



THE NATIVE PLANT CENTER

2015 Native Perennial of the Year



Viola canadensis Canada violet

This stemmed violet with large heart-shaped leaves produces white flowers with light-yellow centers and purple stripes in spring and sporadically through summer. The backs of the upper petals are tinted purple. The tender young leaves can be added to a salad or cooked as a vegetable. The flowers make a fresh edible garnish or can be candied as a cake decoration. Wild populations are endangered in New Jersey and threatened in Connecticut.

- Hardiness:** Zones 3–8
Light: Shade to part shade
Soil: Moist to average
Size: 6–8” tall
Foliage: Heart-shaped
Flowers: White with light-yellow centers, purple stripes, and purple tint on back of upper petals
- Bloom Time:** Spring
Wildlife Value: Host plant for fritillary butterflies and giant leopard moth; also valued by bees



Photos: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center—R.W. Smith (top), Alan Cressler