

Lake Erie North Shore Inventory
Of Vascular Plants 2012



Brome-like Sedge

Early October found the group once again visiting James N. Allan Provincial Park. This time the area inventoried was to the east and in the Maple, Ash swamp behind the dunes. In addition to Green Ash, Swamp Maple, Red Maple and Red Oak a good example of Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) was seen while Swamp White Oak, Bur Oak and Winterberry were other woody plants noted.

Tuckerman's Sedge (*Carex tuckermanii*) was an uncommon sedge noted. Another sedge—Brome-like Sedge (*C. bromoides*) gave us problems keeping our feet as it grew in thick patches making it difficult to walk.



Tuckerman's Sedge

The writer found this site and the previous site on Mohawk Bay among some of the most interesting sites visited so far this year.

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Other interesting plants observed were as follows:-

Halberd-leaved Tearthumb [<i>Persicaria arifolia</i>]	Clearweed [<i>Pilea Fontana</i>]	Smartweed [<i>Persicaria punctata</i>]
Common Smartweed [<i>Persicaria hydropiper</i>]	Common Hedge Nettle [<i>Stachys tenuifolia</i>]	Climbing False Buckwheat [<i>Fallopia scandens</i>]

Many other interesting graminoids were also found here such as Necklace Sedge (*Carex projecta*), Blunt Broom Sedge (*C. tribuloides*), Fringed Sedge (*C. crinita*) and Virginia Wild Rye (*Elymus virginica*),

The fickle October weather found us deciding not to venture too far one day early in this month so a visit was made to an area of Long Beach not previously inventoried.

It proved interesting as Sea Rocket and Trailing wild Bean were seen in flower. A fine example of Late Goldenrod (*Solidago gigantea*) was observed along with Zig Zag Goldenrod (*Solidago flexicaulis*).

Among the graminoids we found Sand Dropseed, Purple Sandgrass, Fall Panic Grass, River Bulrush and Red Root Flat Sedge.

The third week in October saw the group visit Selkirk Provincial Park where many interesting observations were made however it was beyond our study area except the beach.

Of note outwith the study area was *Carex juniperorum* that is extremely rare. Two other interesting sightings were Pignut Hickory (*Carya glabra*) and Wild Crab(*Malus coronaria*), On the beach fine examples of Trailing Wild Bean were seen.

The penultimate foray was to Peacock Point just beyond Sandusk Creek. Among the many asters Heath Aster (*Symphyotrichum ericoides*) was noted plus Square Stemmed Monkey Flower.

A good variety of graminoids were noted among them Rice Cut Grass, Reed Canary Grass, Squirrel Grass plus Baltic Rush, Joint –leaved Rush and Fox sedge.

In addition the usual willows and ever present Cottonwood were present.

A team member met a local resident who said he had never seen Lake Erie at such a low level and that he had heard that it was at it's lowest level since 1964. Check the pictures on next page that show glacial striations.

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Glacial Striations---Peacock Point



Inventorians on Glacial Striations---Peacock Point

The final visit was to a beach area west of Nanticoke.. Although it was early November there were identifiable plants to be seen.

Interesting specimens were Cursed Crowfoot showing both flowers and fruit. Another sighting was Heath Aster (*S. ericoides*).

Two plants that created some excitement were Water Hemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*) and a shrub called Coralberry (*Symphoricarpos orbiculatus*).

There were the usual beach plants as seen elsewhere especially Pale Smartweed (*Persicaria lapathifolium*), a plant that appeared in all the beaches visited.

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Cursed Crowfoot



Water Hemp