

Elkhorn Creek Biodiversity Preserve Species List

Northwest Illinois Audubon Society

* Indicates a non-native species

Updated 1/1/2024

Sedges (14) 13 Native

Carex bebbii – Bebb's Oval Sedge
Carex brevior – Plains Oval Sedge
Carex brunnescens – Green Bog Sedge
Carex diandra – Bog Panicked Sedge
Carex stipata – Common Fox Sedge
Carex stricta – Common Tussock Sedge
Carex trichocarpa – Hairy-Fruited Lake Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea – Fox Sedge
Cyperus acuminatus – Short-Pointed Flat Sedge
Cyperus echinatus – Globe Sedge *
Cyperus esculentus – Field Nut Sedge
Cyperus filiculmis – Slender Sand Sedge
Cyperus rivularis – Brook Nut Sedge
Scirpus atrovirens – Dark Green Rush

Ferns (2)

Athyrium filix-femina – Lady Fern
Onoclea sensibilis – Sensitive Fern

Horsetails (2)

Equisetum arvense – Common Horsetail
Equisetum hyemale – Scouring Rush

Grasses (23) 12 Native

Andropogon gerardii – Big Bluestem
Schizachyrium scoparium – Little Bluestem
Agropyron repens – Quack Grass *
Agrostis alba – Redtop *
Bouteloua curtipendula – Side-Oats Grama
Bromus inermis – Smooth Brome *
Dactylis glomerata – Orchard-grass *
Digitaria filiformis – Slender Crab Grass
Enchinochloa microstachya – Barnyard Grass *
Elymus canadensis – Canada Wild Rye
Eragrotis spectabilis – Purple Love Grass
Festuca sp. – Tall Fescue *
Leptoloma cognatum – Fall Witch Grass
Oryzopsis asperifolia – Rough-Leaved Rice Grass
Panicum oligosanthes var. scribnerianum – Scribner's Panic Grass
Panicum villosissimum – White-Haired Panic Grass
Paspalum setaceum ver. ciliatifolium – Lens Grass
Phalaris arundinacea – Reed-Canary Grass *
Phleum pratense – Timothy *
Poa compressa – Canada Blue Grass *
Poa pratensis – Kentucky Blue Grass *
Setaria glauca – Yellow Fox Tail *
Sorghastrum nutans – Indian Grass

Rushes (2)

Eleocharis erythropoda – Red-Rooted Spike Rush
Juncus tenuis – Path Rush

Forbs (153) 115 Native

Abutilon theophrasti – Velvetleaf *
Achillea millefolium – Yarrow *
Agastache nepetoides – Yellow Giant Hyssop
Ageratina altissima – White Snakeroot
Agrimonia gryposepala – Tall Agrimony
Alliaria petiolata – Garlic Mustard *
Ambrosia artemisiifolia – Common Ragweed
Ambrosia trifida – Giant Ragweed
Amorpha canescens – Lead Plant
Amphicarpa bracteata – Upland Hog Peanut
Anemone canadensis – Meadow Anemone
Anemone cylindrica – Thimbleweed
Anemone virginiana – Tall Anemone
Angelica atropurpurea – Great Angelica
Antennaria plantaginifolia – Pussy Toes
Apocynum cannabinum – Hairy Dogbane
Arctium minus – Common Burdock *
Arctium tomentosum – Cotton Burdock *
Arisaema triphyllum – Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Asclepias amplexicaulis – Blunt-Leaved or Sand Milkweed
Asclepias incarnata – Swamp Milkweed
Asclepias syriaca – Common Milkweed
Asclepias verticillata – Whorled Milkweed
Baptisia lactea – Cream Wild Indigo
Barbarea vulgaris – Yellow Rocket (Winter Cress) *
Bidens cernua – Nodding Bur Marigold
Brickellia eupatorioides – False Boneset
Calystegia sepium – Hedge Bindweed
Campanula aparinoides – Lesser Marsh Bellflower
Cardamine bulbosa – Bulbous Cress
Centaurea maculosa – Spotted Knapweed *
Cerastium vulgatum – Mouse-Ear Chickweed *
Chamerion augustifolium – Fireweed
Chenopodium album – Lamb's Quarter *
Cicuta maculata – Water Hemlock
Circaea canadensis – Enchanter's Nightshade
Cirsium arvense – Field Thistle *
Cirsium discolor – Pasture Thistle
Cirsium vulgare – Bull Thistle *
Clematis virginiana – Virgin's Bower
Conium maculatum – Poison Hemlock *
Conuza canadensis – Tall Horseweed
Crocianthemum canadense – Canada Rockrose
Cryptotaenia canadensis – Canadian Honewort
Daucus carota – Queen-Anne's Lace *
Dianthus armeria – Deptford Pink *
Drymocallis – Prairie Cinquefoil
Echinocystis lobata – Wild Cucumber
Epilobium coloratum – Cinnamon Willowherb
Erigeron philadelphicus – Marsh Fleabane
Erigeron strigosus – Daisy Fleabane
Euphorbia corollata – Flowering Spurge
Eutrochium maculatum – Spotted Joe Pye Weed
Fallopia scandens – Climbing False Buckwheat

