

FORT RANSOM STATE PARK

Preliminary PLANT CHECKLIST

Missouri goldenrod *Solidago missouriensis*
 Missouri gooseberry *Ribes missouriense*
 Moonseed *Menispermum canadense*
 Needle-and-thread *Stipa comata*
 Northern bedstraw *Galium boreale*
 Northern mannagrass *Glyceria borealis*
 Northern reedgrass *Calamagrostis inexpansa*
 Oval-leaved milkweed *Asclepias ovalifolia*
 Pasque flower *Anemone patens*
 Pasture sage *Artemisia ludoviciana*
 Pennsylvania sedge *Carex pennsylvanica*
 Pennycress *Thlaspi arvense*
 Plains yellow primrose *Calylophus serrulatus*
 Plantain *Plantago major*
 Poison ivy *Toxicodendron rydbergii*
 Porcupine grass *Stipa spartea*
 Prairie chickweed *Cerastium arvense*
 Prairie coneflower *Ratibida columnifera*
 Prairie cordgrass *Spartina pectinata*
 Purple coneflower *Echinacea angustifolia*
 Purple hyssop *Agastache foeniculum*
 Purple locoweed *Oxytropis lambertii*
 Purple prairie clover *Dalea purpurea*
 Pussytoes *Antennaria parvifolia*
 Ragweed *Ambrosia artemisifolia*
 Ragweed *Ambrosia trifida*
 Ragwort *Senecio sp.*
 Raspberry *Rubus idaeus*
 Red cedar *Juniperus virginiana*
 Red clover *Trifolium pratense*
 Red Osier dogwood *Comus stolonifera*
 Reed canarygrass *Phalaris arundinacea*
 Reedgrass *Phragmites australis*
 Rock cress *Arabis divaricarpa*
 Russian olive *Eleagnus angustifolia*
 Russian thistle *Salsola kali*
 Sarsaparilla *Aralia nudicaulis*

Scarlet gaura *Gaura coccinia*
 Sedge *Carex sp.*
 Showy milkweed *Asclepias speciosa*
 Sideoats grama *Bouteloua curtipendula*
 Silver scurfpea *Psoralea argophylla*
 Silverweed *Potentilla anserina*
 Slender beardtongue *Penstemon gracilis*
 Smartweed *Polygonum amphibium*
 Smooth blue aster *Aster laevis*
 Smooth brome *Bromus inermis*
 Soft goldenrod *Solidago mollis*
 Softstem bullrush *Scirpus validus*
 Solomon's seal *Polygonatum biflorum*
 Sow thistle *Sonchus arvensis*
 Spiderwort *Tradescantia bracteata*
 Spreading dogbane *Apocynum androsaemifolium*
 Stiff goldenrodd *Solidago rigida*
 Stinging nettle *Urtica dioica*
 Strawberry *Fragaria virginiana*
 Striated agrimony *Agrimonia striata*
 Swamp milkweed *Asclepias incarnata*
 Sweet cicely *Osmorhiza longistylis*
 Switchgrass *Panicum virgatum*
 Tall cinquefoil *Potentilla arguta*
 Tall coneflower *Rudbeckia laciniata*
 Tall meadowrue *Thalictrum dasycarpum*
 Tartarian honeysuckle *Lonicera tartarica*
 Thimbleweed *Anemone cylindrica*
 Threeawn *Aristida purpurea*
 Timothy *Phleum pratense*
 Torchflower *Geum triflorum*
 Touch-me-not *Impatiens capensis*
 Vervain *Verbena sp.*
 Violet *Viola rugulosa*
 Violet wood sorrel *Oxalis violacea*
 Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus vitaceae*
 Virginia stickseed *Hackelia virginiana*
 Virginia waterleaf *Hydrophyllum virginianum*
 Virginia wildrye *Elymus virginicus*
 Virgin's bower *Clematis virginiana*
 Wallflower *Erysimum parviflorum*
 Water hemlock *Cicuta maculata*
 Wavy-leaved thistle *Cirsium undulatum*

Western wheatgrass *Agropyron smithii*
 White beardtongue *Penstemon albidus*
 White lettuce *Prenanthes alba*
 White sweetclover *Mellilotus alba*
 Whorled milkwort *Polygala verticillata*
 Wild columbine *Aquilegia canadensis*
 Wild grape *Vitis riparia*
 Wild honeysuckle *Lonicera dioica*
 Wild leek *Allium tricoccum*
 Wild licorice *Glycyrrhiza lepidota*
 Wild mustard *Brassica kaber*
 Wild oats *Avena fatua*
 Wild plum *Prunus americana*
 Wild rose *Rosa arkansana*
 Wild vetch *Vicia americana*
 Willow *Salix exigua*
 Willow *Salix petiolaris*
 Wood nettle *Laportea canadensis*
 Woodland buttercup *Ranunculus abortivus*
 Woolly sedge *Carex lanuginosa*
 Wormwood *Artemisia absinthium*
 Yarrow *Achillea millefolium*
 Yellow flax *Linum rigidum*
 Yellow sweetclover *Mellilotus officianalis*
 Yellow wood sorrel *Oxalis stricta*
 Yellow-eyed grass *Hypoxis hirsuta*

If you would like to share your observations or species lists, especially those species not included in this checklist, please stop at the park visitor's center or mail findings to the park manager at:



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Pasque flower

This checklist contains over 200 plant species which are known to occur within Fort Ransom State Park.

