August Blooms in The Battery

As you move through the park, use this guide to identify some of the prominent blooms you see around you. Plant locations are listed as different garden areas of The Battery, shown on the map on the next page. Once you locate and read about each plant, check it off in the box provided. Please remember to follow all social distancing guidelines while at The Battery. We hope you enjoy your visit!

Scientific Name: Anemone hupehensis var. japonica
Common Name: Japanese Anemone, Japanese Thimbleweed
Location: Bikeway

Despite what the common name may suggest, these Anemone plants are in fact native to China — their extensive cultivation and naturalization in Japan over the years led to mistaken assumptions about their origin. The species epithet hupehensis refers to their true location of origin, the Hubei (or Hupeh) province of China.

Scientific Name: Eupatorium perfoliatum
Common Name: American Boneset, Feverwort
Location: Bikeway

A distinguishing feature of E. perfoliatum is the leaf shape, as each pair of opposite leaves on the plant fuses at their bases to surround the stem, giving the appearance that the stem is actually growing through a single leaf. The flowers provide nectar to butterflies late in the summer season.

Scientific Name: Sporobolus heterolepis
Common Name: Prairie Dropseed
Location: Bikeway, Bosque Gardens

The bunching habit of prairie dropseed provides striking visual interest throughout the warm season and into the winter. In late summer, the plants bloom with an abundance of small flowers, and the seeds carry a faint pleasing aroma of coriander. The plant is regularly used in roof gardens because of its tolerance to drought conditions.

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Vernonia noveboracensis

**Scientific Name:** Vernonia noveboracensis
**Common Name:** New York Ironweed
**Location:** Bosque Gardens

Native to the eastern United States, *V. noveboracensis* is a vigorous perennial that can reach heights up to 8 feet in a single season. The plant appreciates moist soils so is a great fit for rain gardens and other wet areas. Similar to other plants in the aster family, the flowers and seeds of *V. noveboracensis* provide important food sources for wildlife.

Symphyotrichum cordifolium

**Scientific Name:** Symphyotrichum cordifolium
**Common Name:** Blue Wood-Aster, Heartleaf Aster
**Location:** Labyrinth / Forest Farm

Formerly known as Aster cordifolius, this herbaceous perennial is native to the eastern United States and Canada and adapted to grow in a range of environments, from coastal plains to wooded mountain slopes. In late summer, the plants bloom with clouds of composite flowers that attract pollinators, and the fall seeds are a significant food source for local birds.