

Silver Creek Biodiversity Preserve Species List

Northwest Illinois Bird and Nature Alliance

* Indicates a non-native species

** Indicates a planted native species of unknown eco-type

Updated 2/24/2025

Sedges (4)

Carex blanda – Common Woodland Sedge
Carex pennsylvanica – Common Oak Sedge
Carex vulpinoidea – Brown Fox Sedge
Scirpus atrovirens – Dark Green Rush

Ferns (5)

Cystopteris sp. – Fern
Polystichum acrostichoides – Christmas Fern
Athyrium filix-femina – Lady Fern
Dryopteris intermedia – Intermediate Wood Fern
Onoclea sensibilis – Sensitive Fern

Grasses (13) 6 Native

Alopecurus sp. – Foxtail *
Andropogon gerardii – Big Bluestem **
Bromus inermis – Hungarian (Smooth) Brome *
Bromus secalinus – Rye Chess (Cheat) *
Dactylis glomerata – Orchard Grass *
Elymus canadensis – Canada Wild Rye **
Elymus hystrix – Bottlebrush Grass
Miscanthus sacchariflorus – Silver Grass *
Panicum virgatum – Switch Grass **
Phalaris arundinacea – Reed Canary Grass *
Phleum pretense – Timothy *
Schizachyrium scoparium – Little Bluestem **
Sorghastrum nutans – Indian Grass **

Forbs (105) 88 Native

Acalypha rhomboidea – Three-Seed Mercury
Achillea millefolium – Common Yarrow
Ageratina altissima – White Snakeroot
Agrimonia sp. – Agrimony
Alliaria petiolata – Garlic Mustard *
Allium cernuum – Wild Nodding Onion
Ambrosia trifida – Giant Ragweed
Anemone quinquefolia – Wood Anemone
Anemone virginiana – Eastern Anemone **
Arctium minus – Common Burdock *
Arisaema triphyllum – Jack-in-the-Pulpit
Asclepias syriaca – Common Milkweed **
Baptisia leucantha – Tall White Indigo **
Bidens frondosa – Sticktight, Common Beggar's Ticks
Boltonia asteroides – Doll's Daisy **
Brickellia eupatorioides corymbulosa – False Boneset **
Caulophyllum thalictroides – Blue Chohosh
Cichorium intybus – Chicory *
Circaea canadensis – Enchanter's Nightshade
Cirsium arvense – Field Thistle *
Cirsium vulgare – Bull Thistle *
Collinsia verna – Blue-Eyed Mary
Conuza canadensis – Tall Horseweed
Convallaria majalis – Lily-of-the-Valley *
Coreopsis lanceolata – Sand Coreopsis **
Coreopsis tripteris – Tall Coreopsis **
Cryptotaenia canadensis – Canadian Honewort

Forbs (continued)

Cynoglossum officinale – Hound's Tongue *
Daucus carota – Queen Anne's Lace *
Dentaria laciniata – Toothwort
Desmodium canadense – Showy Tick-Trefoil **
Dioscorea villosa – Wild Yam
Echinacea pallida – Pale Purple Coneflower **
Echinacea purpurea – Purple Coneflower **
Erigeron strigosus – Daisy Fleabane
Eryngium yuccifolium – Rattlesnake Master **
Eupatorium sp. – Joe Pye Weed
Euphorbia virgata – Leafy Spurge *
Fragaria virginiana – Wild Strawberry
Galium album – White Bedstraw
Geranium maculatum – Wild Geranium
Geum sp. – Avens
Hackelia virginiana – Stickseed
Heliopsis helianthoides – Early Sunflower **
Helianthus mollis – Downy Sunflower **
Heracleum maximum – Cow Parsnip
Hydrophyllum virginianum – Virginia Waterleaf
Hylodesmum glutinosum – Pointed Tick-Trefoil **
Hypericum ascyron – Great St. Johnswort **
Hypericum perforatum – Common St. John's Wort *
Impatiens capensis – Spotted Jewelweed
Lactuca sp. – Lettuce
Lemna minor – Green Duckweed
Leonurus cardiaca – Motherwort *
Lobelia siphilitica – Great Blue Lobelia
Lobelia inflata – Indian Tobacco
Maianthemum racemosum – False Solomon's Seal
Melilotus alba – White Sweet Clover *
Monarda fistulosa – Wild Bergamot **
Nasturtium officinale – Common Watercress *
Parthenium integrifolium – Wild Quinine **
Pastinaca sativa – Wild Parsnip *
Penstemon cobaea – Showy Beard Tongue **
Penstemon digitalis – Foxglove Beardtongue **
Persicaria hydropiper – Marsh Waterpepper *
Phytolacca americana – American Pokeweed
Pilea pumila – Clearweed
Plantago major – Common Plantain *
Podophyllum peltatum – Mayapple
Polygonatum biflorum – Smooth Solomon's Seal
Pycnanthemum virginianum – Common Mountain Mint **
Ranunculus abortivus – Small-flowered Buttercup
Ranunculus fascicularis – Early Buttercup
Ranunculus recurvatus – Hooked Buttercup
Ratibida pinnata – Yellow (Gray-Headed) Coneflower **
Rudbeckia hirta – Black-Eyed Susan **
Rudbeckia laciniata – Wild Golden Glow **
Rudbeckia subtomentosa – Sweer Black-eyed Susan
Rudbeckia triloba – Brown-eyed Susan **
Rumex crispus – Curly Dock *
Sanguinaria canadensis – Bloodroot
Scrophularia marilandica – Late Figwort