FLORA OF FORT RANSOM STATE PARK

Part of the Sheyenne River valley ecosystem, Fort Ransom State Park is situated in the wooded lowlands and upland prairies of south eastern North Dakota. The valley ecosystem of this region is unique in part due to its geographical position, which places it in a transition zone where three major vegetation types converge. These include eastern deciduous woodlands, tall grass prairie and mixed grass prairie. Individual species of the eastern deciduous woodlands and tall grass prairie reach their western-most range in this vicinity, while certain components of the mixed grass prairie reach their eastern-most extent.



Several of FRSP's most significant assets are its intact high quality natural communities. Communities within the park include oak woodland, lowland woodland, mixed grass prairie and wetland thicket. No rare plant species have been documented to date at FRSP.

This checklist is designed to help you identify as many plant species within FRSP as possible. Successful use of this plant checklist will require utilizing a field guide containing color photos or illustrations. A small hand lens and camera may prove beneficial. Please refer to the following table for guidance on common wildflower blooming seasons.

Common Wildflowers and Their Blooming Times

| Blooms | Common Name | Color |
|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Apr.-May | Pasque flower | Pale pink to purple |
| May-July | Northern bedstraw | White |
| May-July | Canada anemone | White |
| June-Aug. | Purple Coneflower | Purple |
| June-Aug. | Purple prairie clover | Pink to purple |
| June-Aug. | Harebell | Purple |
| June-Oct. | Bergamot | Pink |
| June-Oct. | Catnip | Pale pink to purple |
| July-Aug. | Gayfeather | Pink to purple |

| | | |
|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| July-Sept. | Goldenrod | Yellow |
| July-Sept. | Mint | Pink to purple |
| July-Sept. | Vervain | Dark pink to purple |
| Aug.-Oct. | Smooth blue aster | Purple |
| Aug.-Oct. | White Aster | White |

"Ecological flowering times are generalities for the plants as they occur in our range. Some reasonable freedom must be employed in using the flowering times, for there is considerable variation from year-to-year in the Great Plains, as well as from south to north for widespread species" (Flora of the Great Plains, 1986).

| Check | Common Name | Latin Name |
|-------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| _____ | Alfalfa | <i>Medicago sativa</i> |
| _____ | Alumroot | <i>Heuchera richardsonii</i> |
| _____ | American elm | <i>Ulmus americana</i> |
| _____ | Aspen | <i>Populus tremuloides</i> |
| _____ | Baltic rush | <i>Juncus balticus</i> |
| _____ | Baneberry | <i>Actea rubra</i> |
| _____ | Basswood | <i>Tilia americana</i> |
| _____ | Bastard toadflax | <i>Comandra umbellata</i> |
| _____ | Beaked sedge | <i>Carex rostrata</i> |
| _____ | Beaked sedge | <i>Carex sprengelii</i> |
| _____ | Bedstraw | <i>Galium triflorum</i> |
| _____ | Bergamot | <i>Monarda fistulosa</i> |
| _____ | Big bluestem | <i>Andropogon gerardii</i> |
| _____ | Bindweed | <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> |
| _____ | Bittersweet | <i>Celastrus scandens</i> |
| _____ | Black medic | <i>Medicago lupulina</i> |
| _____ | Black snakeroot | <i>Sanicula marilandica</i> |
| _____ | Black-eyed susan | <i>Rudbeckia hirta</i> |
| _____ | Blanket flower | <i>Gaillardia aristata</i> |
| _____ | Bloodroot | <i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> |
| _____ | Blue grama | <i>Bouteloua gracilis</i> |
| _____ | Blue lettuce | <i>Lactuca serriola</i> |
| _____ | Bottlebrush grass | <i>Hystrix patula</i> |
| _____ | Boxelder | <i>Acer negundo</i> |
| _____ | Breadroot | <i>Psoralea esculenta</i> |
| _____ | Bristly crowfoot | <i>Ranunculus hispidus</i> |
| _____ | Buckbrush | <i>Symphoricarpos occidentalis</i> |

