

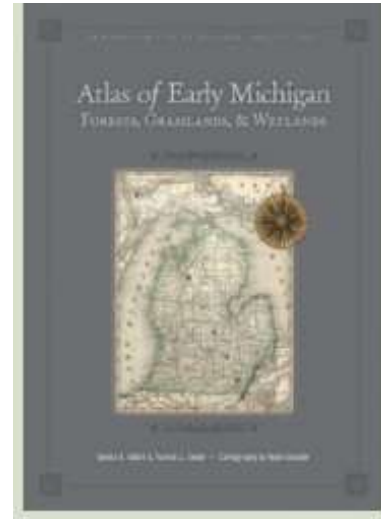


AMAN PARK IMAGES

MAY 2020 PROGRAM



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IMAGES
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PROGRAM



On April 24, 2020, William (Bill) Martinus led Julia Corr, a recent of graduate from Grand Valley State University who majored in Natural Resources Management with a minor in Biology and Rebecca Marquardt, a local landscape architect and Program Committee co-chair of Wild Ones River City Chapter.

Here we see some of the tools that botanists like Bill use in the field while they inventory plant species for projects like Natural Features Inventories.



- Bill showing topography and historical survey maps.
- *Atlas of Early Michigan* he references to learn about the pre-settlement plant communities found at Aman Park.
- Binoculars used backwards to examine fine details of a small tree.
- Julia using the Garmin to track the stopping points made along the trail, she also was able to record the coordinates of a specific area. We relied on this for recording the location of an unidentified *Viburnum*, which Bill was able to study further and determine the identification for it.

Craig Elston, of CDE Nature and manager of the Hudsonville Nature Center provided the beautiful photographs with the watermark, CDE. More of his pictures can be found at:

<http://cdenature.com/flower-identification/>



On the underside of the fern pinna, the spores can be seen along the margins of the pinnules, which makes for a good identification method for this species.



Marginal Wood Fern
Dryopteris marginalis

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Two-leaved
Toothwort
*Cardamine
diphylla*



Cutleaf
Toothwort
*Cardamine
concatenata*



Horse Tail
Equisetum hyemale

Blood Root
Sanguinaria canadensis



White Trillium
Trillium grandiflorum

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Bayou, overflow of Sand
Creek creates temporary
body of water.



Spicebush
*Lindera
benzoin*



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Black Elderberry
Sambucus canadensis



Leatherwood
Dirca palustris

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Hairy Woodrush
Luzula acuminata



Canadian Fly Honeysuckle
Lonicera canadensis



TREES: BARK, BUDS, BLOOMS & LEAFING OUT!

American Beech
Fagus grandifolia
Here we see a bud starting
it's journey to become a leaf



Witch Hazel
Hamamelis virginiana

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Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida



Black Walnut
Juglans nigra



Downy Juneberry
/ Serviceberry
Amelanchier arborea

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River-bank Grape
Vitis riparia
with tree trunk-size
diameter



Poison Ivy
Toxicodendron radicans
vine climbing up a tree



Moonseed Vine
Menispermum
canadense



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Round-lobed Hepatica
Hepatica americana



Sharp-lobed Hepatica
Hepatica acutiloba

Blue Cohosh
Caulophyllum thalictroides



Photographs taken on
April 24, 2020



Photographs taken on
May 1, 2020



Virginia Waterleaf
Hydrophyllum virginianum



Dutchman's Breeches
Dicentra cucullaria



False Rue-anemone
Enemion biternatum



Wood-betony
Pedicularis canadensis

Garlic Mustard
Alliaria petiolata



Photo: John Cardina, The Ohio State University,
Bugwood.org

INVASIVE!

When asked why we see such a vast tapestry of spring ephemerals and groundcover, Bill mentioned that is an indication that deer are not a significant problem in Aman Park. Also contributing to the healthy, biodiverse forest floor are the silent heroes who removed Garlic Mustard. People like Joan Meyer, a Michigan State University Extension Master Naturalist, who has made it her personal mission to save the wildflowers at Aman Park by removing garlic mustard there for the past 25 years. Wouldn't Jacob Aman be pleased!



Photo: Chris Evans, River to River CWMA,
www.forestryimages.org



Spring Beauty
Claytonia virginica

and special guest
seeking pollen and
nectar



Trout Lily
Erythronium americanum



Cut-leaved Toothwort
Cardamine diphylla
(to the right of the Trout Lily)



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Partridgeberry
Mitchella repens

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Chokecherry
Prunus virginiana



Pink Spring Cress
Cardamine douglassii

Virginia Bluebells
Mertensia virginiana



Wintergreen
Gaultheria procumbens

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Virginia Bluebells
Mertensia virginica



Bill shared that when he and his wife Shirley were dating while students at Calvin, they used to drive on this trail and saw just one small colony of Virginia Bluebells. Thanks to some of the work he is doing to inventory the species in Michigan, it has gone from “threatened” to “endangered”.

The two pictures on the right are from April 24, 2020, as the colony forming groundcover was not yet in bloom. Right about now, in mid-May, the iconic blue flowers are likely in peak bloom.

