



Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*) - A seasonal sight for sore eyes



Photo: Kaldari from Wikipedia.org

Did you Know?

- Spring Beauty can be found in many different habitats, including lawns, city parks, roadsides, wetlands and bluffs
- The seeds of Spring Beauty are partially cased in a fatty substance called an elaiosome, which attracts ants and helps with seed dispersal

Habitat - Moist deciduous forests

Size - 5-20 cm tall

Range -Eastern North America

Flowering Date - April to May

Status - S Rank: S5 in Ontario ([what does this S-rank mean?](#))



Identification:



A relatively low plant with narrow green leaves of 3-14 cm long. Stems bear only a single pair of leaves. It's 5-petaled flowers are light pink or white with darker pink veins and appear in loose clusters at the top of the stem.

Photo : Dcrjsr from Wikipedia.org



A close-up picture of a Spring Beauty flower

Photo: cotinis from Flickr.com

Spring Beauty on the Niagara Escarpment

The deciduous forests along the Bruce Trail are the perfect place to find Spring Beauty when out for a hike in April or May. This species is what's known as a spring ephemeral: a plant that takes



Bruce Trail
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advantage of the increased light that hits the forest floor before trees begin to produce leaves in the springtime.