



photos: Dan Jaffe

SPOTTED GERANIUM

Geranium maculatum

One of the best spring-blooming natives, this low-maintenance beauty produces pink to lilac 5-petaled flowers that give way to distinctive seed capsules. Has deeply cut, 5-lobed dark green leaves.

Growing Information

Sunlight Full sun to shade
Soil Type Prefers moist soils but tolerates poor soils
Height 1–2'
Flowering calendar May to July

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves Larval host plant to 26 species of butterflies and moths
Flowers Attracts a wide variety of insects that feed on the nectar and pollen, including bumblebees, mason bees, flies, butterflies, and skippers.
Fruit No
Seeds Chipmunks sometimes eat the seeds

Host to 26 caterpillar species, including:
(common names) Whitemarked Tussock Moth;

Glassy Borer; Double-Banded Carpet; Bilobed Looper Moth; Celery Leaf-tier; Bridled Arches; Cabbage Looper Moth; Soybean Looper Moth; American Bordered Sallow; Tobacco Budworm Moth

Benefits for People

- The seed capsules resemble crane's bills
- This plant will naturalize in optimum growing conditions

Natural Habitat

- Woodlands