Forbs (continued)

Senecio aureus – Golden Ragwort **
Silphium integrifolium – Rosinweed **
Silphium laciniatum – Compass Plant
Silphium perfoliatum – Cup Plant **
Silphium terebinthinaceum – Prairie Dock **
Smilax hispida – Bristly Cat Brier
Solanum dulcamara – Deadly Nightshade
Solidago altissima – Tall Goldenrod **
Solidago rigida – Stiff Goldenrod **
Symphotrichum laevis – Smooth Blue Aster **
Symphotrichum lateriflorus – Calico Aster
Symphotrichum novae-angliae – New England Aster **
Thlaspi arvense – Field Pennycress *
Tradescantia ohioensis – Ohio Spiderwort **
Trillium recurvatum – Prairie Trillium
Triosteum aurantiacum – Horse Gentian
Urtica dioica – Stinging Nettle *
Verbena hastata – Blue Vervain **
Verbena urticifolia – White Vervain
Verbesina alternifolia – Wingstem
Veronicastrum virginicum – Culver’s Root
Vernonia fasciculata – Common Ironweed **
Vicia villosa – Hairy Vetch *
Viola pubescens – Yellow Violet
Viola septentrionalis – Wood Violet

Shrubs (18) 12 Native

Berberis thunbergii – Japanese Barberry *
Cornus racemosa – Gray Dogwood
Cornus amomum – Silky Dogwood
Corylus americana – American Hazelnut
Lonicera tartarica – Tartarian Honeysuckle *
Lonicera maackii – Amur Honeysuckle *
Parthenocissus quinquefolia – Virginia Creeper
Rhamnus cathartica – Common Buckthorn *
Rhus radicans – Poison Ivy
Ribes sp. – Gooseberry
Rosa multiflora – Multiflora Rose *
Rubus allegheniensis – Highbush Blackberry
Rubus occidentalis – Black Raspberry
Sambucus canadensis – Elderberry
Viburnum lentago – Nannyberry
Viburnum opulus – European Cranberry *
Vitis sp. – Grape
Zanthoxylum americanum – Prickly Ash

Trees (30) 28 Native

Acer negundo – Box Elder
Acer saccharinum – Silver Maple
Acer saccharum – Sugar Maple
Carya glabra – Pignut Hickory
Carya ovata – Shagbark Hickory
Celtis occidentalis – Hackberry
Crataegus sp. – Hawthorn
Fraxinus americana – White Ash
Gleditsia triacanthos – Honey Locust
Juglans nigra – Black Walnut
Juniperus virginiana – Eastern Red Cedar
Morus alba – White Mulberry *
Ostrya virginiana – Hop Hornbeam
Picea abies – Norway Spruce *
Pinus strobus – White Pine

Trees (continued)

Populus grandidentata – Large-Toothed Aspen
Prunus serotina – Wild Black Cherry
Prunus virginiana – Choke Cherry
Ptelea trifoliata – Wafer Ash
Quercus palustris – Pin Oak
Quercus rubra – Red Oak
Quercus alba – White Oak
Quercus coccinea – Scarlet Oak
Quercus macrocarpa – Bur Oak
Quercus velutina – Black Oak
Salix nigra – Black Willow
Tilia americana – Basswood
Ulmus americana – American Elm
Ulmus rubra – Slippery Elm
Viburnum prunifolium – Black Haw

