



Sunlight reaches the forest floor because the canopy has not filled in yet.

This impacts humidity a great deal. the variation is greater before the canopy fills in. Wetter and drier

- Rapid growth rates and small stature
- Compete for sun and moisture when there is no tree canopy
- No need to form a lot of biomass
- Warmer microclimate close to the ground
- Encourages seed dispersal by ants
- They can grow in cold soils
- Roots are tubers, shallow depth
- Early bees and flies are pollinators
- Ants seed dispersal (elaiosome) myrmecochory







Trout lily

Marsh Marigold

Skunk Cabbage



Dwarf Ginseng

Bloodroot



Wood anemone

3 leaves with 3 – 5 leaflets whorled around the stem

Solitary flower, 1 inch wide

Usually with 5 white to pinkish petals

Moist woods



Red Trillium, wake robin

Flower maroon or deep purple, rarely white, ill scented, petals 0.5 - 1.5 inches long

6 – 20 inches tall

Rich woods



Miterwort

Stem baring single pair of leaves in the middle

Flowers white, petals are delicately fringed resembling snowflakes

Leaves are 3 – 5 lobed, stalkless

6 – 16 inches tall

Rich woods



Cuckooflower

Flowers 0.5 - 0.75 inch wide, pink to white flowers

Compound leaves along stem thin 5-15 leaflets and basal leaves are egg shaped

6 – 20 inches tall

Wet meadows, wetlands, and moist lawns



Goldthread

White flowers, solitary

Evergreen, shining leaves

Name is derived from the gold roots

Moist woods and bogs, acidic soils especially under conifer trees



Toothwort

White to pink flowers, 0.5 - 1 inch wide in a terminal cluster

Stem leaves 2 to 3 leaves, coarsely toothed

Roots are shaped like small canine teeth

Rich woods, often found near small headwater streams



Garlic mustard

Highly invasive species

White flowers 0.25 wide

Leaves smell of garlic when crushed, coarsely toothed on long stalks

1 to 3 ft. Tall

Roadsides, open woods, everywhere



Golden Alexanders

Small yellow flowers on an umbel

Leaflets finely toothed

1 to 2.5 feet tall, flowering while still quite small

Meadows, open woods, moist soils



Bunchberry

White solitary flower, compound flower, 4 white sepals

Leaves broadly egg-shaped and pointed whorled around stem, 6 per

Fruit cluster of bright red berries

Cool Woods and bogs, under evergreen trees