

## SEDGES

### Beaked Sedge (*Carex utriculata*)

- A robust, perennial sedge, 50-120 cm tall.
- Found in marshes, swamps, ponds and on wet, muddy streambanks; sometimes in up to 20-30 cm of standing water.
- Often eaten by waterfowl, songbirds and ruffed grouse chicks.

### Fowl Meadow Grass (*Poa palustris*)

- Perennial grass, 50-120 cm tall.
- Found along shores and in swamps and ditches.
- The leaves are eaten by American coots in large quantities (providing 50% of their diet) and the seeds are eaten in small quantities by songbirds. Many mammals, including deer, meadow voles and muskrats feed on the leaves and seedheads.

### Lakebank Sedge (*Carex lacustris*)

- A robust, perennial sedge, 50-150 cm tall.
- Often in shallow, open water up to 50 cm deep, in marshes and on shores.
- Seeds are eaten by waterfowl, marsh birds, game birds and songbirds. The stems and leaves remain through the winter and they provide spawning habitat for pike and muskellunge the following spring.

### Tall Manna Grass (*Glyceria grandis*)

- A perennial grass, up to 1.5 m tall.
- Found in shallow water, on shores and in ditches.
- Dense stands along streams stabilize the soil and provide excellent food and cover for wildlife.

### Water Sedge (*Carex aqualitis*)

- A robust, perennial sedge, 30-150 cm tall.
- Grows along streambanks and lakeshores and in marshes, wet fields and ditches.
- An important food for both waterfowl and songbirds.

**\* For any major alterations to your shoreline or before doing any planting in the water, please contact your local Conservation Authority in case a permit is required.**

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Information courtesy of Wetland Plants of Ontario by Steven G. Newmaster, Allan G. Harris and Linda J. Kershaw. 1997.



## Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Native Plants that Attract Wildlife

## TREES

### Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*)

- A deciduous tree, up to 25 m tall.
- Found in swamps and on shorelines.
- Offers an abundance of food for wildlife. Birds, such as grouse and finches as well as beavers eat the buds and spike-like clusters of flowers. Hares, muskrats, porcupines, squirrels and mice eat the bark, leaves and buds and deer browse on the twigs and leaves.

### Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)

- A deciduous tree, up to 40 m tall.
- Found in swamps and rich, lowland areas and south-facing hillsides.
- Preferred by white-tailed deer, rabbits and beavers, especially in the winter. Ruffed grouse, song birds, red squirrels, chipmunks and other small mammals eat the seeds. Commonly used by cavity-nesting birds and mammals as it often has a hollow trunk.

### Tamarack (*Larix laricina*)

- Deciduous-coniferous tree, up to 20 m tall.
- Can tolerate a wide range of conditions but generally found in swampy areas.
- Leaves are occasionally eaten by grouse. Hares, porcupines and squirrels feed on the bark and seeds.

## SHRUBS

### Black Chokecherry (*Aronia melanocarpa*)

- A deciduous shrub, 1-3 m tall.
- Found on shrubby lakeshores and in swamps.
- Grouse, chickadees, foxes, rabbits, squirrels, mice and deer eat the berries.

### Bog Bilberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*)

- A low shrub, less than 60 cm tall.
- Grows in bogs and along lakeshores.
- The berries are an important part of the diet of chipmunks, tanagers and grouse and the leaves and twigs are browsed by deer, elk and hares.



### Common Juniper (*Juniperus communis*)

- A low, coniferous, evergreen shrub, less than 1.5 m tall.
- Inhabits sandy and rocky lakeshores.
- Common juniper berries are a favourite food of many songbirds, such as grosbeaks and finches. Small mammals, such as chipmunks, squirrels and mice occasionally eat the fruits and deer browse the twigs and leaves.

### Prickly Wild Rose (*Rosa acicularis*)

- A low, prickly, deciduous shrub, up to 1.5 m tall.
- Found on shores and in wet meadows, swamps and upland open woods.
- Animals eat the fruits and buds throughout the winter. Birds such as grouse and vireos eat the hips and buds. Deer, beavers, rabbits, hares, skunks, squirrels and mice eat the fruits, stems and leaves.

### Red-Osier Dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)

- A deciduous shrub, 2-3 m tall.
- Grows in marshes, swamps, ditches, wet fields and on shores.
- An important shrub to many wildlife species, particularly as a winter food source. Wood ducks, grosbeaks and thrushes feed on the berries. Rabbits, skunks, squirrels, chipmunks, mice, and deer eat the fruit, wood and leaves.

### Shrubby Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*)

- A low, deciduous, bushy shrub, less than 1 m tall.
- Grows along riverbanks, lakeshores and rocky coastlines.
- Shrubby cinquefoil seeds are occasionally eaten by sharp-tailed grouse. Hares and rabbits eat the leaves.

### Speckled Alder (*Alnus incana*)

- A tall, deciduous shrub, approximately 4 m tall.
- Found along lakeshores, streambanks and in swamps.
- Alder seeds are an important food for redpolls and goldfinches. Grouse feed on the buds and seeds. Beavers, rabbits and more rarely, deer eat the twigs and leaves. The dense growth of the stems offers important cover for wildlife.

### Sweet Gale (*Myrica gale*)

- A deciduous shrub, up to 1.5 m tall.
- Forms dense, low thickets on rocky shores, where it provides cover for many species.
- Grouse, chickadees, crows and bluebirds eat the seeds and deer browse on the foliage.

### Wild Red Raspberry (*Rubus idaeus*)

- A deciduous shrub, stems up to 1.5 m tall.
- Found in swamps, shrubby thickets and on shores.
- Many birds, including grosbeaks, robins, sparrows, thrushes, orioles, catbirds and grouse eat these berries. Chipmunks, squirrels, raccoons, mice, hares and rabbits also eat wild red raspberries. Rabbits and hares use for cover and feed extensively on raspberry stems during the winter. Raspberries are important as food, but they also provide dense, prickly cover and protection for small animals and nesting habitat and materials for birds.

## HERBS

### Blue Flag (*Iris versicolor*)

- A perennial herb, 20-90 cm tall.
- Prefers moist streambanks and lakeshores.
- Muskrats, beavers and waterfowl eat the roots and ruby-throated hummingbirds feed on the nectar of the flowers.

### Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*)

- A perennial herb, 10-20 cm tall.
- Found in upland forests and in swamps.
- The fruits are an important food for some songbirds, grouse, voles and chipmunks.

### Common Strawberry (*Fragaria virginiana*)

- A low, perennial herb.
- Found in swamps and on lakeshores and a variety of other habitats.
- Strawberries are a favourite food of many birds. Grouse eat the young leaves and ripe berries. Crows, cat birds, grosbeaks, sparrows, thrashers and robins are a few of the songbirds that eat the berries. Hares, rabbits, skunks, squirrels, chipmunks, mice and deer eat the fruits and leaves.

### Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*)

- A succulent, annual herb, 50-150 cm tall.
- Grows in swamps, wet fields, shores and marshes.
- Flowers are an important source of nectar for hummingbirds. Grouse and mice eat the fruits and hares and rabbits eat the stems and leaves.

### Purple-stemmed Aster (*Symphotrichum puniceum*)

- A large, herbaceous perennial, 40-170 cm in height.
- Can be found in swamps, open wet fields, thickets and along shorelines.
- Nectar and pollen attract butterflies, bees and other insects.

