

Eastern spring beauty *Claytonia virginica*

Species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable in Quebec

10 à 25 cm



CHARACTERISTICS

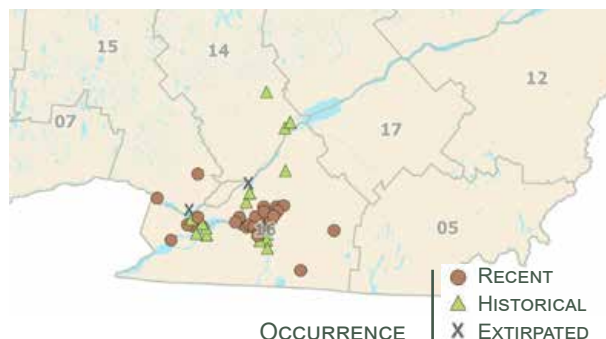
- Spring plant, disappearing completely toward the end of May or early June.
- White or pinkish flowers with pink veins.
- Very similar to the common Carolina spring beauty, but with long, narrow leaves.



OBSERVATION PERIODS

IDENTIFICATION	early spring
FLOWERS	late April to late May
FRUITS	late May to early June

DISTRIBUTION IN QUEBEC



HABITAT

Hardwood forests or swamps:

- Stands of silver maple, red maple, red ash, elm and bur oak stands with elm on alluvium or clay.
- More rarely, in beech stands on rich sites.



MAIN THREATS

- Habitat loss (urban and agricultural development).
- Cattle grazing of farm woodlands.
- Forest practices not adapted to species sensitivity.

MANAGE YOUR FOREST WHILE PROTECTING AT-RISK FLORA

Your woodlot contributes to the protection of forest species in precarious situations. It is often preferable to avoid forest management interventions in their habitats. If such activities must be carried out, the protection of these species requires the following precautions:

STEP 1: IDENTIFY AND LOCATE THE SPECIES

Onsite, during the appropriate identification period, locate all the plants of the species (or have this done by a competent person). Then outline the zones where they are found (occupied zones) as well as the surrounding buffer zone.



STEP 2: PROTECT THE PLANTS

This species requires particular attention. It is listed as a species likely to be designated as threatened or vulnerable because the available information suggests that its survival is compromised.



STEP 3: AVOID MAJOR DISTURBANCES in the occupied and buffer zones

- Ø Landing (wood piling) areas
- Ø Forest road construction
- Ø Forest drainage
- Ø Clearcuts
- Ø Scarification of the forest floor



STEP 4 : ADAPT PRACTICES BASED ON SPECIES SENSITIVITY

Sensitivity to opening of the forest canopy

Low to moderate

Sensitivity to drainage pattern changes

Low to moderate

Sensitivity to trampling and mechanical damage

Low to moderate

IN THE OCCUPIED AND BUFFER ZONES

- Opening of the canopy is allowed. Use partial cuts or low intensity thinning to maintain shade and its beneficial effect on soil moisture.

- Avoid altering drainage and minimize soil compaction: use an adapted skidder or forwarder and plan logging trails on soils with adequate load-bearing capacity.

IN THE OCCUPIED ZONE

- Carry out forestry operations only during the winter, on frozen ground.

- Avoid creating skidding trails unless a thick snow cover protects the ground.
- Avoid leaving logging residues (branches, etc.).



If the plant cannot be identified or located, apply the protection measures to the entire forest stand.

Advise forest workers about plant locations as well as protection measures to apply.

This fact sheet was developed through the integration of scientific elements and discussions between experts from the MRNF and the MELCCFP. The recommendations may evolve as new knowledge becomes available. For references, please visit afm.qc.ca/fiches-paf-bonifies.

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