

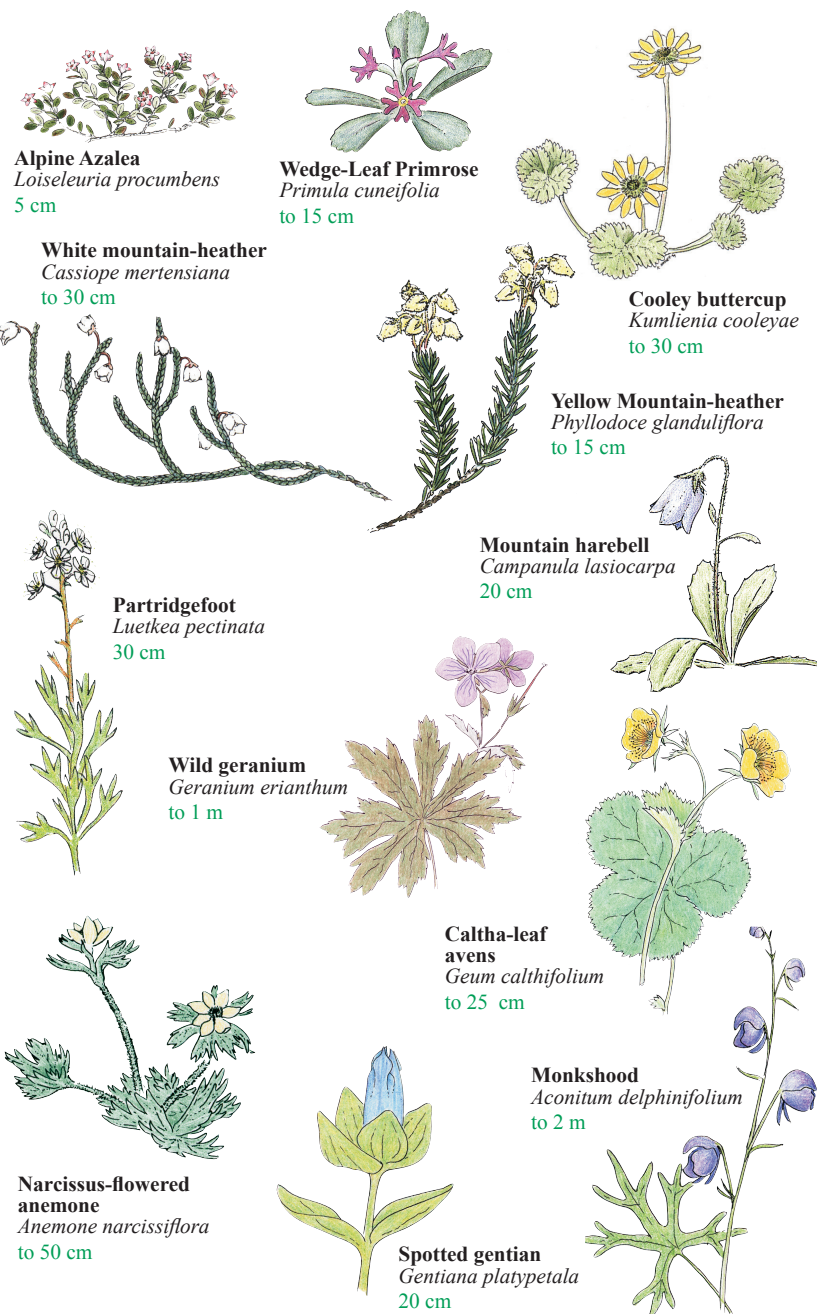
A Blooming Calendar

The exact timing of each year's bloom varies with temperature, precipitation, and other environmental factors. Elevation also affects phenology; higher-elevation flowers have later—and often shorter—blooming seasons than do their sea-level counterparts. The calendar below lists approximate blooming times for common flowers at low elevations in our region.