Forbs (continued)

Fragaria virginiana – Wild Strawberry
Galium aparine – Cleavers, Catchweed Bedstraw
Galium obtusum – Bluntleaved Bedstraw
Gentiana puberulenta – Downy Prairie Gentian
Hackelia virginiana – Stickweed
Helonium autumnale – Sneezeweed
Helianthus grosseserratus – Sawtooth Sunflower
Helianthus pauciflorus – Prairie Sunflower
Helianthus tuberosus – Jerusalem Artichoke
Heliopsis helianthoides – Early Sunflower
Heracleum maximum – Cow Parsnip
Heuchera richardsonii – Prairie Alum Root
Hieracium longipilum – Long-bearded Hawkweed
Hypericum ascyron – Great St. Johnswort
Impatiens capensis – Orange Jewelweed
Ionactis linariifolia – Flax-Leaved Aster
Lactuca canadensis – Wild Lettuce
Lechea stricta – Bushy Pinweed
Lemna minor – Small Duckweed
Leonurus cardiaca – Motherwort *
Lespedeza capitata – Round-Headed Bushclover
Liatris aspera – Rough Blazingstar
Lithospermum incisum – Fringed Puccoon
Lobelia siphilitica – Great Blue Lobelia
Lycopus americanus – Common Water Horehound
Lycopus rubellus – Stalked Water Horehound
Lysimachia nummularia – Moneywort *
Maianthemum stellata – Starry False Solomon's Seal
Medicago lupulina – Black Medick *
Melilotus alba – White Sweet Clover *
Melilotus officinalis – Yellow Sweet Clover *
Mentha arvensis – Wild Mint
Mimulus ringens – Monkey Flower
Monarda fistulosa – Wild Bergamot
Nepeta cataria – Catnip *
Oxalis stricta – Common Wood-sorrel
Oxalis violacea – Violet Wood-sorrel
Packera pauperculus – Balsam Ragwort
Pastinaca sativa – Wild Parsnip *
Persicaria hydropiper – Marsh Waterpepper *
Persicaria maculosa – Lady's Thumb *
Physalis heterophylla – Clammy Groundcherry
Physalis longifolia – Tall Groundcherry
Phytolacca americana – American Pokeweed
Plantago aristata – Large-bracted Plantain
Plantago lanceolata – English Plantain *
Plantago major – Common Plantain *
Polygala sanguinea – Field Milkwort
Polygonatum biflorum – Solomon's Seal
Potentilla recta – Rough-Fruited Cinquefoil *
Potentilla simplex – Common Cinquefoil
Pseudognaphalium obtusifolium – Old Field Balsam
Pycnanthemum virginianum – Common Mountain Mint
Ranunculus abortivus – Small-flowered Buttercup
Ranunculus fascicularis – Early Buttercup
Ranunculus sceleratus – Cursed Buttercup
Ratibida pinnata – Yellow Coneflower
Rudbeckia hirta – Black-Eyed Susan
Rudbeckia laciniata – Wild Golden Glow
Rudbeckia triloba – Brown-Eyed Susan
Rumex acetosella – Sheep Sorrel *

Forbs (continued)