Mammals (6)

Cottontail Rabbit
Coyote
Eastern Fox Squirrel
Eastern Gray Squirrel
Mink
White-tailed Deer

Amphibians (4)

Bufo americana – American Toad
Pseudacris t. triseriata – Western Chorus Frog
Rana catesbeiana – Bull Frog
Rana clamitans melanota – Green Frog

Insects (31) 30 Native**Butterflies (16)**

Asterocampa celtis – Hackberry Butterfly
Bolaria bellona – Meadow Fritillary
Danaus plexippus – Monarch
Junonia coenia (Huber) – Buckeye
Libytheana carinenta bachmanii – American Snout
Limenitis archippus – Viceroy
Nymphalis antiopa – Mourning Cloak
Papilio cresphontes – Giant Swallowtail
Papilio glaucus – Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio polyxenes asterius – Black Swallowtail
Phyciodes tharos – Pearl Crescent
Pieris rapae – European Cabbage *
Polygonia comma – Comma
Polygonia interrogationis – Question Mark
Vanessa atalanta – Red Admiral
Vanessa virginiensis – American Painted Lady

Damselflies (1)

Calopteryx maculata – Ebony Jewelwing

Dragonflies (5)

Anax junium – Common Green Darter
Erythemis simplicicollis – Common Pondhawk
Libellula luctuosa – Widow Skimmer
Libellula pulchella – Twelve-spotted Skimmer
Plathemis (Libellula) lydia – Common Whitetail
Tramea lacerata – Black Saddlebags

Moths (3)

Haploa lecontei – LeConte’s Haploa
Cucullia convexipeenis – Brown-Hooded Owlet
Euchaetes egle – Milkweed Tussock Moth

Skippers (2)

Epargyreus clarus – Silver-Spotted Skipper

Polites coras – Peck's Skipper

Other (3)

Gerris remigis – Water Strider

Prosapia bicincta – Spittle Bug

Vespula maculata – Bald-Faced Hornet

Birds (112) 109 Native

Great Blue Heron

Canada Goose

Mallard

Wood Duck

Turkey Vulture

Bald Eagle

Red-Tailed Hawk

Rough-Legged Hawk

Sharp-Shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

American Kestrel

Ring-Necked Pheasant *

Northern Bobwhite

Wild Turkey

Killdeer

American Woodcock

Mourning Dove

Rock Pigeon *

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

Black-Billed Cuckoo

Eastern Screech Owl

Chimney Swift

Belted Kingfisher

Northern Flicker

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Red-Headed Woodpecker

Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker

Hairy Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Pileated Woodpecker

Least Flycatcher

Great Crested Flycatcher

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Eastern Phoebe

Tree Swallow

Rough-Winged Swallow

Barn Swallow

Cliff Swallow

Blue Jay

American Crow

Black-Capped Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse

White-Breasted Nuthatch

Brown Creeper

Carolina Wren

House Wren

Winter Wren

Sedge Wren

Golden-Crowned Kinglet

Ruby-Crowned Kinglet

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher

Eastern Bluebird

American Robin

Swainson's Thrush

Birds (continued)

Gray-Cheeked Thrush

Veery

Wood Thrush

Hermit Thrush

Gray Catbird

Brown Thrasher

Cedar Waxwing

European Starling *

Red-eyed Vireo

Warbling Vireo

Yellow-Throated Vireo

Black-and-White Warbler

Blackpoll Warbler

Blue-Winged Warbler

Golden-Winged Warbler

Tennessee Warbler

Nashville Warbler

Northern Parula Warbler

Black-Throated Green Warbler

Yellow Warbler

Magnolia Warbler

Yellow-Rumped Warbler

Canada Warbler

Chestnut-Sided Warbler

Pine Warbler

Palm Warbler

Ovenbird

Northern Waterthrush

Louisiana Waterthrush

Common Yellowthroat

Wilson's Warbler

Blackburnian Warbler

American Redstart

Mourning Warbler

Eastern Meadowlark

Red-Winged Blackbird

Baltimore Oriole

Orchard Oriole

Common Grackle

Brown-headed Cowbird

Scarlet Tanager

Northern Cardinal

House Finch

Rose-Breasted Grosbeak

Indigo Bunting

Dickcissel

American Goldfinch

Eastern Towhee

Savannah Sparrow

American Tree Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

Field Sparrow

White-Crowned Sparrow

White-Throated Sparrow

Swamp Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Dark-Eyed Junco

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