	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
Streams, marshes, and ponds						
Buckbean						
Cinquefoil						
Marsh violet						
Miner's lettuce						
Monkeyflower						
Marsh marigold						
Pond lily						
Skunk cabbage						
Forests and thickets						
Bunchberry						
Coralroot						
False lily-of-the-valley						
Enchanter's nightshade						
Fern-leaf goldthread						
Foamflower						
Fringecup						
Groundcone						
One-sided wintergreen						
Pink wintergreen						
Rattlesnake root						
Single delight						
Stream violet						
Trailing raspberry						
Bogs (muskegs)						
Alaska bog-orchid						
Bog cranberry						
Bog-rosemary						
Butterwort						
Deer cabbage						
Bog-laurel						
Ladies' tresses						
Labrador tea						
Sticky tofieldia						
Sundew						
Swamp Gentian						
White bog-orchid						
Meadows						
Beach pea						
Chocolate lily						
Columbine						
Cow parsnip						
Fireweed						
Goldenrod						
Grass-of-parnassus						
Harebell						
Iris						
Large-leaved avens						
Nootka lupine						
Paintbrush						
Yellow rattle						
River beauty						
Shooting star						
Silverweed						
Sitka burnet						
Starflower						
Western buttercup						
Yarrow						

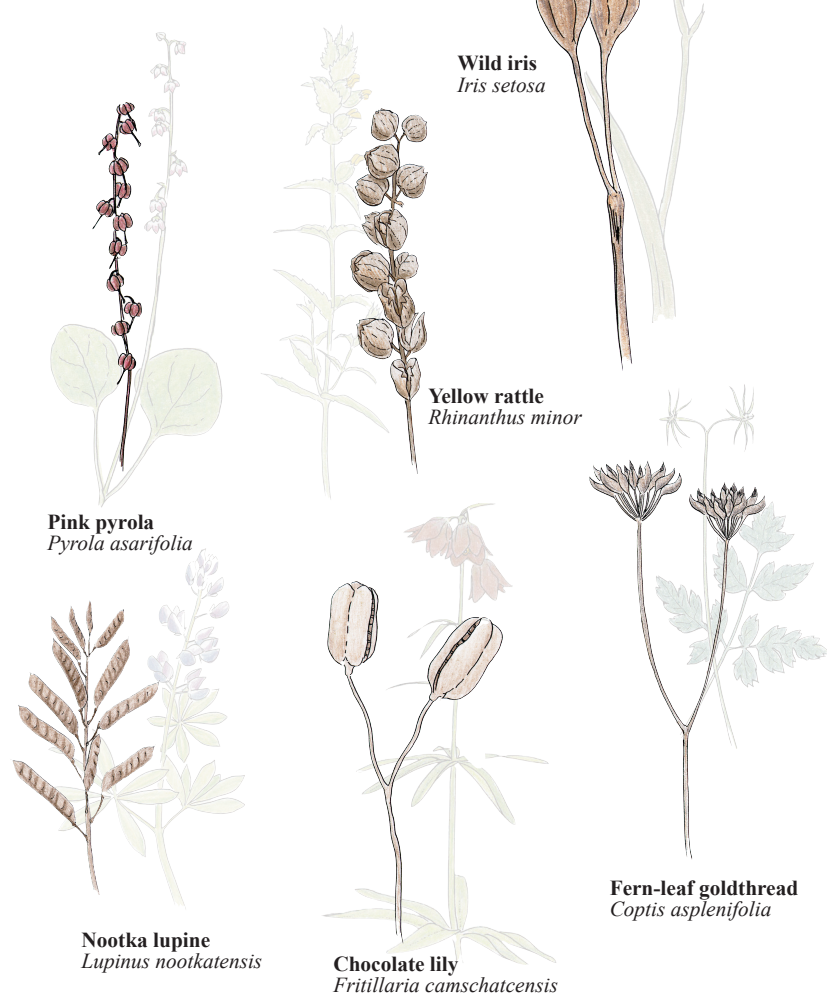
Mountain Flowers

In Southeast Alaska, the alpine zone lies above 3,000 feet, where July temperatures are too low for tree reproduction. Below the true alpine lies the subalpine zone, where wet meadows are maintained by persistent snowfields well into the summer. Illustrated here are a few characteristic flowers of the alpine and subalpine regions of Southeast Alaska. In addition, several of the "meadow" flowers from the opposite side can be found in the subalpine zone.