Rumex crispus – Curly Dock *
Scrophularia marilandica – Late Figwort
Silphium integrifolium – Rosinweed
Silphium perfoliatum – Cup Plant
Smilax hispida – Bristly Cat Brier
Solanum carolinense – Horse Nettle
Solanum dulcamara – Deadly Nightshade *
Solidago altissima – Tall Goldenrod
Solidago nemoralis – Old Field Goldenrod
Stachys hispida – Marsh Hedge Nettle
Stellaria aquatica – Water Chickweed
Symphotrichum ericoides – Heath Aster
Symphotrichum lateriflorus – Calico Aster
Symphotrichum novae-angliae – New England Aster
Symphotrichum pilosus – Hairy Aster
Symphotrichum praealtum – Willow Aster
Tanacetum vulgare – Common Tansy *
Taraxacum officinale – Dandelion *
Teucrium canadense – Canadian Germander or Wood Sage
Teucrium canadense var. occidentale – Western Germander
Thalictrum dasycarpum – Purple Meadow-Rue
Tradescantia ohioensis – Ohio Spiderwort
Tragopogon hybrid – Common Goat's Beard x Salsify *
Tragopogon pratense – Common Goat's Beard *
Trifolium pratense – Red Clover *
Triodanis perfoliata – Venus's Looking Glass
Urtica dioica – Stinging Nettle *
Urtica gracilis – Tall Nettle
Verbascum blattaria – Moth Mullein *
Verbascum thapsus – Common Mullein *
Verbena hastata – Blue Vervain
Verbena urticifolia – White Vervain
Veronica catenata glandulosa – Water Speedwell
Veronicastrum virginicum – Culver's Root
Vicia cracca – Cow Vetch *
Viola pedata – Bird's Foot Violet
Viola sagittata – Arrow-Leaved Violet
Viola sororia – Common Blue Violet

Shrubs (19) 15 Native

Celastrus scandena – Climbing Bittersweet
Cornus racemosa – Gray Dogwood
Cornus stolonifera – Red Osier Dogwood
Corylus americana – American Hazelnut
Lonicera – Honeysuckle *
Malus ioensis – Iowa Crab
Parthenocissus quinquefolia – Virginia Creeper
Rhamnus cathartica – Common Buckthorn *
Rhus radicans – Poison Ivy
Ribes missouriense – Missouri Gooseberry
Rosa carolina – Pasture Rose
Rosa multiflora – Multiflora Rose *
Rubus allegheniensis – Common Blackberry
Rubus flagellaris – Common Dewberry
Rubus occidentalis – Black Raspberry
Sambucus canadensis – Elderberry
Symphoricarpos orbiculatus – Coralberry
Viburnum opulus – European Highbush Cranberry *
Vitis riparia – Riverbank Grape

Trees (16) 13 Native

Acer negundo – Box Elder
Acer saccharinum – Silver Maple
Catalpa speciosa – Hardy Catalpa
Celtis occidentalis – Hackberry
Juglans nigra – Black Walnut
Maclura pomifera – Osage Orange *
Morus alba – White Mulberry *
Populus deltoides – Cottonwood
Prunus serotina – Black Cherry
Prunus virginiana – Choke Cherry
Pyrus malus – Apple *
Quercus macrocarpa – Bur Oak
Quercus velutina – Black Oak
Salix nigra – Black Willow
Tilia americana – Basswood
Ulmus rubra – Red (Slippery) Elm

Fish (8)

Campostoma anomalum – Stoneroller
Catastomus commersoni – White Sucker
Etheostoma nigrum – Johnny Darter
Moxostoma aureolum – Northern Redhorse
Notropis cornutus – Common Shiner
Phoxinus eos – Red-Bellied Dace
Pimephales notatus – Blunt-Nose Minnow
Semotilus atromaculatus – Creek Chub

Reptiles (3)

Chelydra serpentina – Snapping Turtle
Storeria dekayi dekayi – Northern Brown Snake
Pituophis melanoleucus – Bull Snake

Amphibians (6)

Bufo americana – American Toad
Hyla cf. versicolor – Gray Treefrog
Hyla crucifera – Spring Peeper
Pseudacris t. triseriata – W. Chorus Frog
Rana clamitans melanota – Green Frog
Rana p. pipiens – N. Leopard Frog

Mammals (14)

Beaver
 Eastern Chipmunk
 Cottontail Rabbit
 Coyote
 Mink
 Woodland Jumping Mouse
 Opossum
 Plains Pocket Gopher
 Raccoon
 Short-Tailed Shrew
 Skunk
 Thirteen-Lined Ground Squirrel
 White-Tailed Deer
 Woodchuck

Insects (100) 94 Native**Butterflies (32)**

Asterocampa celtis – Hackberry Butterfly
Asterocampa clyton – Tawny Emperor
Bolaria bellona – Meadow Fritillary

Insects, Butterflies (continued)

