



photo: Dan Jaffe

VIRGIN'S BOWER

Clematis virginiana

This twining vine produces a profusion of white fall-blooming flowers which morph into attractive, plume-like seed heads. Blooms on current year's growth.

Growing Information

Sunlight	Full sun to part shade
Soil Type	Prefers medium to wet, well-drained soil
Height	12–20'
Flowering calendar	August to October

Benefits for Wildlife

Leaves	Larval host plant to 9 species of butterflies and moths
Flowers	Attracts a wide variety of pollinators
Fruit	No
Seeds	No

Host to 9 caterpillar species:
(common names) Whitemarked Tussock Moth; Brown Bark Carpet Moth; Clematis Borer; Spotted Thyris; Eupithecia misturata; Common Tan Wave; Tufted Apple-Bud Moth; Curved-Tooth Geometer, Fall Webworm

Benefits for People

- This plant is sometimes referred to as old man's beard because of its frilly seed heads
- Can be an aggressive spreader; shear spent blooms to prevent self-seeding

Natural Habitat

- Low woodland areas and thickets