Seedpods

After blooming season is over, many flowers leave behind beautiful and ingenious seedpods. A few of the more common and durable of these are shown below; explore meadows, bogs, and alpine areas for more. How are the seeds dispersed?



Further reading:

Northwest Coast plants:

Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast. 2004. Pojar and MacKinnon

Southeast Alaska plants:

Native Plants of Southeast Alaska. 1995. Hall

Southeast Alaska natural history:

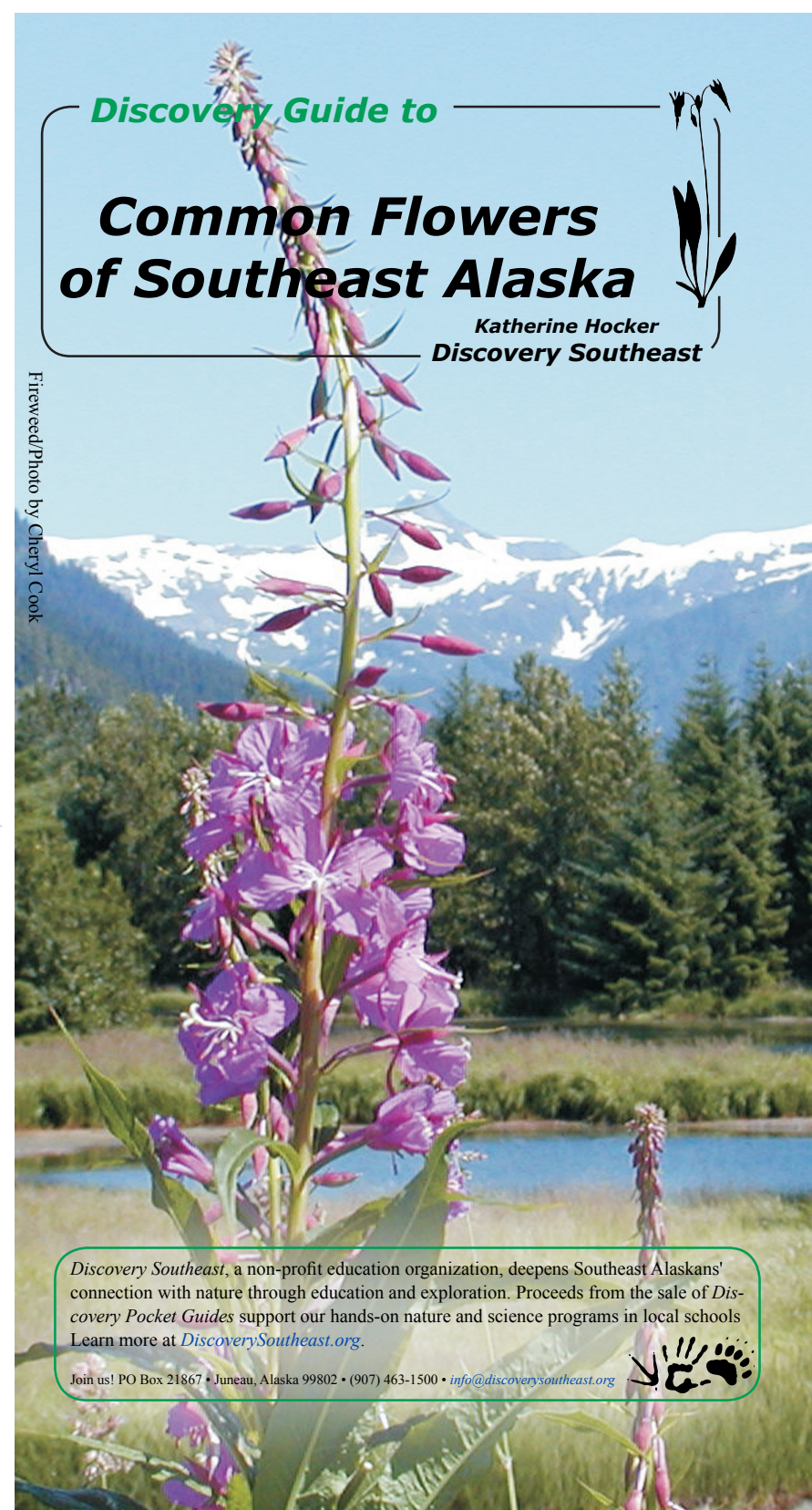
The Nature of Southeast Alaska. 2014 Carstensen, Armstrong, and O'Clair