Celastrina neglecta – Summer Azure
Colias eurytheme – Alfalfa Butterfly
Colias philodice – Clouded Sulphur
Danaus plexippus – Monarch
Eucretes comyntas – Eastern Tailed-Blue Butterfly
Euptoieta claudia – Variegated Fritillary
Euptychia cymela – Little Wood Satyr
Junonia coenia – Buckeye
Libytheana carinenta bachmanii – American Snout
Limenitis archippus – Viceroy
Limenitis arthemis astyanax – Red-Spotted Purple
Lycaena helloides – Purplish Copper
Lycaena phlaeas americana – American Copper
Nymphalis antiopa – Mourning Cloak
Nymphalis milberti – Milbert's Tortoiseshell
Papilio cressphontes – Giant Swallowtail
Papilio glaucus – Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio polyxenes asterius – Black Swallowtail
Papilio troilus – Spicebush Swallowtail
Phyciodes tharos – Pearl Crescent
Pieris rapae – European Cabbage Butterfly *
Polygonia comma – Comma
Polygonia interrogationis – Question Mark
Satyrium liparops strigosa – Striped Hairstreak
Satyrium titus – Coral Hairstreak
Speyeria cybele – Great Spangled Fritillary
Vanessa atalanta – Red Admiral
Vanessa cardui – Painted Lady
Vanessa virginiensis – American Painted Lady

Damselflies (7)

Amphiagrion saucium – Eastern Red Damsel
Argia apicalis – Blue-Fronted Dancer
Argia plana – Springwater Dancer
Calopteryx maculata – Ebony Jewelwing
Ischnura hastata – Citrine Forktail
Lestes rectangularis – Slender Spreadwing
Ischnura verticalis – Eastern Forktail

Dragonflies (11)

Anax junius – Common Green Darner
Celithemis eponina – Halloween Pennant
Erythemis simplicicollis – Common Pondhawk
Libellula luctuosa – Widow Skimmer
Libellula pulchella – Twelve-Spotted Skimmer
Pachydiplax longipennis – Blue Dasher
Perithemis tenera – Eastern Amberwing
Plathemis (Libellula) lydia – Common Whitetail
Sympetrum semicinctum – Band-Winged Meadowhawk
Sympetrum rubicundulum – Ruby Meadowhawk
Tramea lacerata – Black Saddlebags

Moths (15)

Ayles lineata – White-Lined Sphinx Moth
Alypia octomaculata – Eight-Spotted Forester
Caenurgina crassiuscula – Clover Looper
Cucullia asteroides – Goldenrod Hooded Owlet
Deidamia inscripta – Lettered Sphinx
Depressaria pastinacella – Parsnip Webworm *
Euchaetes egle – Milkweed Tussock Moth
Grammia virgo – Virgin Tiger Moth
Haematopis grataria – Chickweed Geometer
Haploa reversa – Reversed Hapola
Pyrrharctia isabella – Woolly Bear Isabella Tiger Moth

Moths (continued)*Microcrambus elegans* – Elegant Grass-Veneer*Pyrausta ochosalis* – Pyrausta Moth*Simyra insularis* – Henry’s Marsh Moth*Sitochroa palealis* – Carrot Seed Moth**Skippers (6)***Ancyloxyphia numitor* – Least Skipper*Epargyreus clarus* – Silver-Spotted Skipper*Hylephila phyleus* – Fiery Skipper*Pholisora catullus* – Common Sootywing*Polites coras* – Peck’s Skipper*Thymelicus lineola* – European Skipper**Other (33)***Apion rostrum* – Baptisia Seed Pod Weevil*Archytas apicifer* – Tachinid Fly*Asilus prairiensis* – Robber Fly*Baetidae* – Mayfly*Bombus auricomus* – Black and Gold Bumblebee*Carmelionidae* – Negro Bug*Chironomus sp.* – Midge Fly*Chrysochus auratus* – Dogbane Beetle*Chrysopidae* – Green Lacewing*Chrysops sp.* – Deerfly*Ctenicera noxia* – Click Beetle*Gerris remigis* – Waterstrider*Hydropsyche simulans* – Caddisfly*Labidomera clivicollis* – Milkweed Leaf Beetle*Mantis religiosa* – European Mantis **Microcentrum retinerve* – Angular-winged Katydid*Oecanthus fultoni* – Snowy Tree Cricket*Oncopeltus fasciatus* – Large Milkweed Bug*Ostrinia nubilalis* – European Corn Borer **Panorpa sp.* – Scorpionfly*Pelecinus polyturator* – American Pelecinid*Philaenus spumarius* – Spittle-Bug*Popilla japonica* – Japanese Beetle **Sepedon fuscipennis* – Marsh Fly*Simulium sp.* – Blackflies*Stenelmis sp.* – Elmid Beetle*Tabanus sp.* – Greenhead Fly*Tenodera aridifolia sinensis* – Chinese Praying Mantis **Tetraopes tetrophthalmus* – Red Milkweed Beetle*Tremex columba* – Pigeon Tremex (Horntail)*Trichodes nutalli* – Red-Blue Checked Beetle*Trirhabda canadensis* – Goldenrod Leaf Beetle*Vespula maculata* – Bald-faced Hornet**Birds (162) 157 Native**