| | | | | | |
|-------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ | Buckthorn | <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i> | _____ | Fringed loosestrife | <i>Lysimachia ciliata</i> |
| _____ | Bugleweed | <i>Lycopus sp.</i> | _____ | Fringed sage | <i>Artemisia frigida</i> |
| _____ | Bull thistle | <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> | _____ | Golden alexander | <i>Zizia aptera</i> |
| _____ | Bur oak | <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i> | _____ | Golden corydalis | <i>Corydalis aurea</i> |
| _____ | Bur reed | <i>Sparqanium eurycarpum</i> | _____ | Goosefoot | <i>Chenopodium album</i> |
| _____ | Burdock | <i>Arctium minus</i> | _____ | Gray goldenrod | <i>Solidago nemoralis</i> |
| _____ | Bushy vetch | <i>Lathyrus venosus</i> | _____ | Green ash | <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> |
| _____ | Camass lily | <i>Zigadenus elegans</i> | _____ | Green milkweed | <i>Asclepias viridiflora</i> |
| _____ | Canada anemone | <i>Anemone canadensis</i> | _____ | Green needlegrass | <i>Stipa viridula</i> |
| _____ | Canada goldenrod | <i>Solidago canadensis</i> | _____ | Ground cherry | <i>Physalis heterophylla</i> |
| _____ | Canada thistle | <i>Cirsium arvense</i> | _____ | Ground plum | <i>Astragalus crassicaarpus</i> |
| _____ | Canada wildrye | <i>Elymus canadensis</i> | _____ | Ground plum | <i>Astragalus missouriensis</i> |
| _____ | Carrion flower | <i>Smilax herbacea</i> | _____ | Gumweed | <i>Grindelia squarrosa</i> |
| _____ | Catchfly | <i>Silene noctiflora</i> | _____ | Hackberry | <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> |
| _____ | Catnip | <i>Nepeta cataria</i> | _____ | Harebell | <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i> |
| _____ | Cat-tail | <i>Typha latifolia</i> | _____ | Hawthorn | <i>Crataegus rotundifolia</i> |
| _____ | Choke cherry | <i>Prunus virginiana</i> | _____ | Heath aster | <i>Aster ericoides</i> |
| _____ | Closed gentian | <i>Gentiana andrewsii</i> | _____ | Hedge-nettle | <i>Stachys palustris</i> |
| _____ | Clover | <i>Trifolium repens</i> | _____ | Hoary puccoon | <i>Lithospermum canescens</i> |
| _____ | Clustered field sedge | <i>Carex praegracilis</i> | _____ | Hog peanut | <i>Amphicarpa bracteata</i> |
| _____ | Common milkweed | <i>Asclepisa syriaca</i> | _____ | Honewort | <i>Cryptotaenea canadensis</i> |
| _____ | Cottonwood | <i>Populus deltoides</i> | _____ | Hops | <i>Humulus lupulus</i> |
| _____ | Cow parsnip | <i>Heracleum sphondylium</i> | _____ | Horsetail | <i>Equisetum arvense</i> |
| _____ | Crested wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron cristatum</i> | _____ | Indian grass | <i>Sorghastrum nutans</i> |
| _____ | Cup plant | <i>Silphium perfoliatum</i> | _____ | Intermediate wheatgrass | <i>Agropyron intermedium</i> |
| _____ | Dame's rocket | <i>Hesperis matronalis</i> | _____ | Ironwood | <i>Ostrya virginiana</i> |
| _____ | Dandelion | <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> | _____ | Juneberry | <i>Amelanchia alnifolia</i> |
| _____ | Dock | <i>Rumex crispus</i> | _____ | Junegrass | <i>Koeleria cristata</i> |
| _____ | Dotted gayfeather | <i>Liatris punctata</i> | _____ | Kentucky bluegrass | <i>Poa pratensis</i> |
| _____ | Early Meadowrue | <i>Thalictrum venulosum</i> | _____ | Kochia | <i>Kochia scoparia</i> |
| _____ | Enchanter's nightshade | <i>Circea lutetiana</i> | _____ | Late goldenrod | <i>Solidago gigantea</i> |
| _____ | Evening primrose | <i>Oenothera biennis</i> | _____ | Lead plant | <i>Amorpha canescens</i> |
| _____ | False dandelion | <i>Agoseris glauca</i> | _____ | Leafy spurge | <i>Euphorbia esula</i> |
| _____ | False dandelion | <i>Tragopogon dubius</i> | _____ | Little bluestem | <i>Andropogon scoparius</i> |
| _____ | False gromwell | <i>Onosmodium molle</i> | _____ | Lopseed | <i>Phryma leptostachya</i> |
| _____ | False solomon's seal | <i>Smilacina stellata</i> | _____ | Marsh elder | <i>Iva xanthifolia</i> |
| _____ | Figwort | <i>Scrophularia lanceolata</i> | _____ | Marsh vetchling | <i>Lathyrus palustris</i> |
| _____ | Fleabane | <i>Erigeron philadelphica</i> | _____ | Maximilians sunflower | <i>Helianthus maximiliani</i> |
| _____ | Flixweed | <i>Descurainia sophia</i> | _____ | Milkwort | <i>Polygala alba</i> |
| _____ | Flodman's thistle | <i>Cirsium flodmanii</i> | _____ | Mint | <i>Mentha arvensis</i> |
| _____ | Foxtail | <i>Setaria sp.</i> | | | |
| _____ | Fragile fern | <i>Cystopteris fragilis</i> | | | |