has a deep taproot that enables the plant to survive periods of drought. Oils extracted from the flowers are used in skin lotions. (June - September).

Common St. Johnswort

Hypericum perforatum - Alien

St. Johnswort is named in honour of Saint John the Baptist. When crushed, a red pigment stains the flower petals and your fingers. The plant appears to



bleed. This is said to be the blood of Saint John. According to another legend, the dots on the leaves are spots where the devil pricked the plant with a needle. The plant resisted and from then on, the devil feared this plant. People believed that this plant would protect them from the devil. (June - September).

Barren Strawberry

Waldsteinia fragarioides - Native

Barren Strawberry does not

produce any fruit; hence, its name. It often grows close to the fruit-bearing Common

Wild

Strawberry.

The Barren Strawberry is

an excellent ground cover for those difficult areas around your home. It is a plant that tolerates drought, so it is a valuable addition to a xeriscape garden.

(April - May).



Common Tansy

Tanacetum vulgare - Alien

Common

Tansy is an erect, woody, aromatic perennial. It is

claimed that the

plant has insecticidal and deodorizing properties. The leaves are scented and this property may be the basis for its herbal use as an insecticide. (July - September).



Common Perennial Sow Thistle

Sonchus arvensis - Alien

Some legends state that the

Perennial Sow Thistle

is a favourite of rabbits, hence the many common



folk names

referring to hares. It was believed predators can not disturb a rabbit sitting beneath the plant. The flower head looks like a dandelion, but the flower stalk is very tall, compared to the dandelion. In Ontario, the Sow Thistle is a noxious weed. (Mid-to late summer).

Fall Dandelion

Krigia virginica - Alien

The flower of the Fall Dandelion looks like common dandelion, but the leaves and the branched stem on the Fall Dandelion are quite different. Also, the Fall Dandelion blooms much later in the season compared to the common dandelion. (June - November).



Birdsfoot Trefoil

Lotus corniculatus - Alien

This yellow flower trails along the ground. Its seed pod looks like a bird's foot. It is a legume. Legumes take nitrogen from the

atmosphere and fix the nitrogen in

to the ground. This improves the quality of the soil, which helps other plants that grow near the Birdsfoot

Trefoil. (June -

September).



Black-eyed Susan

Rudbeckia hirta - Native

This yellow daisy-like flower has a dark brown "eye", yellow ray flowers, and a hairy stem and leaves (June -

October).



Sulphur Cinquefoil

Potentilla recta - Alien

The Sulphur Cinquefoil has distinctive pale yellow flowers, and five leaves. The plant is hairy and erect with flat topped flower clusters. (May - August).