Double-Crested Cormorant

Great Blue Heron

Green Heron

Turkey Vulture

Cackling Goose

Canada Goose

Wood Duck

Blue-winged Teal

Mallard

Bald Eagle

Osprey

Northern Harrier

Sharp-Shinned Hawk

Broad-Winged Hawk

Birds (continued)

Red-Tailed Hawk

Rough-legged Hawk

American Kestrel

Ring-Necked Pheasant *

Northern Bobwhite

Wild Turkey

Sora

Sandhill Crane

Killdeer

American Woodcock

Wilson’s Snipe

Solitary Sandpiper

Greater Yellowlegs

Spotted Sandpiper

Rock Pigeon *

Mourning Dove

Black-Billed Cuckoo

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

Eastern Screech-Owl

Great Horned Owl

Barred Owl

Common Nighthawk

Chimney Swift

Ruby-Throated Hummingbird

Belted Kingfisher

Red-Headed Woodpecker

Red-Bellied Woodpecker

Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Olive-Sided Flycatcher

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Willow Flycatcher

Least Flycatcher

Eastern Phoebe

Great Crested Flycatcher

Eastern Kingbird

Yellow-Throated Vireo

Warbling Vireo

Philadelphia Vireo

Red-Eyed Vireo

Blue Jay

American Crow

Purple Martin

Tree Swallow

Northern Rough-Winged Swallow

Cliff Swallow

Bank Swallow

Barn Swallow

Black-Capped Chickadee

White-Breasted Nuthatch

Brown Creeper

House Wren

Winter Wren

Marsh Wren

Sedge Wren

Golden-Crowned Kinglet

Ruby-Crowned Kinglet

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher

Eastern Bluebird

Birds (continued)

Gray-Cheeked Thrush
 Swainson's Thrush
 Hermit Thrush
 American Robin
 Gray Catbird
 Brown Thrasher
 European Starling *
 Cedar Waxwing
 Golden-Winged Warbler
 Tennessee Warbler
 Orange-Crowned Warbler
 Nashville Warbler
 Northern Parula Warbler
 Yellow Warbler
 Chestnut-Sided Warbler
 Magnolia Warbler
 Cape May Warbler
 Yellow-Rumped Warbler
 Black-Throated Green Warbler
 Blackburnian Warbler
 Yellow-Throated Warbler
 Palm Warbler
 Bay-Breasted Warbler
 Blackpoll Warbler
 Black-and-White Warbler
 American Redstart
 Prothonotary Warbler
 Northern Waterthrush
 Louisiana Waterthrush
 Ovenbird
 Kentucky Warbler
 Common Yellowthroat
 Wilson's Warbler
 Yellow-Breasted Chat
 Eastern Towhee
 Scarlet Tanager
 American Tree Sparrow
 Chipping Sparrow
 Field Sparrow
 Vesper Sparrow
 Savannah Sparrow
 Fox Sparrow
 Song Sparrow
 Lincoln's Sparrow
 Swamp Sparrow
 White-Throated Sparrow
 White-Crowned Sparrow
 Dark-Eyed Junco
 Northern Cardinal
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak
 Indigo Bunting
 Dickcissel
 Bobolink
 Red-Winged Blackbird
 Eastern Meadowlark
 Western Meadowlark
 Rusty Blackbird
 Common Grackle
 Brown-headed Cowbird
 Orchard Oriole
 Baltimore Oriole

Birds (continued)

Purple Finch
 House Finch
 American Goldfinch
 House Sparrow *
 Eurasian Tree Sparrow *

Miscellaneous (14)

Argiope aurantia – Black and Yellow Garden Spider
Argiope trifasciata – Banded Garden Spider
Dermacentor variabilis – Wood Tick
Dugesia tigrina – Planarian
Gammarus lacustris – Scud
Hyalla azteca – Sideswimmer
Hydrachnidae – Water Mite
Limax – Slug
Lumbricus terrestris – Night Crawler *
Naididae – Aquatic Worm
Opilio sp. – Harvestman
Physa – Pond Snail
Spharium sp. – Fingernail Clam
cf. Trombicula alfreddugesi – Red Mite

*Botanic and common names as noted in Wilhelm & Richerich, **Flora of the Chicago Region: A Floristic and Ecological Synthesis***