Discovery Guide to

Common Flowers of Southeast Alaska

Katherine Hocker
Discovery Southeast

Fireweed/Photo by Cheryl Cook



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Common Flowers

Flowers are arranged on these panels by the habitat in which they are most commonly found. Many, however, can be found in more than one habitat, or in the transition zones between habitats. This guide is not comprehensive, but includes many of the most common flowers of our region—as well as some of the interesting, but rarer, ones.

Typical height of each flower, on its stalk, is shown in green (unless otherwise noted).

Forests and thickets

Rattlesnake root
Prenanthes alata
50 cm

Foamflower
Tiarella trifoliata
20 cm

Groundcone
Boschniakia rossica
30 cm

One-sided wintergreen
Orthilia secunda
20 cm

Coralroot
Corallorhiza mertensiana
to 30 cm

Trailing raspberry
Rubus pedatus
20 cm

Enchanter's nightshade
Circaea alpina
to 40 cm

Fern-leaf goldthread
Coptis asplenifolia
30 cm

Stream violet
Viola glabella
20 cm

Fringe-cup
Tellima grandiflora
1 m

Single delight
Moneses uniflora
10 cm

Pink wintergreen
Pyrola asarifolia
20 cm

False lily-of-the-valley
Maianthemum dilatatum
30 cm

Bunchberry
Cornus canadensis
10 cm

Bogs (muskegs)

Round-leaved sundew
Drosera rotundifolia
10 cm

Bog-rosemary
Andromeda polifolia
20 cm

Labrador tea
Ledum groenlandicum
flower head 10 cm

Butterwort
Pinguicula vulgaris
to 15 cm

Bog cranberry
Vaccinium microcarpus
to 30 cm

Sticky tofieldia
Tofieldia glutinosa
20 cm

Alaska bog-orchid
Platanthera unalascensis
to 90 cm

Bog-laurel
Kalmia polifolia
20 cm

White bog-orchid
Platanthera dilatata
to 70 cm

Ladies' tresses
Spiranthes romanzoffiana
to 40 cm

Swamp gentian
Gentiana douglasiana
to 25 cm

Deer cabbage
Nephrrophyllum crista-galli
40 cm

Meadows*

Western buttercup
Ranunculus occidentalis
to 60 cm

Yarrow
Achillea millefolium
to 50 cm

Yellow rattle
Rhinanthus minor
30 cm

Northern grass-of-parnassus
Parnassia palustris
20 cm

Fireweed
Chamerion angustifolium
to 2 m

River beauty
Chamerion latifolium
to 30 cm

Shooting star
Dodecatheon pulchellum
40 cm

Beach pea
Lathyrus japonica
flower to 3 cm

Western columbine
Aquilegia formosa
to 1 m

Harebell
Campanula rotundifolia
30 cm

Silverweed
Potentilla anserina
to 20 cm

Starflower
Trientalis arctica
10 cm

Sitka burnet
Sanguisorba canadensis
to 1 m

Red paintbrush
Yellow paintbrush
Castilleja miniata
C. unalascensis
to 80 cm

Large-leaved avens
Geum macrophyllum
to 1 m

* Additional meadow flowers can be found in the "mountain flowers" section on the opposite side.

Streams, marshes, and ponds

Monkeyflower
Mimulus guttatus
to 30 cm

Marsh cinquefoil
Comarum palustre
50 cm

Buckbean
Menyanthes trifoliata
flower 2 cm

Miner's lettuce
Claytonia sibirica
20 cm

Floating marsh marigold
Caltha palustris
flower 4 cm

Skunk cabbage
Lysichiton americanum
flower 50 cm

Yellow pond lily
Nuphar luteum
flower 10 cm

Marsh violet
Viola palustris
20 cm

